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Āgrahayana 22, 1907 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 13, 1985
Agrahayana 22, 1907 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[English]

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the
Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Dr. Chelikani Venkata Rama Rao, who was a Member of the First Lok Sabha during 1952-57 representing Kakinada constituency of the then composite State of Madras.

A veteran freedom fighter, he actively participated in the freedom movement and suffered imprisonment several times. Medical doctor by profession and a well-known social worker, he relentlessly worked for the uplift of the weaker sections of society.

Dr. Chelikani Venkata Rama Rao passed away on 25 September, 1985 at Ramachandrapuram in Andhra Pradesh at the age of 85 years.

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

The House may now stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

(The Members then stood in silence for
a short while)

2

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we will take up questions. Questions No. 368—Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi—Not present. Question No. 369—Shri Sriballav Panigrahi—Not present. Question No. 370—Shri Manik Reddy, Shri M. Raghuma Reddy—Not present. Question No. 371—Not here. Question No. 372—Shri Sharad Dighe—Not here. Question No. 373—Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal—Not present. Question No. 374—Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy—Not present. Question No. 375—Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat. Yes she is here. The lady Member coming to the rescue.

Reported us Charge Against Third World Countries About Blocking New Round of Trade Liberalisation Talks

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*375. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHER-
JEE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of press reports that U. S. is blaming some third world countries with regard to blocking of new round of trade liberalisation talks;

(b) if so, which are the countries so names;

(c) what policy U.S. is adopting against these countries regarding trade; and

(d) what is India's attitude in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI
KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d).
A statement is given below.

Statement

Reports have appeared in the press on the testimony given by the US Trade Representative alleging that some third world countries including India, Brazil, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Nigeria and Argentina were blocking a new round of multilateral trade negotiations in GATT. The testimony as reported also inter-alia referred to the possibility of withdrawal of the tariff concessions from these countries under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and convening of a Conference in Washington to negotiate on trade matters outside the GATT forum. No action has however been taken by USA so far in pursuance of this testimony.

It is not correct that some third world countries had been blocking the new round of trade negotiations as such. They wanted commitments already undertaken in GATT to be implemented and the multilateral trading system strengthened by implementing the Work Programme approved at the Ministerial Session of GATT in 1982. They are opposed to inclusion in the proposed New Round of new issues not germane to GATT such as services. A consensus decision has now been reached on 28 November 1985 at the forty-first session of the GATT CONTRACTING PARTIES held at Geneva to set up a Preparatory Committee to determine the objectives, subject matter and modalities for the proposed multilateral trade negotiations. The Preparatory Committee will prepare by mid-July, 1986 recommendations for the programme of negotiations for adoption at a Ministerial Meeting to be held in September, 1986.

As regards services, CONTRACTING PARTIES have taken a separate consensus decision to continue the exchange of information in pursuance of the earlier decisions and prepare recommendations, for consideration by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at its next session, on the question of whether any multilateral action in these matters is appropriate and desirable

India and USA as well as other countries—both developed and developing are expected to participate in the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to ask the hon. Minister whether U.S. is blaming the developing countries—Brazil, Yugoslavia, Nigeria and Argentina—that they are violating the GATT Agreement? Is it a fact that U.S.A. want services to be included in trade?

I also want to know whether it is a fact that the U.S. representative, Mr. Clayton has threatened that if these conditions are not accepted, they will ban import of duty free raw material and will be free for talks outside GATT?

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The hon. lady Member is correct in saying that Mr. Clayton has said this; in his testimony before the Senate Committee, he has mentioned about all this. But I am glad to be able to say that the USA Administration has not taken any action. The main problem is that India and the other countries like Brazil, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Nigeria and Argentina have been pleading that in GATT, all the decisions that were taken in the Tokyo negotiations must be implemented first; and we are not in favour of bringing the Services within the ambit of the GATT because if the Services are brought within GATT, they will not be very helpful. Rather they will be harmful to the developing countries.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : According to Reagan economics, a distinct restriction is imposed on the developing and poor countries and the rates of interest are also kept high. This will cause heavy financial loss to the Third World countries. Since India is a prominent country in the Third World, have any talks been held with President Reagan or with any U.S. representative in this regard and if so, what are the results thereof?

[English]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : There is no question of having any talk

with President Reagan in this matter. Really speaking, the negotiations have to be carried out in the GATT meeting; and a preparatory committee has been set up which will consider the objectives, aims and these suggestions. In this committee, the developing countries and the developed countries are represented—including India.

SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU : Today, proposals have been put by the US Government to include Services also in the GATT agreement. What is going to be our strategy to see that we safeguard our interests, as far as seeing that the Services are not included in trade liberalization, because we are a third world country; and our industry is also nascent ?

Secondly, will counter-measures be taken by India to safeguard its interests, and also to increase South-South cooperation, so that we are in a better bargaining position; and in a more effective way we are able to conserve our trade interests ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As I already mentioned, a member of important developing countries are against bringing these Services within the ambit of the GATT. Naturally, they want to safeguard their interests because they feel that if the Services are so brought; it will be harmful for the developing countries; and they will not be in a position to properly compete with the developed countries.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : The present Reagan Administration has adopted a policy of protectionism as regards trade; and it is so clear that the American Government or the Reagan Administration has lowered down; 30% of the price of goods which are being consumed in America. And this also goes against the developing countries. What steps is the Government of India taking to meet this economic policy of the Reagan Administration ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As far as our exports to the USA are concerned, they are governed by the multi-lateral agreements and so far there has been no change in those agreements.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What is meant by services ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : The American position seems to be that services should flow in American services developing countries should flow in particularly in the sectors of banking and insurance for instance which have been nationalised by us; they are serving some definite social purpose. And if we allow the American banking and insurance companies to come our foreign exchange will go away which we cannot allow. Now, the threat given by them is that if we do not allow, then duty free import of goods in the U.S., of manufactured goods and minerals from India will be affected and this concession will go.

I would like to know from the hon-Minister first, what is our strategy to see that this damage is not done, and secondly what are the Minister and the Government doing about quotas in the field of textiles and duty on imports from India ? The Indian textiles are subject to quotas while the European textiles are not subject to any quota. What are the Minister and the Government doing on the second aspect, of discrimination as far as the imports from the developing countries into the United States is concerned ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As the hon. Member wanted to know, first what are the services—very rightly—they are banking, insurance, communications, civil aviation, shipping, data-processing and the consultancy services. These are the services. And naturally these are services which will be harmful if they are allowed to be brought in the ambit of GATT and the developing countries, including India, will suffer on this account.

It is a fact that there are certain restrictions regarding the imports textiles into USA, but whatever our bilateral agreements with the U.S.A., those bilateral agreements are so far generally honoured and we are in a position to export according to the quotas allowed and the bilateral agreements, in force in fact, incorporate all those quotas which are covered by bilateral agreements.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : The hon. Minister has stated in his reply to the lady

Member's question that no talks have been held with President Reagan, but a Preparatory Committee has been set up. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the names of the countries which have been included as Members in this Committee?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As I stated earlier, the representatives of both the developed and the developing countries have been included in the Committee. Normally, trade level representatives are included in the Committee. We also have a representative there; the Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce is our representative there.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Jitendra Singh. The hon. Member is absent.

Shri Braja Mohan Mohanty. The hon. Member is absent.

Shri Rameshwar Nikhara. The hon. Member is absent.

Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer.

Melting of Coins for Making Handicrafts and Utensils

+

*378. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :**
SHRI RAMESHWAR
NEEKHRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that coin shortage in the country is due to melting of coins by some persons for making handicrafts and utensils;

(b) if so, how many such cases have been detected; and

(c) the action to prevent the melting of coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) : A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) unconfirmed reports have been received from various parts of the country

regarding melting of coins for making of costume jewellery, utensils etc. The matter is being investigated.

(b) the Small Coins (Offences) Act, 1971, empowers the Government to take legal action against any person who melts or destroys small coins. Instructions to the various State Governments/Union Territories have been issued to take action in the light of the Small Coins (Offences) Act, 1971, under report of this Ministry, immediately whenever melting of coins for any purpose is reported. No such report has been received so far.

(c) in addition to what has been stated in reply to part (b) above, steps have been taken by the Government to keep the face value higher than the metal value of the coin so as to make any large scale melting of coin for any commercial purpose economically not viable.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Even after the import of certain coins, the change position has not improved. It is very unfortunate. Unless something is done immediately I do not know what will happen in the future. The Government says, "Unconfirmed reports have been received from various parts of the country regarding melting of coins". Our mighty Governments—both in the States and the Centre—have not been able to unearth the rackets. Unless they do something, what will happen? May I know from the Government, what serious steps are going to be taken to unearth these rackets—that are going on in our country.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I share the concern of the hon. Member. It is true that there are unconfirmed reports. Some action has been taken at Jaipur in one case in which coins worth about six hundred and odd rupees have been recovered and the person was arrested. Our Ministry has been writing to the State Governments for taking action against those who hoard the coins for melting purposes. Unfortunately, no action has been taken. Recently I have also written to the Chief Ministers to take action against the hoarders. I also request the hon. Members to prevail upon their respective State Governments to take action in this regard since it is a State sub-

ject. That will be more effective. I assure the hon. Member that so far as production is concerned, we have taken steps to increase production. We have doubled the production since 1982 from 660 million pieces to 1355 million pieces in 1984-85. For the current year the production target fixed was 2000 million pieces. On 24.11.85 I took the meeting of the General Managers of the Mints and I had told them that they were to take steps not only to achieve the target but to cross it. The target has been fixed for 2210 million pieces. The target for the last week was 42 million pieces and we have produced 52 million pieces. In addition to that, I am monitoring the distribution personally. Imported coins have also starting coming. There will be proper distribution at shortage points. I assure the hon. Member on that.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : The hon. Minister says that the production has increased and they are importing the coins also. But unfortunately, everyone of us is facing shortage everyday and every minute. There seems to be something serious somewhere. May I suggest to the Government to make available coins in the banks as well as post offices because in post offices they give us stamps in lieu of change. Will the hon. Minister assure us in this regard ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : We have asked the nationalised banks to collect coins from RBI and distribute them. Earlier only the State Bank of India was exchanging these coins. Now 80 branches of the nationalised banks in Bombay and Delhi will also exchange coins. The hon. Member's suggestion is noted and that will be examined, But I assure him that definite steps will be taken to supply coins to various parts of the country.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the House had expressed its serious concern about the shortage of small coins earlier also; today again we are doing the same but without any result. There is an acute shortage of small coins, particularly in Gujarat and Saurashtra. I want to know from the hon. Minister where do

these small coins vanish ? I would like to have a reply especially about Rajkot district. Also, please tell how its distribution is done.

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The coins are available from the nationalised banks. There is no dispute about the shortage of coins. We have to meet the shortage by raising the supply.

SHRI ANIL BASU : So many millions of coins are being imported from foreign countries. But under his very nose, in the capital, the DTC is issuing coupons in lieu of coins. Is the Minister aware of this fact ? Why this shortage of coins is prevailing in DTC ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has said that there is shortage.

SHRI ANIL BASU : In the capital also there is shortage of coins.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, in spite of the increase in production the supply position has not improved. Government has amended the Coinage Act also to import coins from foreign countries. May I know from the hon. Minister, the number of coins imported from foreign countries, the names of the countries from where these coins have been imported and the amount of foreign exchange spent for importing these coins ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, we are importing five hundred million pieces of one-rupee coins from M/s Bermingham Mint Products Ltd., U.K., five hundred million one-rupee coins of the face value of Rs. 50 crores from Royal Mint, U.K., 750 million pieces of fifty-paisa coins of the face value of Rs. 37.5 crores...

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Sir, he can give the total number of pieces.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So much detail means...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What is the total number of pieces ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The total number of pieces is 2,000 million and the face value would be about Rs. 143.75 crores.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What are the names of the countries from where you are importing ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : U.K., South Korea and Canada.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How much is the foreign exchange involved ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The amount of foreign exchange is about Rs. 64.96 crores.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is need to go into the root of the coin melting taking place today. As long as there is difference between the metal value and the face value, i.e., the metal value is more than the face value, the melting process will continue. Is there any proposal to issue coins whose metal value is less than their face value ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, if you take into consideration the metal value, I can tell for the benefit of the hon. Member that the metal and manufacturing cost per piece of the coins minted in the Bombay Mint, is :

One-rupee coin	—	58 paise
50-paisa coin	—	48.42 paise
25-paisa coin	—	27.13 paise
20-paisa coin	—	19.10 paise
10-paisa coin	—	14.78 paise

If you compare the cost value and the face value, I do not think it is feasible for them to melt these coins on economic consideration.

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : Sir, it is admitted by the hon. Minister that there is a shortage of coins in circulation. But in

practice, coupons are given by hotels, restaurants and other business institutions in course of transactions or purchases. Those coupons become useless...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only at that shop he can use it. He cannot take that coupon to another shop. So, that is an assurance of business for the shop which has given that coupon.

SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : So, the value of rupee is thereby reduced to that extent and people are put to more inconvenience. Hence, I want to know from the hon. Minister how does he propose to meet such a situation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has explained that he is taking steps but still shortage is there.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, we have taken steps to increase the production and also by importing the coins from foreign countries. The situation will be improved by March, 1986.

Scheme of Advance Import Licenses.

*379. **PROF P.J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of misuse of advance import licenses issued on the condition that cent percent of the product would have to be exported, have come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to review the scheme in the light of the experience; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir, Debarment action has been taken against 23 firms and investigations have been taken up in respect of

175 firms at the Headquarters Office of the CCI&E in the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 (uptodate), for violations in respect of Advance Licensing Scheme. The Regional Licensing Offices, at their end, have also taken action in some cases, the information about which is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). Advance Licensing Scheme is under constant review and a number of steps have been taken to minimise the scope of abuse of the scheme in the light of experience gained.

SHRI P. J. KURIEN : Sir, there is a lot of misuse of import licences and I am happy that the hon Minister is taking some stern action. But in the case of advance import licences, time limit is prescribed for fulfilling the export obligations. I understand that it is the policy of the Government not to extend the time limit for the export obligations. In spite of that is it a fact that extensions are given for fulfilling these export obligations in the case of advance import licences? If so, on what grounds are these extensions given? Can you say to how many have such extensions been given during the current year?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I entirely agree with the hon. Member that there have been some mal-practices in utilisation of advanced licences, but it is being monitored by the Ministry very carefully and every possible effort is being made to ensure that these advanced licences are not misutilised, and that they are utilised only by those who are its actual exporters. Therefore, a number of measures have already been taken. One such measure is to ensure that they deposit in advance 33 per cent of the custom value and value addition from fifty to 150 per cent.

I am sorry I have no figure of the actual number of licences which have been extended but I can assure the hon. member that we now give extension only when very valid and justified reasons are given. This is also done after a lot of scrutiny.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I seems the hon. Minister did not hear my question. May be that he did not understand it. O.K.

I do not want to repeat that question again.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN
You can repeat it.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN But you are not able to answer that.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :
I will answer.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : My first question was on what grounds are extensions given ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :
Actually, whenever extensions are given they are given on the merit of the case.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In the beginning you have already appreciated that he is taking good action.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I appreciate that and I have already said that he is taking very strong and punitive action and I support him also on that.

Now, I will put my second supplementary.

A lot of black-marketing and misuse has been going on in the matter of import licences. There are cases when import licences for a particular commodity are used for importing some other commodity. This can only be done with the connivance of the Customs officials. Government can only give instructions, but the Customs Officials in connivance with these importers are implementing it. Say for example ...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you want to know from the Minister ?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I am coming to the question ... they are using the import licence for industrial oil in order to import the odible coconut oil. Have you received complaints that in the garb of industrial oil, edible oil i.e the coconut oil has been imported ? If such complaints are being received, I would like to know what action you have so far taken and what action you will take to see

that import licence for one item is not used for some other item ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The advanced licences are given for a particular item to be imported. Up to now these advanced licences were given to the manufacturers and others, but now a decision has been taken that the advanced licences will be given only in the name of the exporter and then the exporter will naturally import the requirement for his export purposes and there will be no possibility of importing some other thing.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : My question is : Have you received complaint that using the import licence for industrial oil, coconut oil has been imported ? If so, what action have you taken ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I am not clear about the hon. Member's question whether it is about the advanced licences or about the general licences.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : You know how to answer it.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : But you have to tell me whether you want an answer for an advanced licence.

DR. K.G. ADIYODI : I would like to know whether it is a fact that our import has been alarmingly increasing while our export is stagnant, thereby a lot of change in the trade imbalance due to import subsidy.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Imports are definitely increasing but fifty per cent or more than fifty per cent of the import items in times of money like edible oils, POL, Fertilizers, etc. on which we have no control. Actually about ten per cent imports are linked up with the Aid. Therefore, only about thirty-five per cent items are there on which the Ministry can exercise some control. It is done according to the requirements. There is liberalisation of policy and capital goods are being imported.

Profits of MICA Trading Corporation and Bonus Given to Workers

*385. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation in the last three years and the percentage of the earning given as bonus to the workers;

(b) whether it is a fact that while the profit increased the bonus decreased; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd., in the last three years and the percentage of earnings given as bonus to workers is as under :—

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
(1) Net Profit (before tax) (in lakhs Rs.)	46.26	52.25	55.40
(2) Percentage of bonus to profit.	11.07	8.83	9.62

(b) and (c). Bonus has been paid in all the previous three years to the extent permissible under the provisions of the Bonus Act, 1965.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : My question is about the profit earned by the Mica Trading Corporation for the last 3 years and the percentage of the earnings given as bonus to the workers. In part (b) I have asked 'whether it is a fact that while the profit increased the bonus decreased' and in part (c) I have asked 'If so, the reasons thereof'. He has given the answer that the profit has increased from 1981-82 to 1984-85. While profit increased the bonus has not increased, but on the other hand, it has decreased. So I want to know the reasons why more bonus could not be paid to the workers while the profit was increasing. He has not given this information in the statement.

(Interruptions).

[*Translation*]

The hon. Minister of Commerce has given the reply whereas the Labour Minister should have replied to it ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

My question is this: May I know from the Minister why the bonus has not increased according to the profit earned by the Corporation? What was the reason the bonus had actually decreased? That is my question.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The reason is this. The carry forward surplus from earlier years was reduced during 1983-84 and no carry-forward, surplus was available during 1984-85. The share capital of MITCO was increased during 1984-85 to enable it to take up manufacturing projects. Due to increased share capital, the deduction on account of 8.5 per cent return on share capital (as provided under the Bonus Act) increased. This resulted in reduction in allocable surplus in 1983-84 and no surplus in 1984-85. Hence, the reduction.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, this is not the reason why it has decreased. This is not the proper answer.

SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Prior to the introduction of floor prices and the setting up of the Mica Trading Corporation, some 12 to 15 middle-class and weaker sections were living in between mine owners and exporters. Now, after the introduction of floor prices and setting up of the Mica Trading Corporation all these people are now out of the market altogether. Only the mica owner and the exporter could live. So, as such, is it not wise to lift the floor price and also remove the Mica Trading Corporation altogether, in order to save these weaker sections?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, it is a suggestion for consideration.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister the total turn-over of the

Mica Corporation during last three years and the amount of bonus given by them each year as against the profit earned.

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the profit and the bonus are mentioned in the Statement laid on the Table.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether bonus was paid in proportion to the profit or not?

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Actually the question was there about the bonus and the profit made. But the other information is not available.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Sir, certainly there has been profit, that is why bonus was given. But the amount of bonus paid is not according to the quantum of profit earned. It is because of this that I want to know the quantum of profit earned and the amount of bonus paid.

[*English*]

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : This information is not readily available with me. I can furnish it to the hon. Member later.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious issue. The position regarding payment of bonus by different industrial undertakings during the last many years has been very unsatisfactory and some corporations such as Textile Corporation or other corporations do not even pay the minimum bonus ... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You ask the question. On Mica Trading Corporation you have to ask. Don't go to textiles.

Why are you going to textiles? Now, Mr. Pradhan may put the question.

[Translation]

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Minister please state what were the demands put forward by the employees regarding bonus and what agreement was reached with the Management?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, the bonus was paid and the employees accepted it.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think in this case the question of bonus from the Mica Trading Corporation is one of the most unfortunate examples where you hear that the management stands up and takes a stand that 'I have increased the share that I hold and therefore, the amount of bonus that you get out of profit goes down.' Secondly, to a second question as to whether there is any agreement, an answer comes saying that 'we gave the bonus and they are yet to get it.' This is a typical case of exploitation of workmen by the management.

I would like to know from the Minister whether the Minister himself or his Ministry is going to intervene to set right such unfortunate happenings especially when it is within his jurisdiction.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, this is a good suggestion for consideration and we will look into it.

Views of State Government Regarding New Textile Policy

*273. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether in view of the around criticism of the new Textile Policy in Parliament, Government propose to ascertain the views of the State Governments with regard to the New Textile policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : The new Textile Policy announced by Government in June,

1985 has, by and large been welcomed in the country. In formulating the policy, views of all concerned interests including those of concerned State Governments have been taken into account.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Sir, this new textile policy has affected three kinds of persons. One side is the mill-owners and the other side is handloom weavers and the cotton growers who are very adversely affected. I would like to know, has the Government obtained the views of the mill-owners, of the cotton growers or their representatives and of the handloom weavers or their representatives either before the departure the old policy is enunciated or immediately after the formulation of the policy? These two sections, namely cotton growers and the handloom weavers are adversely affected because of this new policy.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, before this policy was formulated, a very detailed questionnaire was sent to the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments to elicit their opinion. Unfortunately, only three State Governments have replied and none of the other state Governments have sent their reply.

As far as the handloom weavers are concerned, recently in the Handloom Board meeting, they discussed this policy and they were appreciative of the policy as it is felt that the benefit are likely to flow from the policy to the weavers.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Sir, he did not give me the information about the cotton growers. (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, why don't you allow half-an-hour discussion?

(Interruptions.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have already discussed these things.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : The Minister should reply to my question categorically.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is replying.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : In my first supplementary, I have asked about the views of the cotton growers. He did not say anything about it.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I have already said that the State Governments, through their Chief secretaries, have been asked to give their opinion, through a detailed questionnaire sent by us. It was for the State Governments to find out the views of the various sectors interested in this policy and give us a detailed information. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have already put the question.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Sir, as regards the textile policy, the hon. Minister has been kind enough to say that three States have sent reply to the Questionnaire. I would like to know are the three states which have given their views. Has the Government of Karnataka sent its views with regard to the textile policy and how it is going to affect the cotton growers.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The replies to the Questionnaire were received only from West Bengal, Delhi Administration, Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Madam, no further question.

DR. V. VENKATESH : Sir, actually, the Government of Karnataka has protested very vehemently about this policy as it is going to affect not only handloom sector but even the sericulture industry also. I want to know from the Government whether they have taken into consideration these things.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, as far as the handloom sector is concerned, I think, they have benefited the most because this year, we have given 60 million metres of additional Janata cloth to the handloom sector. The handloom sector will benefit particularly because 20% of the handlooms were dormant in the rural areas and they were not able to get work for the whole of the year. (*Interruptions.*)

DR. V. VENKATESH : Sir, he has not revealed about sericulture.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : About sericulture, I can also tell the hon. Member that because the prices have increased we have also decided to import 25 tonnes of raw silk from China.

SHRI P. KALAINDAIVELU : Sir, from the inception of this new textile policy by the Government, there are so many amendments which have been brought forward in the Lok Sabha. I would like to know clearly from the hon. Minister that if the policy of the Government of India is to help only the handloom weavers and the powerlooms, the policy ought not to have been amended too often. But you have amended the policy often in order to help the composite mills.

My point is, whether the policy of the Government would be suitably amended in order to help the handloom weavers and the powerlooms in equal terms with the composite mills.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : In the first instance, I would like to submit for the consideration of the hon. Member that this is basically a long term policy and its real benefits will be known after it has been given a fair trial.

As regards the handloom, I can assure the hon. Member that handloom sector has benefited from this.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him say.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It does not support.....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Let him answer the question.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Let me answer. What do you want me to do ?

The handloom sector produced more cloth this year than last year.

(Interruptions)

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : It was very kind of the Government to have taken the views of the States. I want to know, did the Government envisage the reaction of the cotton growers to the textile policy and, if so, what it was and what it stands today after the agitation that is going on in all the cotton growing areas ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : I can assure the hon. Member that the cotton which is produced in the country today, the Cotton Corporation has been given instructions to buy all the cotton which is brought by the growers and there will be no difficulty.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER No, no. Minister is telling.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please put the question. He is putting the Supplementary. Please sit down. I am allowing Supplementaries.

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : This is a very important question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you want to know ?

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : We want immediately half-an-hour discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If it is important, give a separate notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Jaipal Reddy, what do you want ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is very important subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I can also understand. Please take your seat. Mr. Jaipal Reddy, what is your supplementary ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You allow me.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. Will Mr. Jaipal Reddy put the question ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The new textile policy is supposed to have been based on the Experts Committee Report. Why is it that the Government consider the Experts Committee report a secret ? Will the Government release it here and now ?

Secondly, the Minister referred to the response of the State Governments in regard to a Questionnaire that was circulated before the Experts Committee Report was submitted. Did the State Governments protest against this policy after the policy was announced ? If so, which are the State Governments and what were the lines of the protest ?

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : As the hon. Member has said, the Questionnaire was circulated. Yes, it was circulated and, I said the States which have replied also.

As regards the report, it is being printed and it will be a printed document available for sale.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The report should be made available to the Members also.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Naturally. It will be available. As regards the question of States, some States whenever they bring in particular item regarding the difficulty faced by handloom or powerloom or other sector, it is immediately attended to and looked after.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Which were the State Governments that protested against the new textile policy. ? My question was categorical. The Minister has not deliberately answered. The Governments of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and West Bengal have lodged specific protests against the new textile policy. The new textile policy goes against weavers.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir allow me to put one question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. The Question List is over. I will go over the list again. Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi... Not present. Shri Sriballav Panigrahi... Not present. Shri Manik Reddy... Not present. Shri M. Raghuma Reddy... Not present. Shri Sharad Dighe... Not present. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal... Not present. Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy... Not present. Shri Jitendra Singh... Not present. Shri Braja Mohan Mohanty... Not present. Shri Vijay N. Patil... Not present. Shri Thampan Thomas... Not present. Shri Daulatsinghji Jadeja... Not present. Shri Yaswantrao Gadakh Patil... Not present. Dr. G. S. Rajhans... Not present. Shri S. M. Bhattam... Not here. Shri Zainul Basher... Not here. Shri Banwari Lal Purohit... Not present. The Question List is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Prevention of Smuggling and Foreign Exchange Manipulations

*368. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether violations of foreign exchange regulations and smuggling activities continue to have deleterious effect on the national economy;

(b) the steps taken/proposed for effective prevention of such smuggling activities and foreign exchange manipulations;

(c) the steps taken/proposed by Government to deprive persons engaged in smuggling activities and foreign exchange manipulations of their ill-gotten gains including properties acquired by them from such gains in the name of their relatives, associates and confidants;

(d) the steps taken/proposed in West Bengal; and

(e) the progress during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) (b) and (d). Economic offences like smuggling, exchange control violations, etc.

do have harmful effects on the national economy. In pursuance of the Government's firm resolve to take strict action against economic offences, the drive against smuggling/foreign exchange racketeering has been intensified through-out the country including the State of West Bengal. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs Department has been re-inforced in vulnerable areas in terms of man-power and equipment. Government has set up a Central Economic Intelligence Bureau for co-ordinating and strengthening the intelligence gathering activities, the investigative efforts and enforcement action by various agencies concerned with the investigation of economic offences and enforcement of economic laws.

(c) Stringent action is taken against persons found involved in smuggling activities/exchange control violations, both departmentally as well as through prosecution in Courts. The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976, provides, for the forfeiture of the illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators. It also applies to the illegally acquired properties held by their relatives and associates. Under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act upto 30th November, 1985 in 2, 533 cases, show cause notices have been issued involving properties totally valued at Rs. 42.22 crores.

(e) As a result of the intensified drive against smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers, the value of seizures made under the Customs Act, 1962 and the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 has steadily increased as may be evident from the figures furnished below :—

(Values : Rs. in crores)

Year	Total value of seizures under the Customs Act.	Total value of Indian/Foreign currency seized under FERA
1983	90	1.34
1984	101	1.90
1985	161	1.76
(upto Oct.)	(Provisional)	(Provisional)

Under the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976, show causes notices were issued in 185 cases involving properties worth Rs. 4 crores from 1.1.1983 to 30.11.1985. 241 cases involving properties worth Rs. 4.65 crores were disposed of during the aforesaid period.

Steps Taken to Improve the Quality of Steel in the Public Sector Steel Plants

*369. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that our country has not been able to produce high quality steel and that even the production of ordinary steel has gone down;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been increase in the prices of steel about one and half to two fold during the last one year or so; and

(c) the progress made in implementing the various steps to improve the quality of steel in the public sector steel plants and how does it compare with the pace of progress in private sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir. Various grades of high quality steel are now being made in the country; production of some of these items like Electrical Steel Sheets, LPG Sheets and Deep Drawing and Extra Deep Drawing quality steel sheets has been going up steadily. Total saleable steel production in the country has also been going up.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A number of measures have been introduced for quality improvement in Rourkela, Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants. Measures for improving quality have been incorporated in the modernisation schemes of Durgapur. In recent years, some of the steel plants in the public sector have introduced desiliconisation, desulphurisation, lime dust injection, ladle refining and closer process control measures. Rourkela Steel Plant has recently commenced production of silicon steel. It is introducing new rolling techniques for improving

strength and ductility characteristics of steel on trial basis while Bhilai has introduced continuous casting.

TISCO is presently implementing a scheme for upgrading the quality of their products by installing facilities like Basic Oxygen Converter, Vacuum Arc De-gasing and continuous casting. Measure to improve the quality of steel produced in steel plants is a continuous process

Export of Chillies and Turmeric

*370. SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that stock of chillies and turmeric has accumulated in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to instruct the Spices Export Promotion Council to promote exports of the above items;

(c) if so, the quantity likely to be exported during 1985-86; and

(d) the quantity exported during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No report regarding accumulation of stock in Andhra Pradesh has been received.

(b) The Spices Export Promotion Council is already taking various steps to promote exports of spices including chillies and turmeric which include sponsoring of delegations of exporters, contract promotion programmes and participation in food fairs etc.

(c) As per current indications, the exports of chillies and turmeric during 1985-86 are expected to be lower than the preceding years. No specific figure can be indicated at this stage for exports anticipated during 1985-86.

(d) Statement indicating exports during the last three years is attached

Statement		
Year	Quantity	Value
Chillies		
1982-83	12888.46	12,35,43.91
1983-84	10610.45	8,78,26.80
1984-85	8159.66	9,66,57.00
Turmeric		
1982-83	7594.76	4,23,54 25
1983-84	10891.88	11,05,50.06
1984-85	12922.87	17,15,70.11

Reduction in Non-Plan Expenditure

*372. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the instruction which was issued to all Ministries and Departments in mid-September, 1985 was to reduce non-Plan expenditure by five per cent;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) whether the reduction will apply to expenditure subsidies on foodgrains, fertilisers and imports of sugar and edible oil which involve most of the non-plan expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The reductions will be reflected in the Revised Estimates for the current year to be presented alongwith the Budget for 1986-87. It is expected that as a result of various measures so far taken, a saving of Rs. 800 crores over the expenditure already voted by Parliament will be effected. Subsidies account for about 12.8% of the total non-Plan expenditure in Budget Estimates 1985-86. Efforts are being made to reduce overheads and non-essential expenditure.

Loss Incurred by Indian Iron and Steel Co. (IISCO)

*373. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the future of nearly 40,000 people employed in the Indian Iron and Steel Co. (IISCO), wholly owned by SAIL subsidiary is quite uncertain;

(b) the net loss incurred by this steel plant;

(c) the factors responsible for the present plight of this Company;

(d) the steps Government propose to take to make it a viable unit by currying out necessary modernisation of its plant and machinery;

(e) whether SAVE IISCO meet was held in Burnpur on 17th November, 1985; and

(f) if so, whether Government propose to secure the future of these 40,000 employees by running the plant;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The net loss incurred by IISCO during the last three years is given below :

	(Profit (+)/Loss (-)

	(Rupees in crores)
1982-83	(-) 71.05
1983-84	(-) 24.06
1984-85	(-) 81.60

The accumulated loss upto the end of 1984-85 amounts to Rs. 335 81 crores.

(c) The major factors responsible for the present state of IISCO are the low production and low capacity utilisation due to ageing of Plant and equipment, obsolete technology and inadequate raw material and of the right quality.

(d) The VII Plan makes no provision for modernisation of IISCO; however, funds have been provided for its maintenance and improvement and efforts are being made to improve its performance within the available resources.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The plant is in operation.

Export of Wheat and Rice

*374. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of wheat exported so far from 1 January, 1985; and

(b) if not, whether there are any proposals to export wheat and rice in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The quantum of wheat exported from 1st January 1985 to 30th November 1985 was 3,36,040 tonnes. This includes exports of wheat as gift to drought effected African countries and as commodity loan to Vietnam.

(b) The export of wheat and Basmati rice is already allowed.

Scheme of Light and Sound Programme on Ramcharit Manas in Ayodhya

*376. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme to prepare a light and sound programme in Ayodhya, based on Ramcharit Manas and other works of Tulsidas; and

(b) whether Government propose to give wide publicity to the scheme through the media as a part of our literary and cultural heritage ?

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Improvement in Tourist Potential of Puri, Konark, Bhubaneswar and Chilika Lake in Orissa

*377. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have any proposal to improv the tourist potential

of Puri, Konark, Bhubaneswar and Chilika Lake in Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government had any exchange of ideas with the State Government regarding the development of tourist potential in these areas; and

(c) whether Government have impressed upon the State Government to construct and extend the marine drive by the coast of Puri from Balighai to Puri and Harchandi in Bramahagiri block and if so, the response of State Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The development/improvement of centres of tourist importance in Orissa or for that matter other part of the country is a continuous process involving both the Central and the State Governments as also the private sector. In the 7th Five Year Plan the Department has requested the Government of Orissa to submit schemes for improving tourism infrastructure in the various centres. The State Government has submitted the following proposals/schemes to improve the tourist potential at Puri, Konark and Chilka Lake which are under process :

(Rs. in lakhs)

(i) Provision of basic amenities for tourists at Chandra-bhaga, Konark	11.50
(ii) Construction of shopping complex and Day centre at Konark	16.85
(iii) Yatri Niwas at Satpada, Chilka Lake	38.50
(iv) Provision of Mini Buses, wagonettes and elephants for Simlipal	17.58
(v) Survey of beach between Puri and Konark	13.15

The Department is in continuous dialogue with the State Government in the matter of formulation of these schemes and their implementation.

(c) The road work between Puri and Konark has already been completed and open to traffic in August, 1982. The Road Wings of the Ministry of Transport has received no proposal for construction of road from Puri to Harachandi in Bramahagiri block from the State Government.

Exploitation of Deposits of Bauxite for Aluminium Industry

*380. SHRI VIJAYA N. PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Government towards exploitation of huge deposits of bauxite for aluminium industry;

(b) the per capita consumption of aluminium in the country as compared to its use in developed countries; and

(c) the latest technological innovations being adopted by the aluminium industry to reduce the cost of production in the face of stiff competition from materials like steel and plastics ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The broad policy of the Government has been to exploit the deposits of bauxite so as to achieve self sufficiency in the production of aluminium for the domestic market.

The per capita consumption of aluminium in India is about 0.4 kg. Although definite information is not available, but it has been reported that the estimated per capita consumption in some of the developed countries is as follows :

U. K.	9.9 kg
France	12.4 kg
Italy	13.2 kg
Japan	19.4 kg
U. S. A.	26.0 kg

India is keeping pace in adopting the latest technologies for production of

aluminium. The National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) project is being implemented on the basis of the latest technology which has lower norms of consumption in respect of power and other input materials. All the aluminium companies in the public and private sectors have also been trying to modernise their plants and to achieve cost efficiencies.

Interchangeability of materials is a continuing phenomenon, which is dependent upon technological developments, prices, availability, quality of product etc. Concerted efforts in research in aluminium technology for alloy development, casting and forging, welding techniques, heat treatment, metal finishing and development of new applications for aluminium alloys are continuing, which will promote the use of aluminium.

Non Official Directors on the Boards of Directors of Nationalised Banks

*381. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of nationalised banks have no non-official Directors of their Boards;

(b) if so, the names of the nationalised banks without non-official Directors; and

(c) when the vacant posts of the Board of Directors are likely to be filled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As on date, out of the 20 nationalised banks, 13 banks do not have any non official director on their Board. The names of these 13 banks are Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Dena Bank, Indian Bank, Syndicates Bank, Union Bank of India, United Commercial Bank, Andhra Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab and Sind Bank and New Bank of India. The process of selecting suitable persons for nomination as non-official directors on the Boards of Nationalised Banks is under way.

Import of Fishing Boats

*382. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had permitted import of any fishing boats based on 100 per cent export guarantees;

(b) the details of such permits;

(c) whether such boats are being used presently only for shrimping;

(d) the outflow of foreign exchange for purchase of boats on this 100 per cent export basis; and

(e) the inflow of foreign exchange from the liberal scheme of his Ministry so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Under the 100 per cent Export Oriented Units Scheme, the Ministry of Industry has issued letters of approval in seven cases involving import of trawlers.

(b) to (e). A Statement is given below.

Statement
(VALUE IN RUPEES LAKHS)

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Approval Letter No & date of issue by the Ministry of Industry	Item	CIF value of Trawler already imported/ allowed	FOB value of exports Envisaged during 5 years	Made so far	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	M/s. Southern Sea Crafts Ltd. Madras.	No. 379 (83)/E.O. No. 57 (83)/IL dt. 30.5.83	Shrimps, Prawns & Fish.	200.00 Two vessels Already imported.	836.65	1984-85* Rs. 8.31 1985-86 (upto 30.9.85) Rs. 27.65	* As per progress report of the party.
2.	M/s. Lewis and Lewis Fisheries (I) P. Ltd. Bangalore.	No. PER : 26 (82)/ E.O. No. 48 (82)/ MISC. dt. 5.8.82	Skipjack Fish.	11,400 One vessel. Already imported.	1247.00	—	Vessel imported but registration not granted. Hence no production/exports.
3.	M/s. Dev Fisheries Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore.	No. PER : 78 (82)/ E.O. No. 188 (82)/ MISC dt. 31.12.82	Tuna Fish	95.00 One Vessel. Already imported.	737.00	—	— do —
4.	M/s. Cholamandal Shipping Co. Ltd. Madras.	No. PER : 79 (83)/ E.O. No. 160 (83)/ MISC. dt. 15.12.83.	Marine Products including Shrimps.	177.60 Two vessels. Imports net yet made.	1231.00	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	M/s. Leenka Exports (P) Ltd., Madras.	No. PER : 78 (83)/ E.O. No. 166 (83)/ MISC. dt. 12.12.83.	Fish & Shrimps, Prawns	175.00 Two vessels, Imports not yet made.	875.00	—	—
6.	M/s. Southern Farm Fabrications (P) Ltd; Bangalore.	No. LI : 840 (84)/ EO. No. 138 (84)/ IL. dt. 12.11.84	Whole quality Fish etc. Head of Shrimps.	179.60 Two vessels, Imports not yet made.	979.80	—	—
6.	Clarion Fisheries (P) Ltd. Bangalore.	No. LI : 760 (81)/ EO. No. 114 (81)/ IL. dt. 14.8.81.	Fish Meal with Protein content etc.	121.00 Three vessels, Imports not yet made.	381.00	—	—

—SOURCE :—Information against Columns 5 and 6 as per details given by the parties.

Modernisation of Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants

*383. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any programme has been worked out for modernisation of the Bhilai and Bokaro Steel Plants; and

(b) if so, when the programme is proposed to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Modernisation and technological improvement of steel plants is a continuous process. Every year the steel plants are allocated funds for additions, modifications and replacement which enable proper maintenance and improvements in their performance. Steel Authority of India Limited are formulating a comprehensive proposal for debottlenecking and further technological upgradation of the Bhilai and the Bokaro Steel Plants.

[*Translation*]

Development of New Tourist Centres

*384. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of New centres selected for the development of tourism in the country during the last two years and their location, Statewise ;

(b) the reasons for not according adequate attention to Bihar due to this State on account of its rich cultural heritage; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide tourists accommodation at important places like Devghar, Nalanda, Vaishali, etc. and providing adequate publicity materials about these places ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The development of existing centres of tourist importance and identification of new centres are a continuous on going process in which

both the Central and the State Governments are involved. Schemes and proposals for providing or improving tourism infrastructure in the tourist centres are received from the State Government and taken up for consideration depending on their priority and the availability of the resources with the Government. Until now the Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Government has identified 441 centres of tourist importance as given in Annexure - I.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1758/85]

(b) and (c). The Department is giving considerable attention for developing tourism potential of various centres in Bihar. The State Tourism Department has provided accommodation for tourists at Devghar, Vaishali, Basukinath, Rajgir, Bodhgaya, Patna, Hazaribagh and Neterhat. In addition, India Tourism Development Corporation has constructed a hotel at Patna and a tourist lodge at Bodhgaya. A Tourist lodge is also under construction by the Department of Tourism at Betla. Both central and the State Department of Tourism have brought out sufficient publicity materials on various centres of tourists importance in Bihar for use of foreign as well as domestic tourists.

[*English*]

Identification of Export-Oriented Industries Qualifying for Excise Duty Exemption

*386. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that precious and semiprecious stones, pearls, synthetic stones, ornaments and other articles of gold and silver have been exempted from excise duty on the plea that this is an export-oriented industry ;

(b) whether Government have identified any other export-oriented industries which qualify for excise duty exemption ; and

(c) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (c). Exemption from excise duty

in respect of precious and semi-precious stones, pearls, synthetic stones, ornaments and other articles of gold and silver has been granted for other reasons also and not merely for the reason they are products of export-oriented industry. Moreover, practically all excisable goods can be exported in bound without payment of duty or otherwise under claim of rebate of excise duty. The need for identifying export oriented industries for purposes of exemption from excise duty therefore does not ordinarily arise.

Crisis in Handwoven Carpet Industry

*387. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is aware regarding the crisis in the handwoven carpet industry in the country due to difficult export situation;

(b) whether his Ministry is also aware that because of non-clearance of huge stock, large number of looms are closed rendering thousands of weavers unemployed;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the action being taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. According to provisional data, exports of woollen handknotted carpets etc. during April-August 1985 reached Rs. 71.09 crores as compared to Rs. 58.61 crores during the same period in 1984.

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

Setting up of Steel Plant in Maharashtra

*388. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Vidarbha, Chandrapur and Gadcharoli regions of Maharashtra 182 million tonnes of reserves of iron-ore have been located;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a steel plant there; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of the capacities under execution already, vis-a-vis the provision of funds for investment in the steel sector during the VIIth Plan there is no likelihood of setting up of a new steel plant by the Central Government.

Loan From Asian Development Funds

3774. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the four year old stalemate over India's application to borrow from the Asian Development funds has finally been broken;

(b) if so, whether both sides have now relented and cleared the way opening India to borrow 400 million dollars for the next two years;

(c) if so, whether the Indian Government which have been insisting on the prior commitments from the Bank on the quantum of loan has been accepted by them; and

(d) to what extent the loan will be utilised by India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The exact amount of loans to be extended to India and the projects to be financed are still under discussion with the management of the Asian Development Bank.

Assistance under IRDP During Seventh Plan

3775. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate number of households expected to be provided assistance under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) during the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) the number of households earmarked for U. P. under IRDP;

(c) the average subsidy envisaged to allow for higher per capita investment level to ensure adequate income returns ; and

(d) the role assigned to the banking sector for providing credit for this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to the Seventh Five Year Plan document, 20 million beneficiaries are to be assisted under the IRDP.

(b) The State-wise targets for the Seventh Five Year Plan have not yet been worked out.

(c) A subsidy of Rs. 2000/- per new beneficiary has been suggested.

(d) The subsidy amounts payable to the beneficiaries range from 25% to 50% of the cost of the project/assets. The balance of funds is to come from the banks as loans. Banks are responsible for processing and sanctioning of loan cases before actually disbursing the amount to the beneficiaries.

Bonus to Central Government Employees

3776. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government consider bonus as deferred wage ;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to pay bonus to all Central Government employees irrespective of pay scales; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Employees of commercial and production oriented sectors of the Central Government, for example, Railways, Posts, Tele-Communications, Defence Units etc., are paid bonus according to the Productivity Linked

Bonus Schemes applicable to their respective organisations. Central Government employees not covered by any Productivity Linked Bonus scheme are paid *ad hoc* bonus pending evolution of an appropriate formula which could be applied to them. Thus bonus could not be considered as a deferred wage in respect of the Central Government employees who are not covered by the Payment of Bonus Act.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Open House Discussion with Exporters And Importers.

3778. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the former Minister of Commerce during the 4th Open House discussions with exporters-importers on 10 August, 1985 had made an announcement that Merchant Export House would be allowed to become Manufacturers Export House subject to fulfilment of growth rate in the category in which they were recognised initially ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the instructions issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are contained in Public Notice No. 45-ITC (PN)/85-88 dated 4. 11. 1985 copy of which has been laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Rags and its Effect on Woollen Industry.

3779. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large quantity of rags are being imported every year ;

(b) the agency through which these rags are imported ;

(c) the purpose for which these rags are being imported and how these are being utilised ;

(d) whether Government are aware that these rags are being sold in the market instead of using them in the industry ; and

(e) if so, whether this import has affected the woollen industry in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Following imports were made during last three years :—

Quantity	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
Kgs.	178.84	267.65	335.20
(in lakhs)	(SOURCE IWMF, BOMBAY)		

(b) The import of woollen rags are under OGL for Actual Users.

(c). Woollen rags are imported by the Shoddy Sector of the Woollen Industry and the same are used as raw material to manufacture blankets, blanketing cloth, blazor cloth, tweeds, etc.

(d) and (e). Malpractices in the import of woollen rags have come to the notice of the Government. To prevent the abuse, the policy for import of rags has been amended so as to allow import of woollen rags only in pre-mutilated condition.

Proposal to Introduce Incentives For Bank Employees

3780. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give prominence for selecting right borrowers capable of generating more and more production with regular repayments of loans ;

(b) whether Government propose to shift emphasis to get deposits from small

savings from private individuals than depending on Government Undertakings ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to introduce incentives to bank employees working hard with integrity and results oriented and punishments to dishonest, inefficient, etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The banks are expected to select right type of borrowers capable of generating more production with regular repayment of loan. The credit worthiness of the borrower and his capacity to repay the loan are the cardinal principles of lending. In addition, the Government has directed scheduled commercial banks to make credit available for viable schemes under priority sector. The banks, under poverty alleviation programme, provide loans for viable schemes although the incremental production per unit may not be sizeable. In such cases also only viable projects ensuring regular repayment of loan are financed.

(b) The banks mobilise deposits from all categories of depositors and operate a number of schemes to motivate persons for small savings in deposit accounts. The trend in the growth of deposits of various categories is kept under continual review by R.B.I.

(c) The Government have advised the public sector banks for taking stringent action against dishonest and inefficient employees and at the same time to suitably reward the employees who work hard with integrity.

Trade Fairs Organised by TFAI in Foreign Countries.

3781. SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the number of trade fairs organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India in foreign countries during the last year and the current year ;

(b) the number of fairs in which they participated during the same period ;

(c) the details of awards won by India in these fairs and the increase in trade achieved as a result of these fairs ;

(d) the names of countries where new markets for Indian goods have been explored, the names of old markets where demand for Indian goods has gone up as a result of these fairs and the item-wise annual trade growth rate achieved as a result thereof; and

(e) the names of Indian items which have become more popular in other countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Trade Fair Authority of India organised three exclusive Indian Exhibitions during 1984-85. During 1985-86 the Trade Fair Authority of India proposes to organise four exclusive Indian Exhibitions abroad.

(b) During 1984-85, the Trade Fair Authority of India organised participation in 35 fairs abroad. During 1985-86 the Trade Fair Authority of India proposes to organise participation in 35 fairs abroad.

(c) During 1984-85, the Trade Fair Authority of India was awarded gold medals at the Baghdad International Fair (November, 1984) Cairo International Fair (March, 1985) and Leipzig Spring Fair (March, 1985). During 1984-85, the sale of exhibits amounted to Rs. 77.13 lakhs while the business booked amounted to Rs. 357.61 crores. During 1985-86 (April-October 85) the sale of exhibits amounted to Rs. 72.41 lakhs and business booked amounted to Rs. 136.47 crores. In addition a joint venture was also signed valuing Rs. 150 crores.

(d) The Trade Fair Authority of India organised participation for the first time in Switzerland, Seychelles, Ivory Coast, Vietnam, Netherlands, Portugal, Nepal, China and Morocco. The old markets where the demand for Indian products has gone up are USSR, FRG, Italy, France, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait etc. It is not possible to quantify the item-wise annual

growth in trade as a result of participation in fairs.

(e) A number of Indian products have become quite popular in countries where Trade Fair Authority of India organised participation in recent years like machine tools, textile machinery, hand and small tools, pneumatic tools, transformers, agricultural and farming equipment, tractors, diesel engines, pump sets, auto and auto parts, builders hardware, scientific, surgical & industrial instruments, electronic goods, readymade garments, sports goods, leather manufactures, chemicals and pharmaceuticals plasticwares sanitarywares and fittings, tea coffee marine products, handlooms and handicrafts etc.

Opening of Branches of Barclays Bank of U. K. in India

3782. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Barclays Bank of U.K. has sought and obtained Government's permission for opening one or more branches in India;

(b) if so, whether some development projects requiring foreign exchange may be entrusted to the Bank for financing purposes; and

(c) the details of the proposals under consideration as part of Indo-British economic collaboration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that Barclays Bank p.l.c. which is maintaining a representative office in Bombay has sought the Bank's permission to convert the representative office into a fullfledged branch. Reserve Bank of India has not yet granted the licence.

(b) and (c). It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to projects to be financed by the proposed branch of Barclays Bank p.l.c. in India. Since no licence has yet been given for opening a branch by

Barclays Bank p.l.c. in India, the question of associating it with financing of developmental projects does not arise.

Coffee Produced by Each State and its Export

3783. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the States which are producing coffee;

(b) the quantity of coffee produced by each State during 1983-84 and 1984-85 and likely to be produced by the end of 1985-86;

(c) the quantity of coffee exported during the 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is decline in the export of coffee;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the steps being taken to boost the export of coffee and also to increase the production; and

(g) whether the propaganda, for coffee has been slowed down, if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The quantity of coffee produced in the coffee producing States during the last 2 years and estimates for the current year is as under :

(Estimates in Tonnes)

State	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Karnataka	79335	127990	96000
Kerala	9555	46880	28500
Tamil Nadu	15515	14485	15500
Andhra Pradesh	530	475	—
Other States	65	170	—
Total Production :	105000	190000	140000
Exports	71109	67649	58074

(April to Oct. 85)

(c) to (f). Exports during 1983-84, 1984-85 were adversely effected on account of production shortfalls occasioned by continuing drought. Substantially increased quantities have already been contracted in 1985-86 and exports are likely to be in the range of 93000—100,000 tonnes.

Coffee Board implements a number on development loans and subsidy schemes. In addition the Board has opened seed multiplication units, coffee demonstration farms, research farms, mobile soil testing units etc. for increasing production of coffee in the country.

(g) No, Sir. With increase in instant coffee manufacturing capacity, coffee consumption is expected to increase. Coffee Board has also been advised to formulate new strategies for promoting domestic coffee consumption.

Opening of Branches of Punjab National Bank in Himachal Pradesh

3784. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Punjab National Bank is the lead bank for a number of Districts in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of these districts and the number of branches of the Punjab National Bank functioning in each of these Districts;

(c) whether a number of proposals for opening of new branches of Punjab National Bank are also pending with the Reserve Bank of India for grant of licences in the State; and

(d) if so, the number of branches for which the licences have been sanctioned or are under sanction district-wise during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Punjab National Bank has lead responsibility in six districts of Himachal Pradesh. The number of branches of the bank in these districts as on date is given below :

Name of District	No. of Branches
1. Hamirpur	17
2. Kangra	24
3. Kinnaur	3
4. Kulu	8
5. Mandi	12
6. Ura	12

(c) and (d). The Punjab national Bank has reported that it has applied for opening branches in three centres in Himachal Pradesh and sanction for these centres is awaited. The question of allowing bank offices in various centres in Himachal Pradesh, would be considered by the RBI on the basis of the list of identified centres that may be forwarded by the State Government in accordance with the branch licensing policy. Details of licences sanctioned by RBI for opening branches of Punjab National Bank in Himachal Pradesh after 1.1.85 are given below :

Name of District	No. of Licences sanctioned
1. Hamirpur	7
2. Kulu	1
3. Una	4
4. Bilaspur	2
5. Simla	2

Amritsar as Tourist Centre

3785. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amritsar's importance as a tourist centre has been recognised; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to facilitate and attract the tourists to that city ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir. Amritsar is amongst the major tourist centres of India.

(b) The promotion of tourist centres of India in the important tourist generating markets abroad is a continuous process and forms an integral part of the normal activities of the Department of Tourism. Amritsar figures prominently in our tourism brochures and publicity materials.

Survey for Mineral Wealth in Anantpur in A. P.

3787. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the extent of underground minerals wealth in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to conduct survey of this area for (i) minerals and (ii) for underground water; and

(c) if such survey has already been conducted, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Exploration of minerals is a continuous process and is being continued in the Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh also by the Geological Survey of India and the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Andhra Pradesh. The Central Ground Water Board has also completed hydrological surveys in the entire district of Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As a result of the surveys carried out so far, for the mineral investigations, the following reserves have been estimated :

Mineral	Reserves
Gold	2.588 million tonnes (5.6 gm/tonnes of gold)
Diamond	6 diamondiferous, kimberlite pipes located in Wajrakarur area. Diamond incidence poor.
Iron-ore (Hematite)	7.54 million tonnes
Limestone	0.09 million tonnes
Dolomite	0.018 million tonnes
China clay	1016 tonnes
Steatite	1.58 million tonnes
Silica sand	2817 tonnes

The Central Ground Water Board has estimated the utilisable ground water resources for the district to be of the order of 1878 million cubic meters per year in the Anantapur district.

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Orissa During 1985-86

3788. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to open some more branches of the nationalised banks in Orissa in the current financial year 1985-86;

(b) if so, the number of such new branches of nationalised banks opened at different places in Orissa so far;

(c) the number of new branches of different commercial banks proposed to be opened by the end of the current financial year;

(d) the names of the places selected for opening of such branches; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The branch licencing policy for 1985-90 has recently been finalised by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The main objective of the policy is to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population per bank office in rural and semi-urban areas of each block and to eliminate large spatial gaps in the availability of banking facilities. RBI has advised the State Governments and the Lead Banks to identify the centres for opening bank offices to cover the underbanked pockets. The question of allowing more bank offices in Orissa would be considered by RBI on the basis of the list of centres that may be identified and forwarded by the Government of Orissa. During the period 1.1.85 to 30.6.85, 45 additional bank offices of the public sector banks were opened in Orissa. However, no quantitative target regarding number of bank branches to be opened during the current financial year has been fixed.

[Translation]

Incentives to Indian Exporters of Diamond

3789. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a few international monopoly houses are having a hold on the diamond trade;

(b) whether Government propose to give incentives to the Indian exporters;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Diamond Trading Company is reported to control substantial part of mining and marketing of rough diamonds. There is no such trading company for cut and polished diamonds.

(b) to (d). Export of cut and polished diamond is constantly encouraged. Facility to import essential equipment and tools under OGL, reduction in import duty on a number of essential equipment and tools and sponsoring of delegations to overseas markets are some of the measures taken to boost exports of diamonds.

[English]

Schemes to Ameliorate Weaker and Vulnerable Sections

3790. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to launch three more schemes to ameliorate the lot of weaker and vulnerable sections of the society in the context of surplus food-stocks;

(b) The agency through which these schemes are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the Central Level, these schemes would be administered by the concerned Ministries/Departments of the Central Government viz. the Department of Welfare will administer the scheme relating to supply of foodgrains at subsidised rates to the people living in Integrated Tribal Development Projects; the Department of Women's Welfare will administer the scheme relating to augmentation of the coverage of beneficiaries under the nutrition

programme for young children, pregnant women and nursing mothers; the Department of Rural Development will administer the scheme relating to the expansion of the coverage of Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and the National Rural Employment Programme through the increased allocation of foodgrains. At the field level, these schemes will be implemented through State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations.

Revolving Tower Restaurant at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi

3791. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal to have a Revolving Tower Restaurant at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi was approved by the Union Government and expenditure about Rs. 15 lakhs was incurred on this project;

(b) if so, the present position in respect of implementation of this project;

(c) whether completion of this project would enhance the marketability and profitability of Ashok Hotel and add to the reputation of Ashok Group; and

(d) if so, the efforts made by Government for the speedy completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. During the year 1967-68 an expenditure of the order of Rs. 12.08 lakhs was incurred by ITDC on a Project to construct a Revolving Tower Restaurant at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi. Due to constraint on resources and inter-se-priority it has not so far been possible for the ITDC to complete the construction of this project. The present food outlets in the Ashok Hotel are considered adequate to meet the requirements.

Suggestion from Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce to Contain Black Money

3792. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry has suggested a package of measures to contain black money and ensure the country's healthy trade balance;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the suggestions made by the Federation;

(c) if so, to what extent they have been accepted;

(d) the steps being taken to implement those suggestions; and

(e) whether Government are convinced that steps suggested would curb the black money growth in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Ministry have not received any suggestions from Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry regarding black money.

(b) to (e). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Loan to Small Intreprenuers to Promote Small Industries

3793. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made any arrangements to make bank loans speedily and easily available to small entrepreneurs with a view to promoting small industries;

(b) if so, the number of the loan applications, out of those pending so far with various banks, which have been scrutinised and against which loans has been given; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India have been issuing guidelines from time to time to ensure that the loans

and advances to small industrial units including small entrepreneurs are sanctioned speedily and are made easily available. Some of the important instructions are :

(i) the banks are required to use standardised uniform sets of applications and interview-cum-appraisal forms for all small sector industrial borrowers including small entrepreneurs. These forms are to be made available in the regional languages also. (ii) with a view to facilitating timely sanction of credit facilities, the branch managers should be vested with adequate discretionary powers : so that the major portions of the credit decision could be taken at the branch level itself. (iii) All loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks from the date of receipt of applications. (iv) while considering the credit proposals, banks have to be guided by the viability of project applicant's skills/experience, integrity and ability to organise an activity or business and not merely by the tangible securities which the borrowers can provide. No worthwhile proposal is to be rejected merely for want of collateral security/guarantee. Where collateral security is obtained, creation of the charge should as far as possible be by way of equitable mortgage instead of registered mortgage so that the borrowers are not made to bear stamp/registration costs. (v) The banks should adopt a flexible approach towards margin requirements. Margin money may be permitted to be introduced in stages, as and when required and it should not be insisted that such margin money should be brought in at the beginning of the loan operations.

(b) and (c). The present data reporting system for the banks does not generate data in the manner asked for.

[*English*]

Proposal to Start an Office of NHDC in Chirala, Prakasam Distt. A. P.

3794. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start an office of the National Handloom Development Corporation at Chirala in

Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh to cater to the needs of handloom weavers like training in handloom technology etc.;

(b) if so, when the office will be started; and

(c) the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Pending Returns in Income Tax Department, Delhi

3795 **SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of actual returns and also as per MPR-wise pending as on 1 April, 1985, range-wise in the Income Tax Department, Delhi;

(b) the total number of returns as per receipt register received, range-wise, in the Income-tax Department, Delhi from 1 April, 1985 to 31st October, 1985;

(c) the number of assessments completed out of (a) and (b) above, range-wise from April to October, 1985 by Assistant Commissioners, Income-tax Officers and Inspectors separately;

(d) the number of actual returns pending as on 1 November, 1985 range-wise; and

(e) whether Income-tax Department, Delhi is notifying the Inspectors u/s 125 (1) (b) of the Income Tax Act 1961 in all ranges to complete the pending assessments well in time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after the receipt of the same.

Proposal to Make NMDC a Subsidiary of MMTC

3796. **SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES

be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 619 on 26 April, 1985 regarding proposal to make the National Minerals Development Corporation a subsidiary of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have retreated from the stand and the proposal for such a merger or restructuring move is being considered;

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

(c) whether all the interests and parties concerned are being taken into confidence and consulted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). No such decision has been taken.

(c) Whenever any decision is taken by Government the views of all concerned interests are ascertained.

Cadre-Wise Rationale in 40-Point Roster of SC/ST in MMTC

3797. **DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. is implementing 40-point Roster in recruitment and promotion of Scheduled Casts/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, region-wise, cadre-wise particulars containing total number of promotion for general candidates and Scheduled Casts/Scheduled Tribes for the calendar years 1982 to 1984;

(c) whether backlog still exists for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe posts particulars thereof in respect of each cadre for 1982 to 1984;

(d) whether any post is Scheduled Casts/Scheduled Tribe quota was allowed to lapse during 1982 to 1984 in cadres of Office Managers, Field Officers and above;

(e) if so, the reason thereof; and

(f) whether approval of Government was obtained for de-reservation of the posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Loans Sanctioned by Banks Under Self-Employment Scheme in Madhya Pradesh

3798. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons sanctioned loans upto 31st March, 1985 by various banks in Madhya Pradesh under the Self-employment Scheme announced by the former Prime Minister in August, 1983 for the educated unemployed youth and the number of persons to whom loans have been distributed; and

(b) the time by which the work of distributing the pending sanctioned amount of loans will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In the State of Madhya Pradesh 36,851 cases were sanctioned by banks by the end of March, 1985. Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per the data received from the banks, the amount of loan sanctioned for 1983-84 has been disbursed fully in most of the cases. For the year 1984-85, the banks, as on 15th July, 1985 disbursed loan in 7,249 out of 18,065 sanctioned cases and for the remaining cases banks were asked to expedite disbursement.

Supply of Billets to Re-Rolling Mill in Hirakud

3799. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the re-rolling mill of Industrial Development Corporation of

Orissa, Hirakud has been facing serious problems in getting its full requirement of billets from SAIL and IISCO;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to supply billets from some other IDC managed industry located at Hirakud in Sambalpur district, Orissa; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Orissa Industrial Development Corporation have been allowed the import of 5,500 tonnes of billets during 1985-86. In addition, they have received a quantity of approximately 3,300 tonnes of re-rollables (billets, blooms and slabs) from indigenous sources, during April-October, 1985. There is no other IDC-managed industry in Hirakud which can supply billets to this rerolling mill.

Trade Agreement between India and China

3800. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any trade agreement has been signed between India and China recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the settlement on the border issue is a pre-condition for the effective implementation of the trade agreement between the two countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Governments of Republic of India and the People's Republic of China have signed a Trade Protocol on 23rd November, 1985.

(b) The protocol provides for exchange of goods of total value of about US \$100-160 million during 1986. It will become operative with effect from 1st January, 1986. The commodities and the

quantities listed in the Protocol are indicative.

(c) The protocol deals only with trade matters.

Amount Committed for 1985 under Technical Assistance Programme of FRG

3801. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount committed for 1985 under the technical assistance programme of the Federal Republic of Germany; and

(b) the projects identified for this purpose and the amount committed for each of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) An amount of DM 30.0 million (Rs. 12 crores appx.) has been committed for 1985 under the Indo-FRG bilateral Technical Cooperation Programme.

(b) The amount is committed for the following Projects :

Projects	DM Million
Toolrooms in Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Indore and Varanasi	13.4
Modernising the computing facility at IIT Madras	5.5
Extending and Ravamping the Material Testing facilities at the Department of Metallurgical Engg./IIT Madras	3.3
New Experts Fund (STEP-V)	2.8
Testing the Dornier Solar Thermal Water Pump, including Marketing Studies.	1.5
Projects Appraisals	1.0
Project Extension	
Institute of Toolroom Training Lucknow	0.5
Hydraulic Mining Gopali-chuk	2.0
Total :	33.0

Composition of Trade and Industry Team of Japan

3802. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a 34-member team representing trade and industry accompanied the Prime Minister during his recent visit Japan;

(b) if so, the names of the industries that were represented;

(c) whether representatives of sugar industry were included; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The 34 member team representing trade and industry was in Japan for the Joint Meeting of India-Japan Business Cooperation Committees, which was addressed by the Prime Minister.

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

Indian Tourism Development Corporation Policy Regarding Purchase of Foreign Goods for Sale at Duty Free Shops

3803. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Tourism Development Corporation Management has evolved and approved purchase policy pertaining to the purchase of foreign goods for sale at its various tax/duty free shops in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Based on an assessment of International trends related to the sale of such products, the Corporation procures these products directly from the manufacturers or their marketing agencies/authorised distributors.

2. To ensure that there is no runout of stocks on Duty Free Shops;

3. To ensure that the Corporation's funds are not unnecessarily blocked;

4. To select the best model and the fast moving items comprising mix-up of high quality, medium level and economically priced products;

5. All indents for products, their type, quantities, schedule of delivery, etc. shall be placed by IPS Division on the Material Management and Development (MM&D) Division well in advance; and

6. MM&D Division shall ensure the procurement of the goods according to the specifications and the time schedule prescribed.

**Inclusion of Ajanta and Ellora Caves
in the Tourist Map**

3804. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that internationally famous Ajanta and Ellora caves have not been included in the important tourist map of India ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) the other important tourist places in Maharashtra ; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to develop the identified tourist spots in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Ajanta and Ellora are included in the "Right Place" Tourist Map of India published by the Department of Tourism.

(c) and (d) The important tourist centres in Maharashtra identified in consultation with the State Government are : Bombay, Pune, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad (Ajanta and Ellora), Nasik, Murud/Janjira,

Ganpatiphule, Vengurla, Nagpur, Ramtek, Wardha (Sevagram), Chandrapur (Tadoba National park). These centres are being developed with the combined resources of State, Centre and the private sector. The State Government is providing transportation facilities conducted tours, accommodation facilities and other tourist infrastructure facilities for those centres identified. The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned funds for strengthening of Elephanta Jetty and for the development of Ajanta Foot Hills.

**Review of Policy of Allocation of Quota
of Export Among Garment Exporters**

3805. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present policy of allocating quota among exporters has upset the garment exporters in Bangalore and other parts of the country ;

(b) whether the present policy is going against the recommendations made by approved Export Promotion Council; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to review their policy to suit the garment exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The policy has been formulated after due consideration of the recommendations of the Apparel Export Promotion Council. Some subsequent modifications have also been made on the basis of certain recommendations of the Council.

World Bank Loan

3806. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of World Bank loan asked by Government for the current financial year;

(b) whether the World Bank has agreed to grant the amount of loan sought by Government;

(c) if so, the amount of loan expected to be made available from World Bank during the current financial year ; and

(d) the purpose for which World Bank loan has been sought ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). The lending programme of the World Bank is based on annual budgets approved by its Executive Board and country-wise allocations are made based on Bank's lending criteria. The amount of Bank group assistance indicated in the Aid India Consortium for the Bank fiscal year, 1986 (1st July, 1985 to 30th June, 1986) is US \$ 2500 million. The exact quantum of assistance depends upon the availability of Bank group funds and the status of project preparation and processing.

(d) The World Bank loan is sought for projects in Agriculture, Power, Irrigation, Urban Development and Water Supply, Fertilizer, Coal, Telecommunication, export development and Social sectors.

Representation from Indian Soap and Toiletries Nakers' Association

3807. SHRI MOTILAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had received a representation from Indian Soap and Toiletries Makers Association, Bombay on 3rd December, 1984 to exclude toilet soap from Eleventh Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the details of the representation and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the toilet soap is considered as an item of mass consumption and

a product to promote hygienic conditions; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to remove "soap" from Serial No. 4 of the Eleventh Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) A representations dated 3rd, December, 1984 from Indian Soap and Toiletries Makers Association, Bombay to exclude toilet soap from Eleventh Schedule to the Income-tax Act, 1961 has been received.

(b) The representation contains a suggestion that 'toilet soap' should be excluded from the list of articles or things mentioned in the Eleventh Schedule to the Income-tax Act, 1961, so that the concessions under sections 32A and 80I of the Income-tax Act, 1961 are not denied to the manufactures of toilet soap. The suggestion is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Toilet soap is considered as an essential consumer product and with greater hygienic consciousness, the use of toilet soap is on the increase.

(d) The proposal is under consideration and no final decision has been taken so far in the matter.

[Translation]

Employment to Local Unemployee Persons in Branches of Rural Banks

3808. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether branches of Alaknanda Rural Bank have been opened in Chamoli and Pauri districts of Utrakhand;

(b) if so, whether local unemployed persons will be given preference in employment in these branches of this bank;

(c) if so, whether local unemployed persons have been given preference in employment in all the branches of rural banks

(d) if so, the number of those Class I, Class II and Class III employees in Bhagirath Rural Bank functioning in Sitapur district in Uttar Pradesh who do not belong to Sitapur district ; and

(e) if persons from other districts have been appointed, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Alaknanda Gramin Bank was established on 31.8.1985 and upto 11.12.1985, the Gramin Bank had not opened any further branches.

(b), (c) & (e). Originally all employees of Regional Rural Banks, except officers, who could be the residents of any part of the State, were required to be recruited from within the area of operation of these banks. Keeping in view the difficulties faced by banks in getting suitable candidates from the area of operation, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in consultation with the Union Government, has advised the Regional Rural Banks that recruitment, in all cadres may now be made from candidates drawn from any part of the concerned State. However, for the posts at the lowest rung viz, Junior Clerk-cum-cashier, preference is given to candidates having good knowledge of language/dialect of the district in which the Regional Rural Bank is located.

(d) of the 716 employees appointed by the bank, 318 do not belong to Sitapur. Category-wise distribution of these employees is as under :

Branch Manager	—	106
Field Supervisor	—	47
Field Assistants	—	5
Steno	—	1
Junior-Clerk-Cum Cashier.	—	159

[English]

Timely Supply of Steel for Industries

3809. DR. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that steel users have sought timely supply of steel for their industries ;

(b) if so, details of the action taken ; and

(c) whether Government propose to enquire into the reasons leading to delayed supplies and take corrective steps and ensure that this does not repeat itself for any public sector units and has Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Easy supplies to consumers in the priority sector which includes public sector units are monitored on a quarterly basis by the Joint Plant Committee and a high level Committee. Other consumers are allocated supplies based on their requirement and where indigenous supplies are inadequate, corrective steps are taken by allowing imports.

Increase in Prices in Delhi

3810. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Diwali to Diwali prices for 1984 and 1985 in Delhi for common household items have increased significantly ('Economic Times' of 10 November, 1985) ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor despite bumper crops and imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to data on market prices collected by Delhi Administration, between 25.10.1984 and 14.11.1985 there was no change in the control rates of wheat and rice but the rate for sugar went up by 10 per cent. The Wholesale/retail prices of rice, gram, gur, sugar, cashewnuts and vanaspati registered increases while those of wheat, urad, moong, mustard oil, groundnut oil, gingelly oil and washing soap declined.

2. Government has been closely watching the price situation and has taken a number

of steps for effective supply and demand management including strengthening of the Public Distribution System, enforcement of fiscal discipline and keeping the aggregate liquidity in the system under control.

Ban on Import of Cotton to Safeguard the Interest of Cotton Growers

3811. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of cotton has affected the prices causing a serious set back to the indigenous cotton growers;

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to safeguard the interest of the cotton-growers of the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to stop the import of cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to undertake price support operations wherever the prices fall below the support level. The Corporation, however, does not operate in Maharashtra where the interests of the cotton growers are looked after by the State Government under the Monopoly Procurement Scheme. Government have also released a substantial quantity of cotton for export during the current season.

(c) There is no proposal at present to import cotton during the current season.

Non-Utilisation of Anti-Pollution Equipments Purchased by NTC (WBABO) Ltd. Calcutta

3812. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of anti-pollution equipments purchased by the

National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Ltd., Calcutta has been lying idle and have not been fitted in different units as yet;

(b) whether these were purchased on the recommendations of technical experts of both subsidiary and holding company;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and details of the organisation/firm which supplied these equipments ; and

(d) further action being contemplated to utilise these equipments immediately and action being proposed to be taken against all those technical experts of both subsidiary and the holding company who suggested acquisition of such equipments if there were any technical deficiencies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Out of 3600 units of antipollution equipments purchased, 609 units have been installed in the mills under the National Textile Corporation (WBABO) Ltd. Remaining devices are not being utilised.

(b) The purchases were made with the approval of Board of Directors of NTC (WBABO). Approval of the holding company was not taken.

(c) NTC (WBABO) Ltd., Calcutta had purchased 3600 such devices at a cost of Rs. 91.18 lakhs for dealing with atmospheric pollution from the National Small Industries Corporation Limited.

(d) The subsidiary is taking action to utilise these devices to the extent possible in diesel generating set rooms, canteens etc. in the mills. National Small Industries Corporation has also been approached to take back some of the units. The officer, who was Director (Technical) at the time of purchase of the said equipment, is no longer in service with the NTC.

Shortfall in Filling up of Reserved Quota for SC/ST

3813. SHRI BANWARILAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4301 on 21 August,

1985 regarding shortfall in filling up reserved quota for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and state :

(a) whether the information asked for therein has been collected;

(b) if so, whether the same will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER ON PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). The requisite information has already been sent to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. The report is scheduled to be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 19.12.1985.

Collections of Tax Revenue of Different States in 1892-83, 1983-84

3814. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what was the collection of tax revenue of different States from their own resources in 1932-83 and 1983-84 (State-wise) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : A Statement is attached.

Statement

Rs. in crores

	1982-83 (A/c)	1983-84 R.E.
1. Andhra Pradesh	808.39	1031.73
2. Assam	108.35	123.69
3. Bihar	381.48	466.52
4. Gujarat	763.03	875.49
5. Haryana	336.68	403.04
6. Himachal Pr.	47.86	55.11
7. Jammu and Kashmir	61.89	71.44

1	2	3	4
8. Karnataka	674.10	798.09	
9. Kerala	438.35	504.34	
10. Madhya Pr.	558.25	628.60	
11. Maharashtra	1647.98	1745.69	
12. Manipur	4.11	5.20	
13. Meghalaya	7.37	7.30	
14. Nagaland	6.48	7.57	
15. Orissa	173.62	208.18	
16. Punjab	490.47	543.11	
17. Rajasthan	389.47	430.02	
18. Sikkim	3.35	3.51	
19. Tamil Nadu	1011.53	1131.37	
20. Tripura	6.13	6.96	
21. Uttar Pr.	929.30	990.30	
22. West Bengal	637.88	787.36	
Total	9486.07	10824.62	

[Translation]

Adverse Comments by RBI on Accounting System of Maharashtra Savings

3815 SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has commented adversely on the accounting system of Maharashtra Savings ;

(b) whether it is a fact that money is not being refunded to the investors and they are being harassed ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to protect the interests of the employees and investors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve

Bank of India has reported that it has not commented adversely on the accounting system of 'Maharashtra Savings' a proprietary concern having its Head Office at Bombay and administrative office at New Delhi.

(b) and (c). In accordance with the provisions of Chapter III-C of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, unincorporated bodies are prohibited from accepting deposits in excess of certain specified numbers. In terms of the provisions of this Act, it is for the State Government concerned to create the necessary machinery to enforce the provisions of the Act. Reserve Bank of India has already addressed all the State Governments to create the necessary machinery.

On receipt of certain complaints alleging non-payment of deposits by 'Maharashtra Savings', Reserve Bank of India has forwarded the same to the Government of Maharashtra for taking appropriate action. In the meanwhile, 'Maharashtra Savings' has filed a writ petition in the High Court of Delhi challenging the constitutional validity of Chapter III-C of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

[English]

Dr. S.R. Sen Committee Report

3816. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee headed by Dr. S. R. Sen, Chairman, International Food Research Institute, Washington was appointed by the Reserve Bank of India ;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report ;

(c) if so, recommendations of the Committee ; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to implement the recommendations of the Committee, particularly in regard to raising of food production in Eastern Region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve Bank of

India jointly with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has set up a committee in November 1983 under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. R. Sen to look into the problems of Agricultural Development in the Eastern Region.

(b) to (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the Committee in its report has pointed out that accelerated agricultural development in the Eastern Region in India requires massive provisions of tube wells and pump sets, improvement in drainage and water management techniques, improved credit structure, research and extension, power, better arrangements for storage and marketing and setting up of rural industries etc. The Reserve Bank has forwarded the report of the committee to the Chief Secretaries of the concerned State Governments for their comments. RBI has reported that the comments are still awaited by them.

Fraud Detected at Podalakuru in Nellore District Branch of State Bank of India

3817. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the press reports appearing in 'The Times of India' of 3 November, 1985 where in it stated that fraud involving Rs.95.83 lakhs has been detected at the State Bank of India Branch at Podalakuru in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the matter ;

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry ; and

(d) the action taken by Government against those held responsible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). State Bank of India has reported that the Branch Manager, Podalaku Agricultural Development branch of the State Bank of India had sanctioned 753 overdrafts for an aggregate of Rs. 95.83 lakhs to farmers spread over 23 villages. Preliminary investigations have revealed that these overdrafts were granted only to such of the ryots who were entitled to compensation for their lands/houses which are likely to be submerged under the 'Telugu Ganga' Project. It was further revealed that these farmers wanted to rehabilitate themselves by acquiring assets elsewhere and seek alternative economic activities in anticipation of steep rise in prices when the Government pays sizeable amounts by way of compensation in the area at a time. The Branch Manager provided finance to them on the promise that they would deposit with the bank compensation money by way of deposits after adjusting overdrafts granted to them. The bank has since taken steps to recover the overdrafts. A sum of Rs. 4.78 lakhs has been repaid in cash. In respect of 230 accounts, an aggregated amount of Rs. 23.08 lakhs has been converted into agricultural advances under normal lending schemes of the banks. The present outstandings of the remaining overdraft accounts amount to Rs. 60.93 lakhs. The bank has handed over the matter to the CBI for investigation and will examine the accountability aspect on receipt of the report from the CBI.

Foreign Shareholdings in Indian Companies

3818. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Will the FINANCE MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that leading business houses like Duncans Group and United Breweries Group have acquired foreign share-holdings in Indian companies such as CEAT, Dunlops and Bakelite Hylam, etc. ; and

(b) if so, whether the transactions were legally valid.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). According to the information available with

the Reserve Bank of India, the Reserve Bank had allowed the sale of 58,776 shares of Rs. 100/- each of Ceat Tyres of India Ltd. by Ceat International S.A. to Sarvasbri Harsh Vardhan Goenka (29,888) and Sanjiv Goenka (29,388) at a price of Rs 204/- per share. The Reserve Bank is not aware of the acquisition of foreign shareholdings by Duncan & United Breweries Groups in Ceat, Duncan and Bakelite Hylam Ltd.

Workers Participation in NTC Management

3819. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to give the workers of the National Textile Corporation participation in the management of the Corporation;

(b) if so, the number of the NTC mills where the Scheme of workers participation has not been introduced ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that wherever the workers of NTC Mills have been given participation, the reaction of the management is not favourable; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Management Committees, involving labour participation in management, have been introduced in 52 out of the 123 textile mills (in operation) of National Textile Corporation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Trade Team Visited to Malaysia

3820. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian trade team visited Malaysia in the month of September, 1985 ;

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held during the visit; and

(c) the outcome of the discussion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Trade Promotion Delegation led by the Minister of State for Commerce held wide ranging discussions covering different aspects of bilateral trade with the Malaysian authorities. These discussions focussed on measures to expand trade in a more balanced manner in order to rectify the imbalance in the trade, hitherto, in favour of Malaysia.

(c) The Malaysians have a better appreciation of our perceptions on bilateral trade and they agreed to take effective steps to rectify the imbalance in trade.

News Item Captioned "Ship Scuttling Frauds on Increase"

3821. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Ships scuttling frauds on the increase" appeared in "The Statesman", Calcutta edition of 3 November, 1985;

(b) if so, whether Government have received report (s) from official sources alleging deliberate sinking of ships by the owners to claim compensation from the nationalised insurance companies ;

(c) if so, the details of such reports received during the last three years;

(d) the details of claims received by the nationalised insurance companies during the last three years from owners of drowned vessels and the manner in which such claims were settled by the insurance companies ; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed by the insurance companies to guard against such fraud ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c). No such reports have been received by Government from official sources.

(d) During the last three years, the insurance companies have settled claims in respect of the vessels 'JAL MORARI' and 'MARJAN' belonging to Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited and Indoceanic Shipping Company for Rs. 2,91,20,692 and Rs. 1,60,00,000 respectively. These ships were lost due to maritime perils only and not due to scuttling.

Recently, two vessels namely m. v. 'Nitya Ram' and m. v. 'Nitya Nanak' belonging to M/s. Maini Shipping Company were reported missing. These claims have not yet been settled and investigations are being made to ascertain the cause of the incident.

(e) The General Insurance Corporation of India has evolved several steps to combat these frauds. These include :—

- (i) Screening of vessels leaving Indian ports with export cargo from India.
- (ii) Guidelines laid down for selection of vessels bringing imports from Far-East.
- (iii) Guidelines laid down for bulk importers like State Trading Corporation of India for selection of vessels.

Adequate provisions also already exist in the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Criminal Procedure Code against such frauds.

[Translation]

Audit of Accounts of Bathnakutti Rural Bank in Gopalganj, Bihar

3822. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Union Government have got the accounts of the Bathnakutti Rural Bank in Gopalganj district, Bihar audited on the basis of the complaints

made by the people and it has been pointed out in the audit report that Bank Manager had committed irregularities ;

(b) whether the Collector of Gopalganj has received complaints from many poor people and Scheduled Castes that officers have been taking loan in their names by having their signatures forcibly on black papers by intimidating them and the collector had, after conducting an inquiry into the matter, suspended him (the Bank Manager);

(c) whether Government have taken or propose to take any concrete action against that Bank Manager in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The Central Bank of India, which is the sponsor bank of the Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank, has reported that a special audit of the Bathanakutti branch was conducted which revealed a number of irregularities committed by the Branch Manager, who has been suspended and the case has been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation at Patna. It has also informed that a complain^t from some Harijans was received by the Collector, Gopalganj which has been passed on by him to District Police for investigation. Further action as per rules of the Regional Rural Bank can be initiated against the erring officials on receipt of the investigation reports from the Central Bureau of Investigation and the District Police.

[English]

Institute for Training Cardamom Growers

3823. **SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps the Cardamom Board has taken to increase production of Cardamom in Sikkim which produces seventy per cent of this commodity in the country;

(b) whether there is any institute in Sikkim to impart training to growers on

modern methods of picking drying and packing ; and

(c) if not, whether the Board propose to set up one, such institute in Sikkim ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Cardamom Board through its various offices located in Gangtok, Tadong, Kabi, Jorethong, Gyalzing and Mangan is implementing a number of schemes for achieving increase in the production of cardamom in Sikkim. These include extension advisory service, maintenance of departmental and certified nurseries, demonstration plots, besides providing subsidy for construction of curing houses.

(b) and (c). There is no training institute as such for large cardamom. However the Research and Development Centre Pangtheng near Gangtok is made use of for imparting practical training on modern methods of cultivation, processing and departmental curing houses.

Unsold Stock of Handloom in Tamil Nadu

3824. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large stocks of handloom cloth are lying unsold at Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has given large rebate to these products ; and

(c) whether the protection given to the handloom industry has become a permanent feature ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Holding of stocks of handloom fabrics is necessary to cope with the heavy demand during festival season when most of the purchases are made by consumers. However, after the Deepavali festival sales in 1985, stocks of handloom cloth in Tamil Nadu have come down considerably.

(b) To dispose of stocks of handloom fabrics with the cooperative in all states including Tamil Nadu, Govt. of India have

been giving Special rebate @ 20 per cent (to be shared equally between Central and State Governments) and wholesale rebate of 15 per cent (to be shared in the ratio of 25 : 75 between Central and State Governments). Besides, the State Apex Society (Cooptex) also allows 20% to 50 per cent discount on certain varieties as part of clearance sales.

(c) Handloom Sector, on account of its employment intensive character, needs to be protected. With this end in view Govt. of India along with the State Governments are implementing various schemes which are being continued in the 7th Five Year Plan.

**Memorandum by Tyre Manufacturers
for Import of Rubber**

3825. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any memorandum has been submitted to Government by tyre manufacturers for the import of rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). A memorandum was submitted to Government by the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association in November, 1985 demanding, inter-alia, immediate import of atleast 10,000 tonnes of rubber. Government have taken a decision to import rubber for purposes of price stabilizati on.

**Setting up of Sasy Track-All Terrain
Conversion Unit in Andhra Pradesh**

3826. SHRI V. TULSI RAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Union Government to set up sasy Track-all terrain conversion unit on the pattern of Madras Export Processing Zone, in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when the unit will be set up; .

(d) the details of its production capacity; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (e). There is no export processing zone in Andhra Pradesh and as such question of a unit there does not arise.

**Violation of Foreign Exchange Rules by
Kerala Handicraft Development
Corporation**

3827. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Handicraft Development Corporation has violated foreign exchange rules while exporting goods to Middle East;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been ordered in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Proposal to Take Foreign Exchange Loan
from International Bond Market for
Development Purposes**

3829. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that rating of India has considerably gone up on account of several measures taken by Prime Minister during his visit to foreign countries during last one year; and

(b) whether Government propose to take advantage of the present climate and obtain a large amount of foreign exchange loan from the international bond market for developmental purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The credit-worthiness enjoyed by India is evident from the increasingly finer terms obtained for borrowings in international money markets. All external commercial borrowings are made very selectively with a view to keep the debt service liability within prudent limits. Within these limits, the Government are always on the look out for the most attractive instruments of borrowings.

Import of Homeopathic Medicines

3830. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the concessions that are being given to individual practitioners in Homeopathy to import medicines from foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : The import of Homeopathic medicines is allowed under OGL by all persons including individual practitioners. No licence is required for its import.

Proposal to Make Cost Audit Compulsory for Manufacturing Multi-National Companies

3831. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the problem of loss to the National Exchequer by the mechanism of transfer pricing by Multinational Companies required immediate remedial measure;

(b) whether joint taxation by countries involved is practicable in this behalf;

(c) whether the transfer pricing should have a link up with the cost of production;

(d) whether making cost audit compulsory for manufacturing M.N.Cs. is under the consideration of Government; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Government are aware of the phenomenon of 'transfer pricing' resorted to by some multinational companies in their intra-company transactions as well as in transactions with associated companies. While transfer pricing may not constitute an offence directly under any statute, the effect of each such practice will have to be seen with reference to various fiscal enactments, and, when in practice results in avoidance of taxes, appropriate action will be taken. Suitable instructions have already been issued to the various fiscal authorities to guard against such practice.

(b) Joint taxation by countries involved would not be practicable.

(c) It is not possible to examine the question in the light of cost of production only.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Other factors like comparable open market prices in "arm's length" transactions, other costs like those on processing, distribution, advertisement etc. and information regarding practices and prices in the relevant industry are also significant factors. However, whenever Government enters into double taxation avoidance agreements with countries, such agreements provide for supply of information and other necessary cooperation between the tax Administrations, for prevention of tax avoidance through transfer pricing, among other things.

[Translation]

Loans to Farmers by Commercial Banks and Financial Institutions in Madhya Pradesh

3832. SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether directives have been issued to various commercial banks and financial institutions to grant loans to farmers for the development of agriculture in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the amount of loan advanced by different banks to farmers in Madhya

Pradesh during the last three years indicating the names of the banks which have advanced loan to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The scheduled commercial banks have been directed to increase the flow of credit to agricultural sector in all States including Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The present data reporting system does not yield bank-wise information on sectoral deployment of loans within each State. However, agricultural advances of public sector banks outstanding in Madhya Pradesh, during the last three years, were as under :

As at the end of	Balance Outstanding (Rs. in crores)
December, 1982	263.02
December, 1983	307.51
December, 1984	382.27

[English]

**Improvement in the Quality of Blooms
Manufactured by Alloy Steels Plant by
Sail**

3833. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Alloy Steels Plant of the Steel Authority of India has not been able to meet the requirements of forging quality blooms by the Wheel and Axle Plant at Bangalore which has compelled the Railways to seek the import of the product and if so, the reasons for the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that the blooms supplied by the Alloy Steels Plant have been rejected by the Railways on account of the tapers and ultrasonic failures; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the quality of blooms and to augment their production for meeting the requirement of Wheel and Axle Plant at Bangalore ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir. Railways had placed two bulk orders—one of 8800 tonnes in February '84 and the other for 10000 tonnes in July '85. There have been delays in meeting the first order, which was to be completed by June 85, mainly due to the developmental problems associated with the new order. The order was however completed in July '85 and replacement quantities were also supplied by November, '85. The pace of execution of the second order has been adversely affected due to the following reasons :

(a) Serious breakdown in the Blooming/Billet mill and the Vacuum Degassing unit in the month of July '85.

(b) Industrial relations problem that prevailed in the plant during October, 1985 and its lingering influence on the production levels.

(b) Based on ultrasonic as well as magnaflux testing, out of the quantity of 11090 tonnes supplied, rejections due to quality problem were only 2.9 per cent.

As regards tapering of blooms, the rejections have been of the order of 5.5%. This quantity has been replenished by Alloy Steels Plant. (ASP).

(c) ASP is planning to step up the monthly rate of delivery to over 1000 tonnes during the remaining months of the current financial year. The following measures have been taken to improve the quality and augment the supplies :

1. Third Arc Furnace has been commissioned on 30.10.1985.

2. Two shift operation of Blooming and Billet mill commenced on 30.10.1985.

3. Technical modifications are underway to control teeming rate and mould coating and to reduce the track time.

4. Commissioning of Vacuum are Degassing unit is being expedited.

[*Translation*]

Production of Zinc and Lead

3834. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to increase the production of zinc and lead in the country; and

(b) if so, the production of zinc and lead during 1983-84 and 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to increase the production of Lead and Zinc by increasing the utilisation of existing capacity, in the short run.

As a long-term measure, proposal for a new Zinc-Lead Smelter, based on the Rampura-Agucha (Rajasthan) deposit, are at an advanced stage of consideration.

Actual production of lead and zinc during 1983-84 and 1984-85 are indicated below :—

	(Production in tonnes)	
	Zinc	Lead
1983-84	60171	21745
1984-85	57633	22168

[*English*]

Evasion of Income Tax and Excise Duty by Big Industrial Units

3835. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of industrial units in the country have been evading payment of Income Tax and Excise Duty payment to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any show cause notice have been issued to them for the recovery of the tax arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). From the text of the Question it appears that the Hon'ble Member wants the information about the pending arrears of the Income Tax and Central Excise against a large number of units. In that case it would not be possible to give such details as the number of such units may run in thousands. If the Hon'ble Member is, however, interested to know the information about a particular unit the same could be collected and furnished.

In case the Hon'ble Member is seeking information on the issue of evasion of Income Tax, and Central Excise, it is stated that such cases of evasion are noticed against some of the industrial units. Whenever such cases are noticed show cause notices are issued as per procedure for the recovery of the Demands and imposition of penalties and fines. Besides, all possible measures to check evasion of Income Tax and Central Excise duties including institutional administrative and legislative are taken from time to time.

Slump in Demand of Cotton

3836. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of reduction of excise duty on man-made and synthetic fibres, the cotton fibre has been relegated to the background and the demand by textiles for cotton grown by the agriculturists has slumped down considerably; and

(b) if so, whether Government purpose to change their present policy of exports and allow greater export of cotton to protect the interests of cotton growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. The new textile policy envisages that the pre-eminent role of cotton as the main raw material of the textile industry would be maintained.

(b) Decisions with regard to the export of cotton are taken on the basis of demand and supply position and the price trend in the country. Cotton situation in the country is reviewed from time to time and the varieties/quantities of cotton considered to be surplus to our domestic requirements are released for export.

Issue of Bonus Shares By General Insurance Corporation

3837. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided by the General Insurance Corporation to issue bonus shares;

(b) if so, the basis on which the bonus shares will be issued; and

(c) the consequent benefits that are likely to accrue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The General Insurance Corporation of India proposes to issue bonus shares in the ratio of 1:2 i.e. one bonus share for every two existing shares, by capitalisation of reserves subject to approval of the Controller of Capital Issues.

(c) The increase in capital by issue of bonus shares will bring the paid up capital of General Insurance Corporation of India in line with the size of its operations. The Government, as shareholders, will benefit by way of receipt of higher quantum of dividend even if the General Insurance Corporation of India maintains the last declared rate of dividend.

[Translation]

Realisation of Loans Advanced by Nationalised Banks

3838. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loans, out of the advanced so far by various nationalised banks in the country, yet to be realised;

(b) the steps being taken for an effective realisation of this large amount;

(c) the name of the nationalised bank which has to realise the largest amount of outstanding loans ;

(d) whether Government propose to implement a time-bound programme for realizing this amount ; and

(e) if so, the outlines of this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) As at the end of December 1984 public sector banks had aggregate outstanding advances of Rs. 40884 crores, aggregate overdues advances of Rs. 5682 crores thus having a percentage of overdues to outstanding as 13.9.

(b), (d) and (e). The performance of public sector banks in the field of recovery is being regularly monitored. The banks having adverse recovery position have been advised to gear to their machinery for prompt recovery of their dues. The banks have also been advised to continue to bring about further refinement in their methods of appraisal and follow up of credit to minimise incidence of overdues. The banks have been asked by R. B. I. to ensure that the total amount of overdues as at the end of December 1985 is not more than what it was at the end of December 1983 and thereafter to aim at further deceleration in overdues over the preceding year.

(c) The public sector banks with the highest aggregate overdues in absolute terms, is the State Bank of India with aggregate overdues at Rs. 1250 crores as on 31.12.1984.

[English]

Distribution of Loan by Nationalised Banks to Educated Unemployed Youths

3839. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether unsatisfactory reports have been received regarding the distribution of loan to the educated unemployed youths by the nationalised banks in the country ;

(b) whether the role of the officers of the nationalised banks has also not been found satisfactory to serve the social objective to provide loans to the needy unemployed educated youths ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take so far as the question of sanctioning of loans is concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the scheme for providing self-employment to the educated unemployed youths which was introduced in the year 1983-84. In a scheme which is being implemented on a large scale, throughout the country, there may always be a few complaints regarding delay, non-sanctioning of loans/faulty distribution of loans and availment of loan by non-eligible persons. Specific complaints whenever, received are got looked into with a view to taking suitable remedial action

Under-Invoicing, Misdeclaration of Imported Goods and Illegal Imports by Racketeers Operating From West Bengal.

3840. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received report (s) about the activities of organised group (s) and racketeer (s), operating from West Bengal, indulging in large scale under-invoicing, misdeclaration of imported goods, faking of documents and participating in illegal imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Customs Authorities at Calcutta have conducted investigation against certain racketeers indulging in suspected under-invoicing, production of fake documents and misdeclaration of description of goods. The persons believed to be involved in such activities are :—

(1) Govindram Agarwal (2) Sankarlal Saraf (3) Radheshyam Tulsian (4) Chandra Kant Seth (5) Shyam Sundar Sharma (6) S. M. Agarwal (7) Anil Kumar Parulia (8) Pawan Kumar Saraswat. These activities have generally been noticed in the case of import of Iron and steel goods.

(c) Sankar Lal Saraf, G. R. Agarwal and Radheshyam Tulsian have been detained in November '85 under Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act. Shri Pawan Kumar Saraswat was arrested in November '85 under the Customs Act '62. Appropriate action under the Law will be taken against other persons on completion of investigations.

Measures to Contain Outflow of Foreign Exchange Involved in Purchase of V. C. Rs. etc. by Incoming Passengers From Duty Free Centres.

3841. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Customs Authorities have decided to confiscate VCRs and other fancy items which are purchased by incoming passengers from duty free centres and sold at fabulous price in the local market ;

(b) whether Government had been charging heavy duty on these items ;

(c) if so, the amount of duty realised during the last one year; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to contain outflow of foreign exchange which is used in purchasing such items abroad and bringing these to India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) V. C. Rs. and articles other than fire arms and television sets cleared as baggage are not allowed to be sold, displayed, advertised or offered for sale or displayed in a shop until market price of such goods has depreciated to less-than 50% of their market price when new. Fire arms and the television sets cleared as baggage are not allowed to be sold, displayed, advertised or offered for sale or displayed in a

shop until they have been used for a period of not less than five years from the date of clearance. In case of violation of these requirements, such goods are liable to confiscation.

(b) The rates of duty on bonafide personal baggage are as under :—

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (i) Upto Rs. 1250/- | — | Free |
| (ii) For a further Rs. 2,000/- | — | 170% ad-valorem |
| (iii) In addition to this amount | — | 240% ad-valorem |

In case where goods are considered to be not bonafide personal baggage, they are confiscated and fines/penalties are levied.

(c) The Department does not maintain statistics of item-wise collection of duty at International Airports. However, the total amount of duty realised from baggage at airports in India during 1984 is Rs. 229 crores.

(d) Foreign exchange is released to persons resident in India for going abroad inter-alia for pursuing higher studies, attending International Conferences, undertaking study tours and business visits including export promotion. No foreign exchange is released for the specific purpose of purchasing V. C. Rs. or other fancy articles. Outgoing and incoming passengers are subjected to necessary checks and appropriate action under the Customs and other allied enactments is taken for any violation there-under.

Discontentment of Cotton Growers

3842. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the reaction of Government to synthetic non-fibre movement by cotton growers at 200 places in Maharashtra ;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to remove the discontent among the cotton growers; and

(c) if so, when and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). There has been a down ward trend in the prices of cotton during the current cotton season. This is mainly because of the excellent crop during the last cotton season and the prospects of a comfortable cotton situation in the country during the current cotton season. With a view to helping the cotton growers to off-load their stocks and to ensure that they got remunerative price for their produce, following steps have been taken by the Government :—

(i) Minimum support prices for procurement of Kapas during the current cotton season have been announced.

(ii) The Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to purchase cotton at the minimum support prices wherever the prices of cotton fall below the minimum support prices announced by the Government.

(iii) The quantities of cotton considered to be surplus to domestic requirements have been released for export.

Export of Iron Ore

3843. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of iron-ore exported in the financial year 1984-85 ;

(b) the names of the countries quantity-wise to which iron-ore has been exported ; and

(c) whether there are any plans to step the export of iron-ore and to export only steel instead of ore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). A total quantity of 25,395 million tonnes (provisional) was exported by India during 1984-85. Country-wise break-up of these exports is given in the attached statement.

(c) No, Sir,

Statement**Country-wise Export of Iron Ore from India during 1984-85.**

	(Qty : In Million Tonnes) Qty. 1984-85 (Provisional)
Japan	16.596
South Korea	3.245
Rumania	2.845
Hungary	0.030
Czechoslovakia	0.086
GDR	0.913
Bulgaria	0.100
Italy	0.760
Iraq	0.126
Taiwan	0.162
Abu-Dhabi	0.014
Dubai	0.082
Malaysia	0.012
N. Korea	0.165
Pakistan	0.173
S. Arabia	0.049
Jordan	0.007
China	0.030
Grand Total	25.395

Zero-Budgeting in Project Formulations

3844. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce zero-budgeting concept in its project formulations;

(b) if so, whether this would involve recasting of financial manuals and procedures so far in vogue in the administration; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The need for the Central Government Departments to adopt zero-base budgeting has been recognised in principle. This requires identification and sharpening of objectives; examination of various alternatives of performing identified tasks, cost-benefit analyses, prioritisation of objectives, and activities identification and elimination of redundant activities and designing and ranking decision packages. Zero base budgeting has been introduced in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the coverage may later be extended to other scientific departments in due course with suitable modifications. It is proposed to commence the Zero base budgeting in the Central Government from 1986-87 to be effective from the Budget for 1987-88.

Wide-Spread Unemployment in Power-Loom Sector

3845. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the removal of distinction between the powerloom sector and the mill sector under the new Textile Policy has led to the closure of several powerlooms in the country resulting in widespread unemployment in the powerlooms sector; and

(b) if so, the measures Government have taken to deal with the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Absence of Design Hill Exports

3847. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the weaknesses that come in the way of exports was absence of design ;

(b) if so, the export of 1983-84 and 1984-85; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir,

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

Modernisation of Steel Plants Through World Bank Aid

3848. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has expressed its willingness to finance modernisation plans of steel sector in the country;

(b) whether a World Bank team has visited some steel plants and examined the modernisation plans;

(c) if so, the assessment made by Government about the expansion of steel plants ;

(d) the steel plants visited by World Bank Officials and the steel plants identified for the modernisation; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) (b) (d) and (e). The World Bank is carrying out a study of the Indian steel industry. In October, 1985, a World Bank team visited Durgapur, Rourkela and IISCO. No formal identification of a steel plant for financing by the Bank has so far been done.

(c) There is no proposal to expand Durgapur, Rourkela or IISCO. However proposals for technological upgradation and modernisation of these three plants are under consideration.

[Translation]

Extra Financial Burden as a Result of Raising Bonus Limited

3849. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the extra financial burden on the Government as a result of raising the bonus limit from Rs. 1,600/- to Rs. 2,500/- and the number of employees to be benefitted thereby;

(b) the reasons for raising the bonus limit; and

(c) the reasons for not granting bonus to the employees who are drawing salary more than Rs. 2500/- ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Over two lakhs Central Government employees are estimated to have benefitted from the Government decision to raise the emoluments ceiling for payment of bonus from Rs. 1600/- to Rs. 2500/- per month with effect from the accounting year 1984-85. The decision was expected to cost an additional Rs. 23.50 crores to the Exchequer during 1985-86.

(b) and (c). While the payment of Bonus Act as such is not applicable to Central Government employees, the provisions of the Act in so far as they relate to ceiling of emoluments for computation of bonus are kept in view. The ceiling limits for payment of bonus to Central Government employees were accordingly raised following amendments in the Payment of Bonus Act.

The amendments to the payment of Bonus Act were made by the Government on the basis of representations made by individuals and Staff Associations and having regard to all other relevant considerations.

[English]

Setting of an Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts

3850. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA SHEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to set up an Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts;

(b) whether setting up of Export Promotion Council will ensure proper development of handicrafts; and

(c) if so, whether there will be ample scope for boosting the export of handicrafts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Setting up of Export Promotion Council is expected to ensure better marketing and development of handicrafts.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Deposits Obtained by Banks in Bihar

3851. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of deposits obtained by public sector banks in Bihar from 1982-83 onwards year-wise ;

(b) the total amount of loan given by them from that year onwards for projects within the States;

(c) whether these figures show outflow of funds from Bihar to other States ;

(d) if so, whether this would not improve a State already backward; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to reverse this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Deposits and advances pertaining to public sector banks in the State of Bihar as at the end of December 1982, 1983 and 1984 were as follows :

	(Amount in Rs. crores)	
	Deposits	Advances
1982	2241	891
1983	2592	1033
1984	3112	1199

(c) to (e). It cannot be said that there is an outflow of funds from Bihar to other States since the banks also invest their resources in the securities floated by a State Govt. and local statutory bodies and institutions. Deployment of locally mobilised deposits in a particular region is influenced by the level of economic activity which in turn is influenced by several factors such as availability of infrastructural facilities like transport and power, proximity to sources of raw material, access to market, local entrepreneurship, etc. co-operation from local Government machinery and reasonable recovery expectations. The credit support is provided to all productive identified and viable proposals in deficient areas. However, banks have been advised to ensure that wide disparities in credit deployment among various States are avoided and to take effective steps to increase the flow of credit to deficient sectors of the economy and especially weaker sections of the society. Banks have also been advised to maintain Credit Deposit Ratio of 60% in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately. The implementation of Annual Action Plans and District Credit Plans are expected to increase the flow of credit to deserving areas particularly in rural centres. State Governments are also expected, on their part, to provide necessary infrastructural facilities for deployment of larger bank credit. A combination of efforts on the part of banks and State Government is expected to ensure greater flow of credit in the State of Bihar.

[Translation]

Setting up of Show-Rooms of N.T.C. Almora and Pithoragarh

3852. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether last year the National Textile Corporation has set up showroom-cum-sales depots in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, whether these showrooms-cum-sales depots have earned sufficient profit;

(c) if so, whether more sales depots are proposed to be opened in near future in Tehsil and Block headquarters of these districts ; and

(d) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) NTC show-rooms-cum-sales depot in Almora and Pithoragarh were opened in June 1985.

(b) These two show-rooms have not yet earned profits. It is, however, too early to assess the profitability of these showrooms.

(c) and (d). Further opening of show-rooms in hill areas will be considered only after assessing demand and reviewing the performance of the above two show-rooms. However, there is no proposal to open show-rooms in all the development blocks of hill districts of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Development of Rameshwaram as Tourist Centre

3853. DR. V. RAJESHWARAM : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state whether the India Tourism Development Corporation propose to develop the natural beach at Rameshwaram into a tourist resort ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : The Seventh Five Year Plan of ITDC does not envisage any scheme for development of the beach at Rameshwaram into a tourist Resort.

Commercial Banks Facing Resource Constraints

3854. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some commercial banks are facing resource constraints;

(b) if so, the names of these banks; and

(c) the steps taken to remove the bottleneck ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India keep a continual watch on the liquidity position of banks. Certain commercial banks face resource constraints due to mis-matches between sources and uses of funds. The Reserve Bank of India provides refinance on merits to tide over temporary mis-matches between sources and uses of funds. Banks have been advised by R.B.I. to observe the policy of financing their lending primarily out of their own resources and limit the use of refinance for transit mis-matches.

There are day-to-day changes in the liquidity position in the individual banks and according to customary practices and usages bank-wise day-to-day liquidity position of individual banks are not disclosed in public interest.

R.B.I. has announced on 25.10.1985 certain changes in measures to improve the liquidity position of banks. The salient features of these changes are :

(i) Scheduled Commercial banks were required to maintain an additional cash reserve of 10 percent of incremental demand and time liabilities accruing between January 14, 1977 and October 31, 1980. Except for the release of 1/5th of these balances in October-December, 1984, the balances have remained impounded. One third of these impounded cash balances were released on October 26, 1985. Since the impounded cash balances amount to Rs. 1487 crores, the amount released was about Rs. 495 crores.

(ii) The statutory liquidity ratio for non-Resident (External) Rupees Accounts was reduced from 37 to 25 per cent with effects from 26th October, 1985 bringing it on par with the applicable to foreign currency non-resident accounts. This would reduce the statutory liquidity requirements of banks by about Rs. 360 crores.

(iii) Banks had been provided short term discretionary refinance of a little over Rs. 230 crores and they were required to immediately repay the discretionary refinance outstanding as on 25th October, 1985 and to make up any short-falls in the maintenance of the statutory liquidity ratio.

(iv) Effective October 26, 1985 the rate of interest payable on eligible cash balances maintained with the Reserve Bank, will be raised from 10 per cent to 10.5 per cent per annum. (Cash balances held under 3 per cent statutory minimum cash reserve requirement are under law not eligible to receive interest) This increase in the interest rate on cash balances, will increase banks' earnings by about Rs. 45 crores per annum, and help the banks to adequately cover the cost of funds and to increase their reserves.

Drop in Price of Tobacco in Karnataka

3855. SHRI NARSING RAO SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether price of tobacco has suddenly dropped in Karnataka as reported in the 'Deccan Herald' of 20 November, 1985 ;

(b) whether he has received any representation for helping the tobacco growers in that State ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) There has been a fall in the prices of Unmanufactured Tobacco offered at auctions in Karnataka this year mainly due to poor crop, less export orders received by the trade etc. However, the situation has improved recently.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. It was inter-alia represented that there were problems like availability of finances, lack of export orders etc. It has also been represented

that the STC may be asked to purchase Tobacco from the farmers. At the instance of the Ministry of Commerce, the Reserve Bank of India has extended the due date for the repayment of earlier loans of the trade thus enabling more buyers to participate in the auctions. Several rounds of meetings were held with the representatives of trade and growers by the Ministry of Commerce and Tobacco Board to resolve the difficulties faced by them and to ensure smooth conduct of auctions. Arrangements have been made by the Tobacco Board to make purchases at the auction platforms at the minimum support price fixed by the Government. The situation is being constantly reviewed

Stoppage of Illegal Transaction in Land in Delhi

3856. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to make immediate income tax inquiries of those persons who have sold their plots of land allotted to them by the co-operative house building societies in Delhi ; and

(b) the measures he proposes to bring about a total stoppage to this illegal transaction in land in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Appropriate enquiries for bringing into tax net, the income earned in transfer of immovable properties, are made in all the cases by Income-tax authorities. Hence question of any Special enquiries in this regard does not arise.

(b) The law relating to co-operative housing permits transfer of membership only to the blood relations with the approval of the Society as well as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. No amendment to the law is considered necessary in this regard.

Construction of Yatrika at Guruvayoor in Trichur

3857 SHRI P. A. ANTHONY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have given land for the construction of "Yatrika" at the temple town of Guruvayoor in Trichur district;

(b) when its construction is likely to start; and

(c) the estimated expenditure on the project ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Department of Tourism Government of Kerala have informed us that a suitable site is being selected by them for construction of a Yatrika at Guruvayoor. Formal proposal for assistance towards construction of Yatrika is awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Foreign Tourists to Nalanda, Rajgrih, Kikola, Tapovan and Bodhgaya

3858. SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of worth-seeing and beautiful places in Nalanda, Rajgrih, Kokalat and Tapovan and Bodhgaya for attracting foreign tourists is much more than that in any other part of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in spite of this less number of tourists visit these places;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) There are numerous beautiful places of tourist interest in India including Nalanda, Rajgir and Bodhgaya attracting large number of foreign tourists.

(b) It is not possible to confirm whether the number of tourists visiting the above places is less than those visiting other places, because the Department of Tourism has no machinery to collect domestic tourist statistics within the country.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Department of Tourism through its overseas Offices, especially the Offices in Tokyo, Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur has stepped up its promotional activities to attract traffic to places associated with Buddhism in the country. These Offices actively participate in Buddhist Exhibitions, screen films/audio visuals on Buddha, distribute language brochures in Japanese, Thai, Korean, etc. on places of interest to Buddhist tourists. Familiarisation tours to India of Travel Agents and Tour Operators as well as media persons have also been enhanced. Also, steps are being taken in consultation with the Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to improve the infrastructure at Buddhist holy places.

[English]

Smuggling in Rajasthan

3859. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large scale smuggling all along the 1040 km. Pakistan border of Rajasthan in the Districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Ganganagar and the amount involved; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to control them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reports received by the Government as well as the trends in seizures made indicate that the entire India-Pakistan border of Rajasthan continues to be vulnerable to smuggling activities across the border. During the year 1985 (upto October), the value of contraband goods, including 365 kgs. of heroin seized from the sector, amounted to Rs. 19.5 crores (provisional).

(b) The anti-smuggling drive in the region has been intensified in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government agencies. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs Department remain vigilant in the region against smuggling activities. The trends in smuggling and seizures made in the region are also kept under constant review for taking appropriate necessary action.

Stringent action is also taken against persons found involved in smuggling activities, both departmentally as well as through prosecution in Courts. Apart from confiscation of the goods and imposition of personal penalties, in appropriate cases the persons involved are also detained under the COFEPOSA Act.

Set Back to Export of Iron ore to Japan and South Korea Due to Breakdown of Handling Facilities at Vizag

3860. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that iron ore exports to Japan and South Korea have suffered a serious set back because of frequent breakdown of handling facilities at Vizag port and that Japan the major buyer has threatened to opt out of the ten years contract with the MMTC in view of unstable and unreliable supplies of iron-ore;

(b) if so, what is the extent of backlog (till date) in the shipment of iron ore to Japan and South Korea stating the reasons for frequent break-down in the handling facilities; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to improve situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Iron ore exports to Japan particularly have suffered a setback because of frequent breakdown in handling facilities at Vizag. Japanese Steel Mills have expressed their dissatisfaction about the Iron ore exports through Vizag port during this year.

(b) During the period April-November, 1985, 34.57 lakhs tonnes of iron has been shipped including 3.39 lakh tonnes pertaining to last year's contract. Excluding this prorate basis there is a shortfall of nearly 16 lakhs tonnes mostly to Japan. The shortfall has been primarily due to wearing out of old equipment like wagon tippers and conveyer belt at the port and non stabilisation of working of third tippler.

(c) All efforts are being made to improve exports. The two old tippers are being replaced, pending which, essential repairs have been carried out and working of both these tippers is now improving. A portion of the conveyer belt has also been replaced. Consequently, performance of the port in November, 1985 has shown some improvement.

Steps to Improve Varieties of Janata Cloth

3861. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have recently sanctioned some amount (subsidy) during 1985-86 for handlooms;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the details regarding the instructions issued to the State Governments to take steps to improve the janata cloth varieties in the context of the new textile policy to provide cloth of acceptable quality at reasonable prices to the masses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Central Government has been providing subsidy for the production of Janata cloth since the inception of the scheme in 1976. The provision in the Budget Estimates for 1985-86 for the scheme is Rs. 71.33 crores. The rate of subsidy with effect from 1.10.1984 is Rs. 2/- per sq. metre.

(c) The State Governments have been asked to improve the existing varieties of

Janata cloth keeping in view the local preferences as well as the cost. They have also been asked to increase the availability of self-designed and printed fabrics under Janata cloth scheme to the consumers. The Weavers' Service Centres have been directed to provide technical guidance to the State handloom organisations in this regard.

Sale Price of Cotton

3862. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL** : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a bumper cotton crop this year ;

(b) if so, the percentage of the total produce purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India so that the farmers were not driven to resort to distress sale ;

(c) the price at which cotton was purchased this year as compared to the last year; and

(d) the sale price of cotton in the big procurement centres during September and October 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) According to the present estimates the cotton crop in the current season is expected to be satisfactory.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India has a tentative procurement programme of 15.00 lakh bales during the current cotton season. Corporation has purchased during the current cotton season 2,21,792 bales upto 10.12.1985, which is about 74% higher than purchases made by it during the corresponding period of the last season.

(c) and (d). The Cotton Corporation of India purchases cotton at the prevailing market prices as well as at the minimum support prices wherever the market prices of Kapas fall below the minimum support prices announced by the Government. But the CCI has to make appropriate deduc-

tions on account of quality difference on the basis of certain parameters as the minimum support prices are fixed with reference to the fair average quality of Kapas. The prices paid by the CCI on purchase of different varieties of cotton during Sept. and Oct.' 85 and Sept. Oct.' 84 ranged between Rs. 420/- and Rs. 600/- per quintal and between Rs. 544/- and Rs. 719/- per quintal respectively.

Cut in Production of Art Silk Industry

3863. **SHRI R. P. DAS** : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the art silk industry which employ about five lakhs people, is facing spectre of accumulated stock and cut in production ;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to save the industry and the livelihood of about five lakhs workers and their families ;

(c) if so, the details of the said plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The users of polyester filament yarn did not for a while, lift polyester filament yarn on account of its high prices. The manufacturers of filament yarn were thus obliged to reduce the price sharply on about 1st November, 1985. With this price reduction the situation is expected to normalise soon.

(c) and (d). Does not arise. Under the New Policy flexibility of fibre use has been allowed,

Strike in Ship Breakers at Alang in Gujarat

3864. **SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether since 2nd September, 1985 ship-breakers at Alang in Gujarat have stopped ship-breaking;

(b) the reasons for this strike and the number of workers affected thereby and the estimated loss of the revenue;

(c) whether there is any dispute regarding interpretation of advalorem duty on imported ship for the purpose of breaking them;

(d) whether ship-breaking is interpreted as manufacturing and therefore attracts excise duty which is 98 per cent of the cost of the imported ship;

(e) whether scrap from ship-breaking is cheaper as compared to imported scrap; and

(f) the revenue collected from ship breakers during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The ship-breaking units at Alang in Gujarat closed down from 5th to 7th September, 1985 and again from 16th September, 1985 indefinitely in protest against Central Excise notice requiring ship-breaking units to obtain licences under Central Excise and Salt Act. Several shipbreakers however have obtained orders of the Ahmedabad High Court that pending hearing of their petitions they shall be entitled to clear the goods on payment of 25% of the Central Excise duty payable on condition that they shall execute personal bond before the concerned authority of Central Excise and Customs to pay the balance 75%. First of such order was passed by the Ahmedabad High Court on 29th November, 1985. About 10,000 workers are directly employed for ship-breaking at Alang. There is no direct loss of revenue to the Government.

(c) Disputes on the interpretation of countervailing Excise duty have led to several court cases.

(d) Yes, Sir. Government has recognised ship-breaking as an industrial activity. Excise duty chargeable on steel rerollable scrap recoveries is Rs. 365/- per tonne and

on recoveries of non-ferrous metals it is Rs. 3,300/- per tonne.

(e) The market price of scrap from ship-breaking is not lower than that of imported scrap.

(f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cold Formed Section and Welded Room Project at Ghazipur (U. P.)

3865. **SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the establishment of Cold Formed Sections and Welded Room Project of Steel Authority of India Ltd. at Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The VII Plan allocations of the Department of Steel makes no provision for this project and therefore it will not be possible to take up this project during the current Plan.

Production of Synthetic Fabrics in N.T.C.

3866. **SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a scheme to produce low-priced blended synthetic fabrics by mills under National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, how would such a scheme affect the demand for synthetic fabrics prepared by powerlooms sectors; and

(c) the likely effect if such lowpriced tax-free synthetic fabrics are produced in the decentralised sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Government have approved a scheme for

production of low priced polyester blended fabrics with duty-exempt fibre through National Textile Corporation.

(b) The programme is basically designed to impart a price discipline over the market of lowest polyester blended fabrics, produced by both the organised mill sector and powerlooms in the decentralised sector, to insure that the duty relief is actually passed on to the consumers in full.

(c) Government have not taken any decision for production of polyester blended fabrics with duty exempt fibre in the decentralised sectors.

[*Translation*]

Import of Small Coins

3867. **SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which import of small coins is likely to start and the amount of small coins to be imported and the expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon;

(b) the number of raids conducted by Government against the hoarders of small coins, place-wise, and how much amount of change was seized therefrom; and

(c) if no raids were conducted so far, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Orders have been placed for import of 1,000 million pieces of one-rupee coins, 750 million pieces of 50 paise coin and 250 million pieces of 25 paise coin. So far 276.97 million pieces of one-rupee coin and 165.80 million pieces of 50 paise coin have been received. The total cost on import of all the coins comes to about Rs. 64.96 crores.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected from the various State Governments and Union Territories and it would be placed on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

India's Economic Policies Lauded by World Bank President

3868. **SHRI ANAND SINGH :**
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's economic policies were lauded by the World Bank President during the inaugural address of the 40th annual general meeting of the Bank and the IMF held at Seoul in October this year;

(b) if so, in what precise terms and in what context;

(c) whether any suggestions to modify the policies were made at the conference; and

(d) if so, the suggestions made therein and Government's reactions thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the context of World Bank lending to India, President's address has specifically complimented India's efforts at increasing oil production substantially as also the achievement of self-sufficiency in food production as a result of "the Green Revolution".

(c) and (d). The meeting was not the appropriate forum for commenting on the policies of individual member countries and did not, therefore, offer any suggestions to this effect.

Incentives to Attract Foreign Tourists in Eastern and North Eastern Region of India

3869. **DR. SUDHIR ROY :** Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Union Government to attract foreign tourists in the Eastern and North Eastern Region of India;

(b) whether Darjeeling and Kalimpong areas of West Bengal have been opened to the foreign tourists; and

(c) the amounts granted to the Eastern and North Eastern States for developing tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The promotion and publicity of tourist centres in India including those in Eastern and North-Eastern Region is an ongoing process and forms a part of the activities of the Department of Tourism. This includes dissemination of information through printed tourist literature, films, audio visuals, organisation of familiarisation tours by travel agents, travel writers and allied activities.

(b) Darjeeling and Kalimpong areas of West Bengal are governed by Foreigners (Restricted Areas) Order 1963. However, permits for Darjeeling are liberally granted on application or on arrival at Bagdogra airport. The restrictions are reviewed from time to time, and relaxed appropriately.

(c) Provision of funds for the development of tourism is not made on State-wise or Region-wise basis. Allocation for seventh Five Year Plan for Tourism in the Central Sector (Department of Tourism, India Tourism Development Corporation and Hotel Management and Catering Technology Unit) is Rs. 138.68 crores. During the Seventh Plan a selective approach is proposed for development of infrastructure at the centres of tourist interest in consultation with the State Governments, promotion of domestic tourism, development of beach resorts, improvement of facilities for Himalayan trekking and water sports preservation of national heritage areas, floodlighting of monuments, development of Buddhist tourism, construction of Yatri Niwases to provide budget accommodation, construction of Yatrikas/dharamshalas at pilgrim centres, improvement in the quality of surface transport facilities, development of wildlife tourism, professionalisation of service in tourism and travel industry, production of quality publicity material and increased overseas promotional efforts and publicity.

Loss by Counterfeiting and Forgery

3870. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 3,500 crores are lost annually to the country as a result of counterfeiting and forgery;

(b) if so, the steps taken to eradicate the evils; and

(c) the time schedule therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The loss on account of counterfeiting and forgery during the year 1983, 1984 and 1985 (upto 30.9.85) is as under :

1983	1984	1985
(In Rupees)	(In Rupees)	(In Rupees)
1,08,37,373	28,04,233	7,27,970

(The figures for the years 1984 and 1985 are provisional)

(b) and (c). On the basis of information received from the State Govts/Union Territories, police authorities and banks including Reserve Bank of India branches all over the country, the Central Bureau of investigation consolidates figures of all denominations and action is taken to publish it in the CBI bulletin. Monthly, quarterly and yearly reviews are also prepared by the CBI and sent to all State Govts/Union Territories. The material published in the CBI bulletin as well as the periodical reviews circulated to all State Govts/Union Territories help them in detection of forged currency notes of all denominations.

Frauds in Marine Insurance

3871. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that at a seminar on Ocean Transportation organised jointly by All India Shippers Council and International Maritime Bureau, London, it was established that the highest incidence of frauds in marine insurance was in the third world countries;

(b) whether Government are also aware that this fraud is done by fabrication of

documents like invoices, bills of lading, letters of credit as also insurance policies;

(c) whether Government are aware that such criminal activities cause losses not only to the insurance but also to the country; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated by Government to check these criminal activities involving losses of lakhs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Government is aware that a Seminar on the subject of maritime and commercial frauds was organised jointly by All India Shippers Council and International Maritime Bureau, London, in Bombay in March, 1985, and that the effect of maritime frauds is felt mainly on cargoes shipped to the third world countries.

(b) Maritime frauds are of several types and one of these types is a documentary fraud wherein frauds are committed by forging documents like Sales Invoices, Bills of Lading, letters of Credit, etc., but not the insurance policies.

(c) and (d). With a view to guard against documentary frauds, the Reserve Bank of India has alerted the Banks and issued instructions to them regarding various precautionary measures to be undertaken by them in this regard. Reserve Bank of India has also issued instructions to Chambers of Commerce and various other trade bodies regarding the necessity on the part of importers to observe basic exchange control regulations and the need to file the copies of customs bills of entries evidencing physical importation of cargo into India as cross check to payments made for imports.

In addition, the General Insurance Corporation of India has evolved several steps to combat these frauds. These includ.

- (a) Screening of vessels leaving Indian ports with export cargo from India.
- (b) Guidelines laid down for selection of vessels bringing imports from Far-East.

- (c) Guidelines laid down for bulk importers like State Trading Corporation of India for selection of vessels.

Assistance Sought by Government of Kerala for Handloom Sector

3872. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the assistance sought by Government of Kerala from the Union Government for handloom sector during 1984-85 (up to first half); and

(b) the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). During first half of the year 1984-85 proposals were received from Govt. of Kerala for release of Janata Cloth Subsidy amounting to Rs. 7.37 lakhs. Against these proposals, Rs. 25 lakhs was released to Kerala State up to 30th September, 1985.

Problems faced by Coffee Growers

3873. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the problems faced by the growers of coffee;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the present representation of 10 from among coffee growers in the coffee Board; and

(c) what other means Government propose to adopt to solve the crisis faced by coffee-growers due to over production and stiff competition faced in external markets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No major problem is faced by the coffee growers. They have been getting steady and remunerative returns over the years. Coffee

Board has been able to take steps to solve problems occurring from time to time.

(b) and (c). Exports during the current year are likely to be much higher than in the last two years. There is an increasing trend in international prices with possibility of increased export quotas. Representation of coffee growers has been increased from 10 to 12 during the last reconstitution of the Board. In addition, there is an other coffee grower coming under the category of an eminent personality in the field of research/marketing/management of coffee.

**Setting up of a Financial Institution
for Fisheries Sector**

3874. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the national seminar on integrated development of the fishing community has recommended the setting up of a financial institution on the pattern of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development or Industrial Development Bank of India for the fisheries sector to be known as the 'National Fisheries Development Bank'; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A seminar on "Integrated Development of Fishermen Community" was organised in November, 1985 by the National Association of Fishermen. The Association has not so far communicated the recommendations arising from the seminar.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shrimps Exporters Elbowed Out in
Japan**

3875. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian marine exporters are being elbowed out of the black tiger shrimps market in Japan by Taiwan;

(b) if so, the reasons for fall in Indian export of shrimps to Japan;

(c) whether India has come cropper even against Bangladesh in the race;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps which Government propose to take to tap other markets and give a morale booster to the exporters by way of some sort of cash compensatory support to cushion the price fluctuations to enable them to compete with Taiwan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). There is a fall in our exports of black-tiger shrimps to Japan during the first few months in 1985 as compared to the corresponding period in 1984. This fall is due to poor landings of Tiger shrimp in the Calcutta region. However, during this period, Taiwan and Bangladesh were able to steps up their supplies to Japan significantly due to their improved landings and to meet the increased demand of shrimp in Japan. In spite of this, export prices of Indian tiger shrimp to Japan have shown improvement as compared to those during last year. There is, however, a marginal increase in our overall exports of shrimps to Japan during the current year as compared to the previous year.

(e) Government had taken a number of steps such as market surveys, sending study teams and delegations and participation in specialised fairs abroad, to tap other markets. Cash compensatory support is already available on canned shrimps and IQF frozen shrimps.

**Steps to Implement Compulsory Stock
Option Scheme**

3876. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far to implement the compulsory stock option scheme for employees and workers announced in the first week of August, last;

(b) the name of the companies to which the scheme has been or is being applied; and

(c) how the guidelines for two schemes announced in Parliament, one compulsory and one voluntary, have been actually brought into effect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Since the announcement of the stock option scheme for the employees of the companies by the Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha on 1st August, 1985, 139 companies were allowed by the Controller of Capital Issues to issue shares to their employees as part of their proposal for issue of share capital. The names of these companies are given in the statement attached.

(c) The compulsory scheme is being brought into effect through the condition in the Consent Orders to the companies, while applying for issue of fresh capital. The other scheme, being voluntary, the companies have the option to adopt the scheme in the interest of their employees.

Statement

Names of companies who were allowed by the Controller of Capital Issues to issue shares to their employees as part of their proposals for issue of share capital

1. Indian Shaving Products Ltd.
2. Ispat Alloys Ltd.
3. Belwal Spinning Mills Ltd.
4. Gujarat Binil Chemicals Ltd.
5. Conwel Cans (India) Ltd.
6. J. K. Leasing Co. Ltd.
7. Bharat Investment Growth Ltd.
8. RICO Auto Industries Ltd.
9. Priyadarshini Thread Ltd.
10. Shipta Coated Steels Ltd.
11. Cifco Finance Ltd.
12. GVK Hotels Ltd.
13. Uniproducts (India) Ltd.
14. Pleasant Hotels Ltd.
15. Polyfil Ltd.
16. Ester India Ltd.
17. Krishna Ceramics Ltd.
18. Polyplex Corpn. Ltd.
19. Gujarat Ambuja Cements Ltd.
20. MIC Auto Ancillaries Ltd.
21. India Equipment Leasing Ltd.
22. Utility Engineers (India) Ltd.
23. Ferro Concrete Co. (India) Ltd.
24. Grover Leasing Ltd.
25. Turbo Energy Ltd.
26. Raasi Leasing Ltd.
27. Asia Steel and Alloys Ltd.
28. Gloria Leasing Ltd.
29. CPL Industries Ltd.
30. Harayana Petro chemicals Ltd.
31. Warren Industrial Ltd.
32. Haryana Malleable and Alloy Castings Ltd.
33. Premier Extractions Ltd.
34. Photophone Industries India Ltd.
35. Maheshwari Proteins Ltd.
36. Sidhi Vinayak Investment Ltd.
37. Gwalior Strips Ltd.
38. Newspapers Ltd.
39. Electronics Ltd.
40. Sanmar Fincial Services Ltd.
41. Assotox Engineering Industries Ltd.
42. Kocher Oil Mills Ltd.
43. G. S. Auto International Ltd.
44. Modi Xerox Ltd.
45. Food Specialities Ltd.

46. Him Containers Ltd.
47. R. H. Windsor (India) Ltd.
48. Steel Tubes of India Ltd.
49. Hero Fibres Ltd.
50. Saraf Synthetics (Rajasthan) Ltd.
51. J. B. Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
52. Golden Proteins Ltd.
53. Saurashtra Cement and Chemicals Industries Ltd.
54. Hindustan Times Ltd.
55. N. G. Exports Industries Ltd.
56. Anagram Finance Ltd.
57. Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.
58. First Leasing Co. of India Ltd.
59. B. D. Steel Castings Ltd.
60. Integrated Finance Co. Ltd.
61. Khaitan Electricals Ltd.
62. Premier Mills Ltd.
63. Chetak Constructions Ltd.
64. Siyaram Silk Mills Ltd.
65. Bombay Extractions Ltd.
66. SRF Nippodenso Ltd.
67. Modi Cement Ltd.
68. Indo Swing Ltd.
69. Magna Hardtemp Ltd.
70. Premier Extractions Ltd.
71. Bimetallic Steel and Alloys Ltd.
72. UB-MEC Batteries Ltd.
73. Tata Tea Ltd.
74. Parthasarathy Cements and Industries Ltd.
75. Shaw Wall Celatine Ltd.
76. Fuller K.C.P. Ltd.
77. OM Sindhoari Hotels Ltd.
78. Mirugappa Electronics Ltd.
79. Numeoh Emballage Ltd.
80. Bifra Watch Co. Ltd.
81. Mazda Leasing Ltd.
82. Best and Cromption Engg. Ltd.
83. International Computers Indian Mfre. Ltd.
84. Ashoka Protins Ltd.
85. Vinayaka Synthetics Ltd.
86. Boysala Blow Maulders (India) Ltd.
87. Ansai Housing Finance and Leasing Co. Ltd.
88. Usha Rectifier Corpn. (India) Ltd.
89. Liyaya Commercial Credit Ltd.
90. Jungabhdra Pulp and Board Mills Ltd.
91. Powerflow Ltd.
92. Bolumbia Electronics Ltd.
93. Magadh Spun Pipe Ltd.
94. Magnetix (India) Ltd.
95. Orissa Synthetics Ltd.
96. Bhopal Udyog Ltd.
97. Premier Vegetable Products Ltd.
98. Sudarshan Cement Ltd.
99. Rampur Distillery and Chemical Co. Ltd.
100. Quality Steel Tubes Ltd.
101. Upcom Cables Ltd.
102. Trimurtee Fertilizers Ltd.
103. OMAX Autos Ltd.
104. S. R. Forgings Ltd.
105. Shivalik Fertilizers Ltd.

106. Himachal Fibres Ltd.
 107. Investment Trust of India Ltd.
 108. Northern Enterprises Ltd.
 109. Majuli Tea Co. (India) Ltd.
 110. Prashant Proteins Ltd.
 111. Swadeshi Alloys Ltd.
 112. Gandhi Special 07 Tubes Ltd.
 113. Eastern Circuits Ltd.
 114. Great Atwood Ltd.
 115. Sri Vishnu Cement Ltd.
 116. Utility Builders and Leasing (India) Ltd.
 117. Kirloskar Leasing and Finance Ltd.
 118. Atash Leasing and Industries Ltd.
 119. A. K. Structural Foam Ltd.
 120. Stallion Shex Ltd.
 121. Surrendra Overseas Ltd.
 122. Mallabar Building Products Ltd.
 123. Apple Leasing and Computer Ltd.
 124. TTK Pharma Ltd.
 125. PL Finance and Investment Ltd.
 126. Forbes Forbes Compbell and Co. Ltd.
 127. Hamimrai Jaichand Forgings Pvt. Ltd.
 128. Investment Corpn. of India Ltd.
 129. W.S. Insulators of India Ltd.
 130. Punjab Tractors Ltd.
 131. Satia Paper Mills Ltd.
 132. Enfield India Ltd.
 133. Munak Chemicals Ltd.
 134. Batliboi and Co, Ltd.
 135. Usha Microprocess Controls Ltd.
 -36. Bangalore Leasing Ltd.

137. Parabrampuria Synthetics Ltd.
 138. Ramganga Fertilizers Ltd.
 139. Mac Charles (India) Ltd.

**Exporters Obtained Advance Licence
 Duty Free Defaulted in Export
 Obligations**

3877. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK
 Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
 pleased to state :

(a) whether exporters who have obtained
 Advance Licence Duty free have defaulted
 in meeting the export obligations;

(b) if so, the details thereof, i.e. their
 names and addresses, export products, raw
 material quantity/value;

(c) the steps Government are taking to
 realise the huge customs duty so evaded and
 to prevent such malpractices; and

(d) whether such exporters are proposed
 to be presecuted and denied other benefits
 of Government's patronage like Export,
 Export Award, MDA help etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
 MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI
 KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.
 Some cases of default in export obligation
 have come to notice.

(b) Such details are not compiled.
 They will be collected and furnished in due
 course.

(c) Action is initiated in each such
 case for recovery of customs duty.

Advance licensing scheme is under
 constant review and a number of steps have
 been taken to minimise the scope of abuse
 of the scheme in the light of experience
 gained.

(d) Decision to prosecute an exporter
 is taken having regard to the nature and
 extent of violation of Import Trade Control
 Provisions.

Debarred firms are denied Govt's patro-
 nage like Export Award and MDA help.

Import of Unmanufactured Ivory from Hong Kong

3878. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether unmanufactured ivory is being imported from Hong Kong at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta Ports under OGL at half of the international price of US \$90 per kg. as compared to imports under duty free advance import licences and such imports are cleared by customs thus resulting in huge loss of customs duty to the country;

(b) whether Government propose to have a special audit of OGL imports made during the past four years; and

(c) if so, the details of the guidelines being issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) :-(a) No such malpractice has come to the notice of Custom authorities at Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

(b) and (c). There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Commerce.

Loan to Cyclone Affected Persons in Orissa, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh by Nationalised Banks

3879. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to the nationalised banks to provide loan to the cyclone affected people in Orissa, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh on nominal interest and on easy instalment;

(b) if so, the detail thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to issue such instructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India have on 2nd August, 1984 issued realised general guidelines for relief measures by banks in areas affected by natural calamities, like drought, flood,

cyclone etc. applicable to all the States/ Union Territories. No special/instructions have been issued for Orissa, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh as these States would automatically be covered by the scheduled commercial banks concerned in those areas under the existing guidelines.

These guidelines envisage conversion and rescheduling of existing loans, provision of additional working capital facilities, waiver or shortfall in margin, relaxation in security criteria, consumption loan concessional rate of interest as per RBI directives.

Ban on Import of Coconut Oil and Coconut

3880. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coconut and coconut oil imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to this import the growers of coconut in the country are in a great trouble and they are not getting economic price for their products; and

(c) whether Government propose to put a ban in the import of coconut and coconut oil to save the coconut growers from being ruined ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The State Trading Corporation of India, which is the canalising agency, have made the following import during the last three years :

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1. Copra (coconut)	nil	nil	nil*
2. Coconut oil	nil	nil	about 9000 M.Ts.

*On the Orders of Delhi High Court's a licence for the import of 1060 tonnes of Sun Dry Copra has been issued on 13.3.1985 to M/s India Coconut oil Industries, Calcutta.

Besides, Import of coconut oil is also allowed to a limited extent for export production for which data is not available.

(b) The import of about 9000 M.Ts. of coconut oil was made as *one time operation* in April 1984 to relieve the pressure on prices which had resulted on account of drought in 1982.

(c) The import of coconut and coconut oil is already regulated through State Trading Corporation of India. The imports by exporters against replenishment licences are negligible considering the entitlements and have little impact on domestic prices.

[*Translation*]

**Programme of Bharatiya Yatri Avs
Vikas Samiti for Construction of
Tourist Lodges etc.**

3881. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of **PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharatiya yatri Avs Vikas Samiti has a programme for construction of more tourist lodges, Dharamshalas and inns during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether Ayodhya, Vaishali, Kushinagar, Rajgarh are proposed to be covered under the said programme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) This Samiti does not construct tourist lodges as such, but constructs improved variety of dharamshalas entitled 'Yatrikas' at places of pilgrimage.

(b) It is reported by Bhartiya Yatri Avs Vikas Samiti that Ayodhya, Kushinagar and Rajgarh have been included in broad list of the proposed places of construction of Yatrikas by them during the Seventh Five year plan period.

(c) Does not arise.

Increase in Import of Edible Oils

3882. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of edible oils has increased more than 264% in 1984-85 as compared to 1983-84; and

(b) if so, the effective steps being proposed for making the balance of trade from the economic point of view favourable to the country so that the import could be stopped ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) vigorous efforts are being made to increase the domestic production of oil seeds to achieve self-sufficiency.

[*English*]

Per Capita Deficit of Each State

3883. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita deficit of each of the States as on 31st March, 1985 and the measures taken to make good this deficit;

(b) whether there has been any improvement in the deficit for each of the States during the past three years;

(c) if so, the nature and extent thereof; and

(d) whether the Sarkaria Commission has also been approached by the Centre to consider this aspect of Centre-State Relations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Statement I showing the per capita deficit of States as on 31st March, 1985 is attached. Govt. of India decided to convert 90% of States' overdraft with Reserve Bank of India as on 28.1.1985 into a medium term loan. An amount of Rs. 1628.01 crores

was released to States on 1st October, 1985 in pursuance of this decision.

(b) and (c). Statement II giving the deficit of States during the past three years is attached.

(d) The Commission which will be examining the entire gamut of Centre-State relations will, among others, examine the financial relations also.

Statement-I

States		Per Capita deficit as on 31.3.1985.
1	2	3
(In Rupee)		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43.40
2.	Assam	86.15
3.	Bihar	11.12
4.	Gujarat	14.36

1	2	3
5.	Haryana	84.94
6.	Himachal Pradesh	76.07
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.75
8.	Karnataka	68.92
9.	Kerala	80.69
10.	Madhya Pradesh	33.44
11.	Maharashtra	4.33
12.	Manipur	223.01
13.	Nagaland	539.84
14.	Orissa	32.17
15.	Punjab	66.10
16.	Rajasthan	3.61
17.	Sikkim	235.13
18.	Tamil Nadu	17.73
19.	Uttar Pradesh	42.79
20.	West Bengal	33.88

Statement-II

States		Adjusted surplus (+)/deficit (-) as on 31.3.1982	Adjusted surplus (+)/deficit (-) as on 31.3.1983	(Rs. crores) Adjusted surplus (+)/deficit (-) as on 31.3.1984.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	- 18.95	+ 9.19	- 72.81
2.	Assam	- 127.43	- 30.87	- 81.86
3.	Bihar	- 197.39	- 235.36	- 143.35
4.	Gujarat	- 74.60	+ 42.15	- 10.55
5.	Haryana	- 75.79	- 66.87	- 30.63
6.	Himachal Pradesh	- 36.91	- 11.36	- 22.76
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	+ 2.00	+ 0.85	- 2.35
8.	Karnataka	+ 1.37	- 45.54	- 77.73
9.	Kerala	- 93.93	- 1.48	- 75.24
10.	Madhya Pradesh	- 154.88	- 64.45	- 79.50
11.	Maharashtra	- 81.40	+ 23.58	- 6.73

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Manipur	— 66.29	— 17.58	— 18.71
13.	Meghalaya	— 16.41	— 4.55	— 6.99
14.	Nagaland	— 21.96	— 18.94	— 37.59
15.	Orissa	— 24.43	— 55.96	+ 51.91
16.	Punjab	— 97.35	+ 25.60	— 83.19
17.	Rajasthan	— 283.46	— 26.07	+ 1.66
18.	Sikkim	N.A.	— 1.01	— 2.64
19.	Tamil Nadu	+ 20.05	— 20.45	— 42.43
20.	Tripura	— 30.72	— 5.13	— 8.57
21.	Uttar Pradesh	— 0.85	— 86.00	— 138.61
22.	West Bengal	— 340.71	— 82.51	— 106.73
Total :		— 1720.04	— 671.76	— 95.40

N.A. NOT AVAILABLE.

Setting up of Yatri Niwas (SERAI) at Sri Naina Devi in Bilaspur

3884. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of **PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhartiya Yatri Avs Vikas Samiti has undertaken the construction of a Yatri Niwas (SERAI) at Sri Naina Devi in Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the date of sanction, the estimated cost and the date of commencement of the construction work;

(c) likely date by which the construction would be completed and the estimated cost of the time of completion; and

(d) the reasons for delay and whether responsibility for delay has been fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L BHAGAT) : (a) to (d). The Bhartiya Yatri Avs Vikas Samiti has approved the project of construction

of a Yatrika at Naina Devi. Suitable land for the construction of Yatrika has not been identified and allotted to Bhartiya Yatri Avs Vikas Samiti by the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Request of Government of Punjab to Ban the Import of Cotton

3885. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of **TEXTILES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has approached the Union Government for ending the import of cotton from Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision on this request;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the present practice of import and the requested ban on cotton price has been taken into account while considering the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (d). Decisions with regard to import and export of cotton are taken keeping in view the demand and supply position and price trend in the country. Government had decided to import a quantity of 1.00 lakh bales of medium staple cotton during the last cotton season. However, in view of the changed cotton situation in the country, it was decided to restrict the import to 75,000 bales only.

**Reduction in Prices of Cardamom
Coconut and Coffee**

3886. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been reduction of prices of cardamom, coconut and coffee;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to promote cardamom cultivation in Kerala;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from coconut growers over the short fall in the prices of coconut; and

(d) whether there is any move for support prices for coffee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). Coffee prices are showing a sharply increasing trend on account of reported crop failure in Brazil. Coffee prices are regulated by the pooling mechanism for the domestic market and by the International Coffee Agreement with regard to exports.

Representations have been received regarding prices of coconut and cardamom. Prices of these commodities had touched unusually high levels in the past on account of shortages, but have now dropped to levels comparable to those prevailing earlier.

Cardamom Board is implementing a number of schemes for improving productivity of cardamom so as to reduce costs and make the crop more remunerative.

**Utilisation of Resources of Lime Stone
Fire Clay and China Clay in Orissa**

3887. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have prepared any scheme for the proper utilisation of the resources of lime stone, fire clay and china clay available in Orissa and other States;

(b) if so, the details of these schemes; and

(c) which of those schemes are going to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

**Import of Cotton from Pakistan in
Exchange of Wheat**

3888. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been importing cotton from Pakistan in exchange of wheat;

(b) if so, since when and the total bales of cotton imported from Pakistan so far; and

(c) the details of the agreement made with Pakistan in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Since 1981-82 cotton season, a total quantity of 1.25 lakh bales (50,000 bales in 1981-82 season and 75,000 bales in 1984-85) have been imported from Pakistan against direct payment and not in exchange of wheat.

**Promotion of Tourism in Andaman and
Nicobar Islands**

3889. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have decided to promote tourism in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). The Government proposes promoting tourism to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on a selective basis, keeping in view both the tourist potential of some of these islands, and the ecological and environmental considerations. In order to identify the infrastructural requirements, a high-powered team headed by the Minister of Tourism visited Andaman in October 1985. The suggestions of this team are under consideration.

Pending Cases of Compensation for Enemy Properties in East Pakistan

3890. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of compensation for enemy properties in East Pakistan are lying pending; and

(b) when these claims are likely to be settled, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Originally 3944 claims for ex-gratia payment were registered with the Custodian of Enemy Property, Bombay before the formation of Bangladesh. Of these 41 claims are pending settlement. After the formation of Bangladesh 53,549 claims have been filed of which 14,560 are pending. It is expected that within a period of three years all the pending claims are likely to be settled.

Group of 77 to Reduce Tariffs

3891. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 40 developing countries belonging to the Group of 77 have agreed to reduce tariffs on items of mutual interest under the Global System of Trade Preferences;

(b) if so, the names of the countries which have suggested this reduction;

(c) what are the items that will be covered under this agreement; and

(d) when the final shape of agreement in this regard is likely to take place.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of Group of '77' in New York in October, 1982 decided to commence negotiation for the establishment of a Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among developing countries. The Declaration envisages negotiations in the area of tariff, non-tariff and para-tariff barriers and direct trade measures including long term contracts. In July, 1985 a Ministerial Meeting of Developing countries members of Group of '77' was held in New Delhi to give political thrust to the on-going process of negotiations on GSTP and to carry forward the process of finalisation ground rules of GSTP. In the Declaration adopted at this Meeting, it was agreed that the Negotiating Committee on GSTP should consider in addition to the traditional product by product approach, certain complementary elements for the elaboration of techniques and modalities for the first round of GSTP negotiations. These complementary elements are : (i) across the board tariff reduction through a preference margin upto 10%. (ii) removal or reduction of non-tariff and para-tariff measures including an undertaking by participating countries not to raise new non-tariff barriers or intensify the existing ones, in respect of products on which tariff concessions have been negotiated; (iii) special attention to Sectors of significant socio-economic importance to the participating countries such as non-textiles handicrafts, processed tropical products, textiles and agricultural products and (iv) organisation of product consultations to promote trade and development through a

greater degree of processing, distribution and marketing among developing countries.

So far 57 developing countries members of Group of '77' and two economic groupings have intimated the UNCTAD Sectt. of their intention to participate in the negotiation for establishment of GSTP. Names of these countries are given in the statement. Of these 26 countris and the Caribbean Community have sent the lists of their export products for seeking concessions to the UNCTAD Secretariat.

(c) The negotiations for expected to cover all products in which the participating countries are interested.

(d) According to the time-table for the negotiations agreed to in the Declaration adopted in the Ministerial Meeting in New Delhi, the first round of negotiations on GSTP should commence not later than May 1, 1986 and should be concluded by May 1, 1987.

Statement

List of Countries who have intimated the UNCTAD Secretariat of their intention to participate in the negotiations for establishment of GSTP

1	2
1. Algeria	15. Equador
2. Argentina	16. Egypt
3. Bahrain	17. El Salvador
4. Bangladesh	18. Ghana
5. Bolivia	19. Guatemala
6. Brazil	20. Honduras
7. Central African-Republic	21. India
8. Chile	22. Indonesia
9. Colombia	23. Iran
10. Congo	24. Iraq
11. Costa Rica	25. Ivory Coast
12. Cuba	26. Jamaica
13. Cyprus	27. Kuwait
14. Democratic Yaman	28. Madagascar
	29. Malaysia
	30. Mexico
	31. Morocco
	32. Nicaragua
	33. Nigeria
	34. Oman
	35. Pakistan
	36. P. L. O.
	37. Peru
	38. Philippines
	39. Qatar
	40. Republic of Korea
	41. Romania
	42. Saudi Arabia
	43. Singapore
	44. Somalia
	45. Sri Lanka
	46. Sudan
	47. Syria Arab Republic
	48. Thailand
	49. Tunisia

1	2
50.	United Republic of Tanzania
51.	Uruguay
52.	Venezuela
53.	Vietnam
54.	Yamon Arab Republic
55.	Yugoslavia
56.	Zaire
57.	Zimbabwe
58.	Caricom (i.e. antigua Bahamas, Barbadas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Montserrat)
59.	Junec, Lima.

Demonstration by All India Reserve Bank Staff Officers' Association

3892. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI ANAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Reserve Bank Staff Officers' Association demonstrated outside the RBI building on Parliament Street, New Delhi on 11 October, 1985 to press their demands;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The demands were regarding raising the age of retirement, modification in D.A. formula and for giving retrospective effect from 1.7.1983 to the revision of pay scales. The demands regarding raising the age of retirement was not accepted by the Government.

Reserve Bank of India has adopted the D.A. formula as applicable in the nationalised banks. The pay revision has also been given effect from 1.2.1984 as in the case of officers of nationalised banks.

[Translation]

News Captioned Black Money Worth Crores of Rupees Recovered

3893. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "Coron Rupeon ka Kala Dhan Mila" (Black money worth crores of rupees recovered) appearing in the 'Navbharat Times' of 27 July, 1985;

(b) if so, the amount of cash, gold and jewellery recovered;

(c) the names of the persons from whom recovered;

(d) the action taken so far against each of them;

(e) the names of the persons whose amount had to be refunded; and

(f) the names of persons against whom enquiry is being conducted at present and when it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (f). The news item referred to in the Question mentions about the searches carried out in the cases of tin plate dealers at Delhi, Bombay and Gaziabad and real estate dealers at Jaipur. Searches in the cases of tin plate dealers resulted in seizure of cash of Rs. 29.51 lakhs approximately, jewellery worth Rs. 47.44 lakhs approximately and pronotes worth Rs. 16.85 lakhs. Searches in the cases of real estate dealers resulted in seizure of cash of Rs 6 lakhs, jewellery worth Rs. 4.25 lakhs and other assets such as N.S.Cs. etc. worth Rs 5.16 lakhs. The names of the groups of the persons searched are as under :

Searches in cases of tin plate dealers	Searches in the cases of real estate dealers
1. Mam Chand Group	1. Dharam Chand Jain and family.
2. Radhey Shyam Group	2. Jagdish Prasad Sharma and others
3. A. C. Batra Group	3. Damodar Prasad Haldia and family
4. Bhagwan Das Chaman Lal Group	4. Satendra Kumar Chowdhary and others
5. Chunni Singh Group	5. Vijai Kumar Sadarangnani
6. M/s. Aryan Trading Co. Group	6. Sanwarmal Lohia
7. C. L. Amarnath and sons Group	7. Vidya Sagar Jain
8. Parmanand Vijai Kumar Group	8. New Pink City Grih Nirman Sahakari Samiti
9. Santi Lal Group	9. Nav Jivan Grih Nirman Sahakari Samiti.
10. Misc. Group (Tin Printers)	

Orders u/s 132 (5) of the Income Tax Act, estimating the undisclosed income have been passed after making necessary enquiries. As a result of these orders gold ornaments and jewellery weighing 280 gms. worth Rs. 60,000/- approximately have been released to Shri Arvind Chowdhary and Smt. Suman Chowdhary in respect of searches at Jaipur. Nothing was found refundable in the cases of tin plate dealers. Necessary enquiries under various provisions of Direct Taxes Acts against all the above mentioned persons are in progress and are likely to be completed within one year.

Amount Spent by Managing Director of British India Corporation LTD, on Advertisement and Gifts

3894. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by Managing Director of British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur under the heading of advertisement of Lal Imli Dhariwal; and

(b) the details of gifts distributed by Lal Imli during Astrology Conference and how much money was spent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) An amount of Rs. 42.66 lakhs was spent by the British India Corporation Ltd., Kanpur on advertisement during 1984-85.

(b) No gifts were distributed by Coim-pore woollen Mills, Kanpur (Trade name Lal Imli) during the Astrology Conference.

[English]

Modernization of Jute Mills

3896. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Jute Mills Association has suggested linking of programme for modernization of jute mills with rationalisation of work force;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions of the Association;

(c) the estimate of the Indian Jute Mills Association about the work force in West Bengal which would be required to be rationalised in next few years;

(d) the stand of the trade union in the matter; and

(e) the contemplation of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The Government has not received any such proposal from Indian Jute Mills Association so far.

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

Establishment of Joint Ventures With Australia and New Zealand.

3899. SHRI B.V. DESAI :
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA
SHEKARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Australia and New Zealand have shown keen interest to help the Indian industrialists in establishing joint ventures;

(b) if so, whether any agreement have been reached with Australia and New Zealand;

(c) if so, the main features of the agreements; and

(d) the efforts being made by all the three countries in regard to joint ventures during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (d). In recent months Australia has shown interest in expanding areas of co-operation between the two countries in commercial and economic fields including joint ventures. There has been no proposal from New Zealand so far. Discussions between Indian and Australian Government as well as at private sector level are continuing.

Price Stamping Scheme on Cotton Cloth

3900. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether price stamping scheme on cotton cloth is proposed to be extended to non-cotton fabrics including art silk and woollens;

(b) whether price stamping system is being misused by manufactures by stamping higher price and excise duty on the cloth but selling it at a lower invoiced price thereby misleading both the consumer and Government; and

(c) if so, action proposed by Government against such mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Revised Textile Control Orders to extend the existing scheme for price stamping on cotton cloth to non-cotton fabrics have been received by the Government. Action has been initiated to finalise the control orders.

(b) and (c). There is scope for mal-practices in the present price stamping system. However, the concerned authorities have been directed to deal with these mal-practices under the relevant laws.

Transformers for Converting Trucks and Vans Into All Terrain Vehicles

3901. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Madras Export processing Zone has developed a transformer which can transfer the conventional trucks and vans into all terrain vehicles as reported in the 'Times of India' of 17 November, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will be in use;

(c) the extent to which it will help the mobilisation of army trucks and vehicles in the country;

(d) whether there is any proposal for exporting the transformer; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it will boost the production of vehicles in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (e). A proposal was recently considered by the Board of Approvals for grant of permission to an entrepreneur for setting up an industrial undertaking in the Madras Export Processing Zone to manufacture track conversion units. For want of relevant details of the project, final decision could not be taken. The export processing zones only provide infrastructural facilities for industrial units set up by entrepreneurs to undertake manufacture for export.

Central Investment for Rubber-Based Industries in Kerala.

3902. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have asked for Central investment to set up rubber-based industries in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No such request has been received by the Ministries primarily concerned with rubber or rubber based industries.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Conditions of Orphans Working on Powerlooms of Bhiwandi in Bombay

3903. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government have been drawn to the pitiable conditions of the orphans working on powerlooms of Bhiwandi in Bombay, the capital of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). In order to improve the working conditions of the workers employed in the handloom and powerloom sectors of the un-organised labour, Government have set-up a Tripartite Study Group.

[English]

Development of Tourism in Untapped Area of Sikkim

3904. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Sikkim has untapped and vast area for tourism, both internal and foreign; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to exploit the tourist potential in the area ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Govt. have identified twenty five places of tourist importance in the State of Sikkim. During the Sixth Five Year Plan the Department had spent Rs. 7.00 lakhs for the construction of a Youth Hostel at Namchi which has since been transferred to the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs. The State Govt has been requested to submit proposals to be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. No proposal has been received so far.

MMTC Diverting Iron-Ore Traffic From Visakhapatnam Port.

3905. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the deep drafted Visakhapatnam port is not utilised fully by linking it with the proposed inland container depot at Hyderabad;

(b) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Central has been diverting the

iron-ore traffic (which constitutes nearly half the cargo handled by this post) elsewhere; and

(c) whether dues amounting to about Rs. 21 crores are yet to be cleared by the MMTC to Visakhapatnam port ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The facilities at Visakhapatnam port are being fully utilised in so far as the inner harbour is concerned. In the Outer Harbour, the general cargo-cum-bulk berth, which has recently been put up, is being used partly. At this berth, no facilities for handling containers have been provided.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Vishakhapatnam Port Trust has claimed arrears amounting to Rs. 21.13 crores covering the period from 1977-78 to 1979-80.

Private Financial Companies Engaged in Obtaining Deposits and Money Lending Business.

3906. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have got any control over the existence of a large number of private financial companies engaged in obtaining deposits and money lending business;

(b) if so, the details regarding these private companies particularly regarding rates of interest charged by them; and

(c) what are the directions of Government applicable to these private companies in case the activities of these companies are found unsatisfactory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). in respect of non-banking financial companies incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 the acceptance of deposits is governed by the directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India. These directions

seek to regulate the deposit acceptance activities of such companies by imposing certain restrictions on the quantum and period of deposits, rate of interest/brokerage payable on deposits, maintenance of liquid assets in respect of certain types of financial Companies etc. These directions, however do not regulate the lending rates of these companies.

In so far as unincorporated bodies are concerned, the Reserve Bank of India Act prohibits them from accepting deposits in excess of the specified numbers. State Governments have been addressed by the Reserve Bank of India to create the necessary machinery to enforce these provisions of the Law. In so far as rate of interest on loans is concerned, some of the State Governments have Money Lending Acts, which inter-alia, regulate the rate of interest on lending.

Indal and Hindalco Aluminium Plants

3907. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated total sales and total gross-profits earned by INDAL and HINDALCO, the two aluminium plants in the country, during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total sales commission paid to sales agents by each of those two companies, year-wise during the same period;

(c) whether any excise-duty on account of Aluminium Regulation Account is outstanding against any of the above companies;

(d) if so, how much and since when it is outstanding;

(e) whether any efforts are being made for its recovery; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) According to the Annual Report of INDAL and HINDALCO. the total sales and gross profits

earned during the last three years were as under :

(Rupees in lakhs)			
INDAL		HINDALCO	
Gross sales	Gross profit (+)/ Loss (—)	Gross sales	Gross profit (+)/ Loss (—)
1982	21256 (+) 831	19519 (+) 679	
1983	15989 (—) 620	20960 (+) 968	
1984	22696 (+) 758	28558 (+) 1651	

(b) HINDALCO has paid sales commission of Rupees 102.46 lakhs in 1982, Rupees 134.02 lakhs in 1983, and Rupees 167.58 lakhs in 1984. INDAL does not have sales agents except distributors for some of their products for sales in India. Distribution commission and selling agent commission for securing export orders is Rs. 24.90 lakhs in 1982, Rupees 34.91 lakhs in 1983, and Rs. 51.57 lakhs in 1984.

(c) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Development of Tourist Centres in Andhra Pradesh in 1986-87

3908. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places which are proposed to be developed as tourist centres in Andhra Pradesh during 1986-87; and

(b) the funds allocated for this purpose for each centre ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The State Government through the Andhra Pradesh Travel and Tourism Development Corporation has the following proposals to develop the tourism infrastructure during 1986-87 :

Place	(Rs. in lakhs) Amount
1. Golkonda	40.00
2. Vishakhapatnam-Bheemunipatnam	20.00
3. Nagarjunasagar	10.00
4. Warangal-Ramappa	15.00
5. Tirupati	2.00
6. Construction of motels	10.00

In addition, the State Government has proposals to create tourist facilities at the following places :

Place	Amount
1. Kandimallayapalli	2.00
2. Kakinada	1.00
3. Kailasanathakona	1.00
4. Thimmamma Mari Manu	1.00
5. Lepakshi	1.00
6. Tirupati	1.00

In addition to the above, the State Government has requested the Central Department of Tourism for a Yatri Niwas at Hyderabad, Cafeteria at Nagarjunasagar, boating facilities at Hussainsagar, Ramappa and Pakhal lakes, beach cottages at Visakhapatnam-Bheemunipatnam and mini buses for Eturnagaram, Pakhal and Mahari Harina Wild Life Sanctuaries. However, the detailed project estimates and blue prints have not yet been received from the State Government.

Central Excise Cases Pending in Supreme Court

3909. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Excise cases pending in the Supreme Court;

(b) the total amount locked up in these cases; and

(c) the steps taken for the speedy judgement of these case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to available information the number of Central excise cases in the Supreme Court as on 30.9.1985 was about 2100.

(b) Most of the cases relate to issues having a bearing on rate of duty, valuation and, in some Central Excise cases, excisability of products. Quantification of revenues involved in individual cases is possible only after court decisions are available.

(c) Efforts have been made to get the cases listed early for hearing. Further the Ministry of Law has been approached to move the Supreme Court for setting up a Special Bench to hear and dispose of these cases. Recently, the Attorney General for India has made a mention in the Supreme Court about the group cases pending in the Supreme Court. It is expected that group cases will be listed early in January, 1986 for hearing and decision by the Supreme Court.

Findings of Committee for Creation of Andaman and Nicobar as free Port

3910. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO GAKAKH PATIL :
SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGRAWAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a plan for the creation of a free port in the Andaman and Nicobar islands on the lines of Hong Kong and that the Prime Minister has asked the Cabinet Secretary to head a Committee to study the implications of the proposal;

(b) if so, the findings of the Committee; and

(c) the final decision of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). Some suggestions have been received for a free port to be developed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The feasibility of such a project has to be evaluated in terms of physical infrastructural facilities that have to be developed as also from the legal and constitutional angle. No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

[*Translation*]

Tourism Advisory Committee

3911. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Tourism Advisory Committee was constituted in 1984 and its first meeting was held in February, 1984;

(b) if so, whether any meeting of this Committee was held in 1985;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee to promote tourism; and

(d) if not, whether its need in future is being felt ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The Tourism Advisory Board was constituted in July, 1983 and its first meeting was held in February, 1984.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is need for a Tourism Advisory Board.

[*English*]

Completion of Master Plan of Chilika Lake

3912. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have completed the master plan of Chilika Lake and whether the Sixth Plan targets regarding the

development of Chilika have been completed;

(b) whether the infrastructural inadequacy for development of tourism in Orissa have been located; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to improve it ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The preparation of the Master Plan for integrated development of Chilika Lake area taken up during the last financial years (1984-85) of the Sixth Five Year Plan by the Town and Country Planning Organisation for the Central Department of Tourism is in progress.

(b) and (c). The development of tourism infrastructure is a continuous process. Centres for developing tourism infrastructure are selected in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories keeping in view the number of tourists visiting the place, its potential for attracting more tourists and inter-se priorities. The Department of Tourism, in consultation with the State Government have already identified a number of such important centres in Orissa to be developed in a phased manner pooling the combined resources of the Centre, the State and the private sector.

Increase in Realisation of Excise Duty and Income Tax

3913. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been appreciable increase in the realisation of excise duty and income tax during this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this is directly relatable to the concessions in the above taxes provided in this year's budget; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir, there has been appreciable increase in the realisation of excise duty and Income Tax during this year.

(b) The details of collections, of excise duty and income tax during this year and during the corresponding period of last year are as follows :

	Collection during April-Oct. 1985	Collection during April-Oct. 1984
	(Rs. in crores)	(Rs. in crores)
Central Excise	7030.70	6101.91
Income Tax (including Corporation Tax).	2100.35	1674.45

(c) and (d). In case of the excise duties the increase is not directly relatable to concessions in tax rates. Besides, variations in tax collections depend on a variety of factors and not rates alone. In case of the Income-Tax no information is available yet to the effect that the increase is directly relatable to the concessions.

Exploitation of Tourist Potential in Idukki District in Kerala

3914. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Idukki district in Kerala has immense tourist potential;

(b) whether its full potential has been exploited;

(c) whether the State Government have prepared any scheme for the exploitation of the tourist potential of this district involving central assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA- MENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

(SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Thekkady and Munnar in Idukki district are attracting tourists.

(b) to (d). The State Government has a scheme to construct viewing towers in the forests of Thekkady Wild Life Sanctuary. The Central Department of Tourism has a trekking route proposal connecting Thekkady and Mangaladevi Temple in Tamil Nadu border; provision of more boating facilities for the tourists at Thekkady Lake is also under examination.

Proposal to Hold International Trade Fair in Kerala

3915. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to hold an international trade fair in Kerala in order to boost export of Kerala's traditional-export produces; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Help to Cardamom Growers Suffering Losses Due to Crash in Prices

3916. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss suffered by the cardamom growers of Kerala due to the crash in the prices of this commodity;

(b) whether there is no mechanism at present to check the fall in prices; and

(c) the steps being taken to help the cardamom growers who suffered loss on account of the fall in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) to (c). In view of limited domestic demand, cardamom prices are determined mainly by

the position of international supply and demand. Prices which had arisen sharply in the past two years on account of short supply as a result of drought, have now returned to levels comparable to those prevalent with normal level of production and cannot be considered unremunerative.

Exploitation of Small Mineral Bearing Areas by Private Sector

3917. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the suggestion for throwing open the small mineral-bearing areas for exploitation to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). The Government have constituted a Committee to consider the question of de-reservation of mineral bearing areas presently reserved for public sector undertakings. This Committee will also go into the question of small deposits of the minerals listed in Schedule 'A' of the Industrial Policy Resolution and suggest measures for the quicker exploitation of such small deposits. The Committee is still continuing its deliberations.

Foreign Exchange Taken to Pakistan by Indian Nationals and Brought by Pakistani Nationals to India Under Foreign Travel Scheme

3918. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals who visited Pakistan during 1984-85 availing themselves of Foreign Travel Scheme facility;

(b) the quantum of foreign exchange released per head under the Foreign Travel Scheme;

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange that went to Pakistan under the scheme during 1984-85; and

(d) the total amount of foreign exchange brought by Pakistani nationals visited India under Foreign Travel Scheme during 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) USS. 500/- or its equivalent per head once in two calendar years.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Data relating to foreign exchange brought by foreign nationals visiting India is not maintained country-wise.

Educational Programmes to Apprise People of Disastrous Effects of Nuclear War.

3919. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India has called upon the World Bank to make radical changes in respect of educational programmes so that the people could be apprised of the disastrous effects of nuclear war; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the World Bank thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tax Evasion by Fabrics Processor at Ichalkaranji, Jaysingpur and Sangli

3920. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tax evasion to the tune of Rs. 73 crores during the last five years by some cotton fabric processors at Ichalkaranji, Jaysingpur and Sangli areas has been unearthed recently by the Central Excise Collectorate, Pune;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter and how this has become possible; and

(c) whether it was found on investigation that some power operated and non-power operated existing side by side, are functioning as one and the same factory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Investigation conducted by the Officeres of the Pune Central Excise Collectorate has resulted in detection of alleged irregular availment of exemptions from Central Excise duty to the tune of Rs. 73 crores in the last five years by some cotton fabric processors of Ichalkaranji, Jaysingpur and Sangli areas of Maharashtra.

(b) Notices have been issued to such processors calling upon them to show cause as to why the amount totalling to Rs. 73 crores approximately should not be recovered from them. The quasi-judicial proceedings on the notices so issued are still in progress and therefore, no further comments can be offered.

(c) The investigation indicated that some power operated and non-power operated units exist side by side which have been alleged to be functioning as one and the same factory.

High Productivity Looms From Soviet Union

3921. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation is to get a large number of high productivity looms from Soviet Union in pursuance of an agreement concluded in 1985; and

(b) the present position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). While 8 automatic looms have been imported by National Textile Corporation from USSR, no agreement has been concluded for import of a large number of high productivity looms.

Export of Poor Quality of Cotton

3922. **SHRI S. M. BHATTAM** : Will the Minister of **TEXTILES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether cotton is being exported through the Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details of exports of cotton through the Cotton Corporation of India and foreign exchange earned thereby during the last three years;

(c) whether, besides the Cotton Corporation of India, other agencies in the

country are also permitted to export cotton;

(d) whether it is a fact that some cases have occurred when cotton exported was not accepted being of poor quality; and

(e) if so, the details of such cases during the last two years and action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given below :—

Year	Qty. in bales of 170 kgs each	Value in Rs. lake	Foreign exchange component of export earnings in USS (Lakhs)
1982-83	2,68,274	6312.06	641.34
1983-84	1,14,183	3857.25	288.15
1984-85	81,377	3115.98	91.09

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Location of Tungston Ore in Nagpur District of Maharashtra

3923. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT** : Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge reserves of tungston-ore has been located in Nagpur district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, full details thereof;

(c) when mining of the ore will be started there; and

(d) whether Government propose to give alternative land/compensation to those occupants of the land where tungston-ore has been located ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b) . As a result of the surveys carried out by GSI and State Directorate of Mining and Geology, Maharashtra, 8.65 million tonnes of tungsten-ore with 0.04 to 0.325 % WO₃ equivalent to 17,306.60 tonnes of tungsten trioxide (WO₃) has been estimated so far in Kuhi-Khobna, Agargaon areas of Nagpur district.

(c) The exploration work in the area is still continuing and this will be followed by detailed exploration including pilot mining work which will take some more time to fully assess the quality and quantity of tungsten ore in these areas. The Mining lease of 25.06 acres in the Agargaon has been granted to Magnese Ore India Ltd. However, the mining of the, area will be possible only after the above work is completed.

(d) whenever the mineral bearing areas are leased out for mining, compensation is paid to occupants of the lands as per the usual provisions.

**Dolomitic Marbles in Nagpur District
of Maharashtra**

3924. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT** : Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantity of dolomitic marbles has been found in Mansar, Kandri, Chargaon, Churwahi, Junewani, Kardi, Dahoda and Deolapar areas of Nagpur district;

(b) if so, the progress of mining of dolomitic marbles in these areas; and

(c) full details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Some private parties as well as the Maharashtra State Mining Corporation, a State Government Undertaking are already mining in these areas. The details of production are as under :—

Village	Production during 1984 (in tonnes)
1. Badegaon	2291.99
2. Kandri	3013.50
3. Patgaori	14184.20

	19489.69

**Reserves of Copper in Nagpur and
Gadchiroli Districts of Maharashtra**

3925. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT** : Will the Minister of **STEEL AND MINES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge reserves of copper have been located in Nagpur and Gadchiroli Districts of Maharashtra;

(b) the programme of mining in these districts by Government; and

(c) the full details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI

RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. As a result of the surveys carried out by GSI, MECL and State Directorate of Mining and Geology, only small deposits of Copper ore have been located in Nagpur and Gadchiroli districts of Maharashtra. Considering the small deposits in the area, there are no specific proposals at present to under-take mining of these deposits.

**Budget Receipt in Respect of Corporate
Tax Income-Tax Customs and Excise
During 1985-86**

3926. **SHRI R. PRABHU** : Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) the budgeted receipts in respect of (i) Corporate Tax, (ii) Income-Tax (iii) Customs and (iv) Excise during 1985-86 and the additional revenue that is likely to be collected under each of these items during the current financial year as a result of the revised fiscal policy;

(b) the amount actually collected during the first four months of the current financial year in respect of the above items; and

(c) how these figures compare with the corresponding figures of revenue during the last year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Budgeted receipts in respect of (i) Corporate Tax, (ii) Income-Tax (iii) Customs and (iv) Excise during 1985-86 are as follows:

Corporate Tax	: 3052.00 crores
Income Tax	: 1764.00 crores
Customs	: 8165.95 crores
Excise	: 12226.69 crores

It is however not possible to estimate the additional Revenues that are likely to be collected during the current financial year as a result of the revised fiscal policy.

(b) and (c). The amounts collected during the first four months of the current year vis-a-vis last year are given below :

	Collection during April-July' 85	Collection during April-July' 84
	(in crores of Rs.)	
Corporate Tax	277.27	293.32
Income Tax	451.75	357.06
Customs	2782.60	2030.25
Excise	3934.70	3405.56

Per Capita Foreign Debt

3927. SHRI R. PRABHU :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign debt outstanding at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount of foreign debt outstanding and the break-up thereof country-wise and institution-wise at the end of each preceding Five Year Plan and the anticipated amount that may be outstanding at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) per capita amount of debt outstanding as on 31st March, 1985;

(d) how these figures compare with per capita debt of other developing countries in general and south American countries in particular; and

(e) how much interest on these indebtedness is paid annually by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) The foreign debt outstanding at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan works out to Rs. 24004. Crores in respect of Government Account.

(b) Information is given in the attached statement I. As regards the amount of outstanding ore at the Seventh Five Year Plan, this would depend on loans contracted during the Seventh Five Year Plan and hence cannot be precisely estimated at this stage.

(c) On the basis of the population figures of 1984, per capita foreign debt outstanding as on 31st March, 1985 works out to about Rs. 325.

(d) Information is given in the attached statement II.

(e) Information is given in the attached statement III.

Statement-I

Statement Showing the Outstanding Liability of Government of India of Foreign Loans at the end of Each Five Year Plan

(a) and (b).

	(Rupees In Crores)
1. First Five Year Plan	111.07
2. Second Five Year Plan	1242.19
3. Third Five Year Plan	3709.19
4. Fourth Five Year Plan	6684.37
5. Fifth Five Year Plan	11657.38
6. Sixth Five Year Plan	24004.39

Country Wise Outstanding Liability at the end of 4th, 5th and 6th Five Year Plan is Furnished Below

(Rupees In Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Country	Fourth Five Year Plan	Fifth Five Year Plan	Sixth Five Year Plan
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Austria	17.05	31.69	32.53
2.	Belgium	14.96	55.21	76.20
3.	Canada	280.97	386.15	605.77
4.	Denmark	11.63	23.59	75.82
5.	F.R.G.	546.82	1290.09	1635.71
6.	France	125.09	308.52	424.16
7.	Italy	15.74	27.63	13.89
8.	Japan	372.78	922.15	1410.83
9.	Netherlands	81.59	306.00	596.71
10.	Norway	—	—	—
11.	Sweden	27.97	98.71	—
12.	Switzerland	18.83	50.97	15.23
13.	U.K.	885.90	841.21	502.59
14.	U.S.A.	2421.99	2800.23	3738.38
15.	Kuwait	—	33.26	207.90
16.	Baharain	1.42	—	—
17.	Qatar	4.69	0.83	—
18.	Iran	19.13	765.81	676.99
19.	I.F.A.D.	—	—	90.57
20.	I.B.R.D.	226.07	253.97	1931.11
21.	I.D.A.	1252.40	2890.70	10509.29
22.	Czechoslovakia	39.35	37.27	11.47
23.	Poland	16.38	10.21	0.19
24.	Hungary	—	11.21	4.55
25.	U.S S.R.	281.62	275.75	410.16
26.	Yugoslavia	8.16	0.07	—
27.	Abu Dhabi	—	5.83	18.45
28.	O.P.E.C.	—	18.55	117.63

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Iraq	13.93	152.20	13.37
30.	U.A.E.	—	59.57	63.79
31.	E.E.C. (SAC)	—	—	66.28
32.	IMF Trust Fund	—	—	660.20
33.	Saudi Fund	—	—	89.69
34.	International Sugar Organisation	—	—	4.93
Total :		6684.47	11657.38	24004.39

Note :— (1) The outstanding liability (country-wise) prior to 4th Five Year Plan are not available and hence not furnished. The outstanding liability prior to 1966-67 is only approximate as the complete details are not available.

Further, the figures were combined one for loans on Govt. account, Non-Govt. account and Supplier's Credit.

(2) The foreign currencies were converted into rupees at Pre-devaluation rate prior to 6.6.66 and Post devaluation IMF Parity rate from 6.6.66 to 31.3.74. From 1.4.74 the current rate of exchange for different currencies has been adopted.

Statement II

Per Capita External Debt of Selected Countries

Country	External public debt outstanding and disbursed millions of (dollars) 1983	Population (millions) mid 1983	Per capita debt (\$) 1983
India	21277	733.2	29.0
Bangla Desh	4185	95.5	43.8
Sri Lanka	2205	15.4	143.2
Pakistan	9755	89.7	108.8
Egypt	15229	45.2	336.9
Philippines	10385	52.1	199.3
Nigeria	11757	93.6	125.6
Colombia	6899	27.5	250.9
Chile	6827	11.7	583.5
Brazil	58068	129.7	447.7
Korea, Rep.of	21472	40.0	539.8
Argentina	24593	29.6	830.8
Mexico	66732	75.0	889.8
Yugoslavia	9077	22.8	398.1
Venezuala	12911	17.3	746.3

Source : World Development Report, 1985.

Statement III

*Statement Showing the Payment of Interest on Loans on Govt. Account
During 1951-52 to 1984-85*

(Rs. in Crores)

1951-52	to	1955-56 (First 5 Year Plan)	13.30
1955-57	to	1960-61 (Second 5 Year Plan)	64.20
1961-62	to	1965-66 (Third 5 Year Plan)	294.54
1966-67			118.58
1967-68			153.47
1968-69			127.65
1969-70			158.94
1970-71			155.10
1971-72			186.00
1972-73			184.53
1973-74			196.91
1974-75			170.02
1975-76			184.21
1976-77			204.09
1977-78			218.26
1978-79			245.65
1979-80			267.98
1980-81			252.24
1981-82			276.14
1982-83			319.85
1983-84			368.65
1984-85			470.09
Total :			4629.40

Note :— (1) The break up figures between Govt-Non-Govt. and Supplier's Credit for the first two plan periods are not available. Hence they are consolidated figures for the three items. The quantum of Interest paid on Non-Govt Loans and Supplier's Credit may not be much.

(2) From 1961-62 to 1973-74 the figures include interest on PL 480 Loans, (Commodity assistance and other than PL 480 Loans from U.S.A.

(3) The figures are at the exchange rate adopted at the time of making the payments of Interest.

Study on Import of Liberalised Policy on Imports

3928. **SHRI R. PRABHU** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has undertaken a study on the impact of liberalised policy on imports announced during 1985 in respect of (i) increase in industrial production, (ii) export of finished goods; and (iii) foreign exchange reserves;

(b) if so, the results of such study; and

(c) whether in the light of such study, Government propose to review the policy and make such modification as may be necessary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). No, specific study has been undertaken. However, the import policy is under constant review and necessary modifications are made in the same from time to time depending on the needs of the economy.

Cereals Production

3929. **SHRI R. PRABHU** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is emerging as a country surplus in cereals;

(b) whether Government have any long term policy for the export of rice and wheat; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Export of Basmati rice is allowed under Open General Licence. Export of Wheat on Government to Government basis is handled by the Food Corporation of India. The private trade is also permitted to export wheat and wheat products subject to certain conditions such as ceiling and Minimum Export Price.

Procedure for Loading Scarp Tins for Detecting Quality of Materials

3930. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS** : Will the Minister of **STEL AND MINES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any clear-cut procedure of loading scrap tins and laboratory testing of the scarps for detecting quality of materials by the management of the Rourkela Steel Plant in cold rolling mill prior to 26 August, 1978;

(b) if so, whether the Shippers C.R.M. have been properly trained with the leading procedure before they were assigned with the responsibility;

(c) if no, how many Shippers in C.R.M. (R.S.P.) have been charge-sheeted in August 1978 and subsequently discharged due to lack of training, laboratory testing and lay down procedure, the details thereof; and

(d) the responsibilities of Shippers, C.R.M. Rourkela Steel Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Scarp tins are not loaded in the cold rolling mill at Rourkela Steel Plant and hence the question of their laboratory testing does not arise. Procedure for loading electrolytic tin plate scarp was in force prior to 26th August, 1978. There is no laboratory testing of electrolytic tin plate scrap. These are declared scrap on visual inspection by the quality assurances section and operational staff of the plant in accordance with standard procedure laid down.

(b) The shippers in the cold rolling mill of the plant are properly trained on the job. They are experienced and are briefed about their job including the loading procedure before a job is assigned to them.

(c) No Shipper in the cold rolling mill of Rourkela Steel Plant was charge-sheeted in August, 1978.

(d) The Shippers are responsible for routing despatch work in the shift, assisting the head shipper in transfer, storage, packing and loading, maintaining various records in the central office, indenting of

wagons and attending to complaints and queries. They are also responsible for inspection and records of consumables needed in the shipping department.

[*Translation*]

Loan Advanced to Farmers by Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

3931. SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of branches of Regional Rural Banks functioning in Madhya Pradesh and the total amount of loan advanced so far by them to farmers and the persons belonging to weaker sections of the society; and

(b) the total number of persons in Madhya Pradesh benefited by Regional Rural Banks and the number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). As on 30th June 1985, there were 22 Regional Rural Banks covering 40 districts of Madhya Pradesh with a net work of 1353 branches.

Regional Rural Banks provide loans mainly to weaker sections such as small/marginal farmers, landless labourers in the agriculture sectors and to rural artisans, village and cottage industries, small business and petty traders in non-agricultural sector whose pre-investment annual income does not exceed Rs. 6500/. The present data reporting system does not yield separate information regarding advances made by Regional Rural Banks to SC/ST beneficiaries.

As at the end of June, 1985, the outstanding advances of Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh amounted to Rs. 89 crores, covering 4,12,934 beneficiaries.

Closure of Mica Mines in Bihar

3932. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mica mines lying closed in each district of Bihar; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to re-open the mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) According to the latest information available in the Department of Mines as received from the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the number of closed mica mines in Hazaribagh, Giridih, Nawada, Monghyr and Bhagalpur in the districts of Bihar is 143, 36, 19, 2 and 1 respectively.

(b) Central Government had constituted a High Powered Committee to go into the various aspects of mica industry. The Committee has submitted its Report and the Department of Mines has constituted an Empowered Committee to expeditiously implement the recommendations made in the Report. IBM conducts regular inspections and studies and advises the mine owners about further exploration and systematic development of the mines.

[*English*]

Decline in Foreign Tourists to Agra

3933. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited Agra during 1984-85;

(b) whether decline in the number of foreign tourists visiting Agra as compared to the previous years is due to lack of facilities;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the city is not kept clean and proper facilities are not available to tourists; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to beautify the Agra city to attract foreign tourists in large numbers ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

(SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). Statistics of foreign tourists visiting various destinations in the country are not compiled. However, as per the Foreign Tourist Survey 1982-83, 17.01 per cent of total foreign tourists who visited India, spent at least a night in Agra.

(c) Basic facilities to be availed of by the tourists, by and large, are available at Agra but recently some reports have appeared in the press regarding uncleanliness of the city.

(d) Creation of civic amenities and beautification of the city is primarily the responsibility of the State Government and a number of proposals are being considered by them for the same. These include plantation of trees on both sides of the road, augmentation of facilities for drinking water etc. The Central Department of Tourism has already assisted in a scheme for flood-lighting of Agra Fort.

Imposition of Excise Duty on Labelled Beedies

3934. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the imposition of excise duties on labelled beedies had done great harm to the workers; and

(b) the action taken on small and unscrupulous beedi manufacturers who were taking advantage of the levy to deny statutory benefits including bonus to workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) There are no authentic reports with the Central Government to the effect that imposition of excise duties on labelled or branded beedies has done great harm to beedi workers.

(b) The Central Government do not have any information regarding denial of statutory benefits including bonus to workers. The appropriate authorities for looking into such matter would be the State Governments.

Decline in Balance of Trade Deficit

3935. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's foreign trade situation has shown a significant improvement during 1984-85 especially in the sphere of exports;

(b) if so, to what extent the foreign trade situation has improved;

(c) if so, to what extent this has resulted in a decline in the balance of trade deficit;

(d) the main reasons for this improvement; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve the position further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). According to the latest available updated data, India's overall exports during the financial year 1984-85 amounted to Rs. 11493.72 crores which were 18.1% higher than the corresponding updated data of Rs. 9729.91 crores in the preceding year 1983-84. At the same time, imports during 1984-85 reached a level of Rs. 16812.93 crores, registering an increase of 7.9% over the level of imports of Rs. 15587.77 crores in the preceding year. Consequently, there has been a reduction in the balance of trade deficit from Rs. 5857.86 crores in 1983-84 to Rs. 5319.21 crores in 1984-85. Thus India's foreign trade situation has shown improvement during 1984-85 especially in the sphere of exports, resulting in a decline in the balance of trade deficit.

(e) Policy measures are being continuously evolved for increasing India's exports. These include measures for increasing and diversifying the production, making our exports more competitive, finding new markets for our products and processing commodities for higher value realisation. Efforts would be made to gear up these measures further during the Seventh Plan period.

The Government has taken a number of policy initiatives in the sphere of trade policies, industrial policies and fiscal policies. The current import-export policy which will be operative for a three year period, 1985-1988, is designed to introduce an environment of continuity and suitability in foreign trade planning. It aims at providing a major thrust towards increased production, both for domestic consumption and exports, and to bring about efficient import substitution. The Government have also identified sectors for export promotion which can make a substantial contribution to growth in exports over the medium term. Public Sector undertakings are being involved for greater participation in export efforts. Simultaneous efforts are also being made to step up our indigenous production of importables during the Seventh Five Year Plan period, particularly in the sphere of bulk imports.

Setting up of Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts

3936. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to set up an Export Promotion Council for handicrafts;

(b) if so, whether the decision was taken to ensure proper development of handicrafts so as to maximise foreign exchange earnings;

(c) whether there is an ample scope for boosting the export of handicrafts; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the formation of export council for handicrafts will be helpful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Council has been set up to provide a forum for handicrafts exporters to explore ways and means of increasing handicrafts exports.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Exports Promotion Council is expected to formulate and implement export

promotion measures for increasing exports of handicrafts. There will be better participation by the exporters, as members of the council, in export promotion efforts.

Financial Assistance to State Governments to Run the Sick Textile Cotton and Jute Mills

3937. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether 12 closed textile mills in Gujarat are being taken over by the State Government with the help of a Central Government grant/loan of Rs. 65 crores;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) whether appropriate financial assistance will also be given to other State Governments if they are prepared to take over and run sick textiles mills, cotton or jute ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and b). The Government of Gujarat will be given advance releases of Plan assistance of Rs. 65 crores to be adjusted within the Seventh Plan Period, for the implementation of the scheme of Nationalisation of 12 closed Textiles Mills in Ahmedabad. The scheme involves restructuring and reorganisation of these mills to form viable units.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Profit/Loss of Sick Mill Taken Over by National Textiles Corporation in 1983, 1984 and 1985

3938. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the sick mills taken over by the National Textile Corporation during 1983, 1984 and 1985;

(b) how many of them are earning profits showing period from which they are earning profit with amount of profits earned;

(c) how many are still running in losses showing amount of loss from the date of taken over and reasons for such state of working; and

(d) the number of surplus labour with National Textile Corporation showing (i) figures for the above period per year (ii) amount of loss being caused and (iii) reasons for not being utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The management of 13 textiles undertaking of Bombay was taken over by the Central Government in 1983 pending nationalisation and National Textile Corporation was appointed as the Custodian.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the net profit/loss position, in the case of these

13 Bombay mills, during the periods October, 1983-March, 1984, 1984-85 and 1985-86 (April to September, 1985) is attached.

The major reasons for losses of these mills are as under :

- (i) Old and obsolete machinery;
- (ii) Abnormal increase in cotton prices during 1984-85;
- (iii) Increase in cost of power, coal, dyes and chemicals, stores and spares;
- (iv) Increase in wages/salaries.

The current enagement of workers is commensurate with the present utilisation of capacities.

Statement

Statement showing the profit/loss position in respect of 13 Bombay mills

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Oct. 1983 to March, 1984	1984-85	1985-86 (Apr.-Sept, 85)
1. Elphinstone Spg. and Wvg. mills	(—) 132.14	(—) 175.02	(—) 31.94
2. Finlay Mills	(—) 82.05	(—) 35.75	(—) 41.99
3. Gold Mohur Mills	(—) 10.00	(—) 120.82	(—) 100.92
4. Jam Manufacturing mills	(—) 83.00	(—) 166.44	(—) 78.58
5. Kohinoor Mills No. 1 } 6. Kohinoor Mills No. 2 } 7. Kohinoor Mills No. 3 }	(—) 60.00	(—) 152.94	(—) 98.20
8. Shri Madhusudan Mills	(—) 93.40	(—) 149.71	(—) 6.84
9. New City of Bombay Manufacturing Mills	(—) 76.49	(—) 166.20	(—) 7.25
10. Podar Mills	(—) 58.73	(—) 106.02	(+) 9.91
11. Podar (Processors)	(+) 3.50	(+) 23.96	(+) 16.38
12. Shree Sitaram Mills	(—) 10.00	(—) 149.13	(—) 60.71
13. Tata Mills	(—) 90.47	(—) 78.51	(+) 0.62

Contracts Entered into During the Last Three Years

3939. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many contracts have been entered into during the last three years;

(b) how many out of these have been satisfactorily completed;

(c) in how many disputes have arisen; and

(d) the amount of money involved in all such category of cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The number of contracts including Rate Contracts and Running Contracts, entered into by the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals during the last three years is as follows :

Year	No. of Contracts
1982-83	7,903
1983-84	7,924
1984-85	8,512

(b) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

I.T.D.C. Hotels in New Delhi

3940. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment in ITDC hotels in New Delhi;

(b) yearly incomes of these hotels (hotelwise);

(c) which of these hotels are running in losses since when and the yearly loss for the last five years in each case;

(d) the reasons for the losses;

(e) the steps taken to cover these losses and the results achieved thereby;

(f) how many rooms in each hotel are reserved on regular basis and monthly income in each case;

(g) how many parties are having reservation on regular basis indicating reasons for such reservation; and

(h) the justification for continuing to run the hotels running into losses ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (h). Information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement showing total investment (capital employed), yearly income (profit and loss) for the last 5 years, reasons for losses, rooms reserved on regular basis, monthly income in respect of ITDC Hotels in Delhi, steps taken to improve the performance of the hotels in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 3940 for 13-12-1985

Name of the Hotel	Capital employed as on 31-3-85 (Rs. in lakhs)	Profit and Loss (—)					Number of rooms Monthly rent rented on regular basis (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Ashok	830.83 (+)	171.02 (+)	189.84 (+)	124.90 (+)	3.10 (+)	7.68	102	10.26	
Janpath	37.96 (+)	30.15 (+)	14.70 (+)	41.09 (+)	68.00 (+)	58.62	20	1.85	
Akbar	122.06 (+)	50.33 (+)	89.12 (+)	109.28 (—)	18.01 (—)	58.39	140	10.49	
Qutab	67.98 (—)	17.45 (+)	0.11 (+)	10.75 (—)	2.15 (+)	8.45	36	2.73	
Sāmrat	1483.43	—	—	(—)	70.89 (—)	206.67 (—)	128.05	102	10.70
Kanishka	901.31	—	—	(—)	24.11 (+)	51.10 (+)	42.94	6	0.97
Lodhi	20.18 (+)	16.30 (+)	14.51 (+)	27.87 (+)	23.16 (+)	29.23	6	0.52	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Ranjit		(-)	28.89	(-)	0.67 (+)	5.99 (+)	7.42 (-)	8.62 (-)	0.33	49	3.46
Ashok Yatri Niwas		506.82	-	-	(-)	26.71 (-)	14.18 (+)	17.28	10	0.31	

1. MAIN REASONS FOR LOSSES :

- Setting up of three new hotels in Delhi which are under gestation period entailing financial burden on account of heavy interest and depreciation.
 - surplus hotel accommodation in Delhi.
2. ITDC has given reservation in the above hotels to 82 parties on regular basis in order to ensure optimum utilisation of available capacity.
3. ITDC has taken the following steps to improve profitability and performance of its hotels :—
- Entering into marketing and reservation tie-ups abroad of ITDC hotels for chain use by foreign tourists;
 - Setting up of ITDCs own Travel Agency;
 - Grant of additional discount to local companies, Travel Agents, Public Sector Undertakings, etc.
 - Introduction of cheap package for domestic clientele;
 - Promotion of ITDC properties in overseas market through participation in the Travel Trade Forums;
 - Product improvement, etc.

Exploitation of Metallic ore in Nagaland and Manipur

3941. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most important metallic ore have been located in highly inaccessible areas in Nagaland and Manipur;

(b) if so, steps Government proposed to take to exploit the resources; and

(c) the estimated deposit of metallic ores ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Chromite occurs as dissemination/pods in cumulates in Manipur. In Nagaland, no definite pocket of chromite bearing rocks have so far been located, though minor occurrences of chromite are found invariably associated with magnetite in ophiolite belt.

Chromite is being produced from Manipur on a small scale. However, further mapping in the area is proposed to establish economics of the occurrences.

(c) A total of 320 tonnes of chromite in Manipur and 10 million tonnes of magnetite in Nagaland have been estimated.

Tax Reforms

3942. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government to make major tax reforms and further reliefs to the tax payers;

(b) if so, the details of the reforms which are likely to be made; and

(c) how far these reforms will be beneficial ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a), (b) and (c). To Make reforms on the Income Tax side, a Committee of 16 Commissioners of Income Tax has been constituted to suggest simplification and rationalisation of direct tax laws. The proposals made by the members of the Committee are under consideration.

In the context of the long term fiscal policy about to be announced by the Government exercises have been undertaken to review the rate structure of customs and excise duties. Concrete steps will be adopted through legislative measures approved by the Parliament.

Steps Taken to Reduce Retail Price of Tea

3943. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the large difference in the price of tea sold in auction and that sold in retail;

(b) the extent of this difference, detailed chart showing the difference; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal or have taken any measures for reducing the retail price of tea; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). Difference in prices of tea sold in auctions and retail prices is on account of several factors such as transport and handling expenses, insurance, storage charges postage expenses, packaging costs, interest, sales tax, octroi and margins of wholesalers and retailers. The price of difference varies depending upon quality of tea offered. However, in order to bring down the retail prices at desired level meetings have been held regularly with the loose tea traders and packsters. As a result of these efforts, major packeters and loose tea traders have brought down their prices during past few months. The difference between the average auction prices and reported retail prices is now compa-

nable to the difference prevailing in 1983 and varies between Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per kg. depending upon quality.

Setting up of Tourist Centres in Konkan Region of Maharashtra

3944. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts of the Konkan region of Maharashtra, there are ideal sites with natural beauty for setting up tourist centres; and

(b) if so, whether Union Government propose to give financial assistance to set up such tourist centres in the backward region of Konkan ?

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Department of Tourism has requested the State Government to forward suitable project proposals under its approved schemes for financial assistance. However, no such proposal has so far been received from the Government of Maharashtra, for the development of tourist centres in Konkan region

Introduction of 'Zero Budgeting'

3945. PROF. MHDHU DANDAVATE : SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a move to introduce 'zero base budgeting' in Government from 1986; and

(b) if so, what steps and policies are being devised to ensure zero-budgeting from 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b).

The need for the Central Government Departments to adopt zero-base budgeting has been recognised in principle. This require identification and sharpening of objectives; examination of various alternatives of performing identified tasks, cost-benefit analyses, prioritisation of objectives and activities, identification and elimination of redundant activities and designing and ranking decision packages. Zero base budgeting has been introduced in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the coverage may later be extended to other scientific departments in due course with suitable modifications. It is proposed to commence zero base budgeting in the Central Government from 1986-87 to be effective from the Budget for 1987-88.

Indo-Czech Trade

3946. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-Czech trade is likely to get a boost as a result of trade fair held in Delhi during November, 1985;

(b) if so, the main items which Czechoslovakia is interested to buy from India;

(c) whether some talk have been held for obtaining orders for Maruti cars; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). India International Trade Fair held in New Delhi in November, 1985 would help in the growth of Indo-Czech trade. Czechoslovakia is presently importing a large range of goods from India which cover sectors like agriculture, minerals, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, chemicals, engineering etc.

(c) and (d). Czechoslovakia has shown interests in importing Maruti cars from India. The proposal is still at the negotiating stage between Maruti Udyog Ltd. and the concerned Polish Foreign Trade Organisation.

**Manipulation of Grades of Raw Jute by
Jute Corporation of India**

3947. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of charges of manipulation of grades of raw jute by the Jute Corporation of India during purchase;

(b) the quantum of purchase made by JCI;

(c) whether the purchase by JCI conform to the detailed guidelines given for the purchase of raw jute and the price support; and

(d) whether the jute mills have complied with the Central directive to stock raw jute equal to six weeks consumption by 30 September, 1985 and 10 weeks requirement by the end of October, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Grade composition of lot is assessed by "hand and eye" method and the grade outturn so assessed is indicated on purchase memos issued by JCI to sellers. Although, there is some scope for manipulation, effective measures have been initiated to exercise continuous supervision to prevent such malpractices.

(b) JCI, in association with Co-operatives, have purchased about 19.13 lakh bales of raw jute as on 4.12.1985. Further purchases are in progress.

(c) The purchases made by the Jute Corporation of India conform to the detailed guidelines and other administrative arrangements evolved with the concerned State Governments in the light of the existing constraints.

(d) Out of 54 jute mills to whom directive was issued by Jute Commissioner, 28 mills complied with the directive by building up stocks equivalent to 6 weeks consumption level and above as on 30.9.1985. As on 31.10.1985, 34 mills

had built up stocks of 10 weeks and above consumption level. The time limit for building up 10 weeks' stock level of raw jute has been extended from 31.10.1985 to 15.11.1985. Jute mills who had already built up 10 weeks' stock level as on 31.10.1985 in compliance with his directive of 6.9.1985 were also directed not to allow such stocks to go below this level at any time during November, 1985. By another order dated 29.11.85 jute mills have been directed to maintain not less than 10 weeks stock level upto 31.12.1985.

Administrative measures have been taken by Jute Commissioner against defaulting mill by debarring them from B. It will quota allocation for the month of Nov., 1985. This has had a salutary effect and there has recently been perceptible improvement in stock-building efforts by defaulting mills.

Breakthrough in Exports

3948. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the factors that lead us to the expectation that our exports will be able to breakthrough the barrier of quantitative and other restrictions imposed by the developed countries of the West;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for import liberalisation policy of Government in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). India's exports to the developed countries have been increasing over time, inspite of the existence of barriers of quantitative and other restrictions imposed by them. However, efforts are made by us in the multilateral forums, and bilaterally with our trade partners, for removing/reducing the barriers to our exports and improving market access. Policy measures are also being continuously evolved for increasing India's exports. These include measures for increasing and diversifying the produc-

tion, making our exports more competitive, finding new markets for our products and processing commodities for higher value realisation. The current import-export policy which will be operative for a three year period, 1984-88, is designed to introduce an environment of continuity and stability in foreign trade planning. It aims at providing a major thrust towards increased production, both for domestic consumption and exports. The Government have also identified sectors for export promotion which can make a substantial contribution to growth in exports over the medium term.

Effect of Import Liberalisation Policy on Domestic Industrial Units

3949. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Import Liberalisation Policy of Government in the Seventh Five Year Plan will threaten the viability of domestic industrial units;

(b) if so, what protection has been ensured; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). While formulating the liberalised import policy, due care has been taken to protect the legitimate interests of indigenous industry.

Steps to prevent Distress Sale of Raw Jute

3950. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Burning Jute in Distress" appearing in "The Statesmen" Calcutta edition of 8 November, 1985;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to prevent to oust middlemen from controlling the jute purchase centres in West Bengal; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to prevent distress sales of raw jute by the growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Government has no confirmed report about burning of jute by a farmer as mentioned in the news item. In Nadia district of West Bengal, procurement of jute is made through 17 purchase centres of Jute Corporation of India and 14 purchase centres of Co-operatives. Total procurement in Nadia district stood at 3,17,627 quintals as on 7.11.1985.

(c) In consultation with the State Government of West Bengal, Jute Corporation of India is following a system of purchase of raw jute only from growers, to the exclusion of middlemen, holding jute card issued by the State Government or alternatively on the basis of list of growers furnished by BDO/Panchayats in consultation with District authorities.

(d) With a view to preventing distress sales of raw jute and to protect the interests of jute growers, the following steps have been taken by Department of Textiles :

(i) The Jute Corporation of India has been directed to undertake large scale purchases of raw jute at minimum statutory prices fixed by the Government.

(ii) Sufficient credit has been placed at the disposal of Jute Corporation of India for undertaking price support operation.

(iii) A directive has been issued on 6.9.1985 by Jute Commissioner to all working jute mills in the private sector to build up stocks of raw jute up to specified levels so as to step up purchases of raw jute by mills.

(iv) The Jute Corporation of India has been permitted to export a limited quantity of raw jute.

- (v) The Jute Corporation of India is using mass media to advise the farmers not to make distress sale at prices below the statutory minima to unscrupulous traders and bring their produce to JCI/Co-operative purchase centres.

[*Translation*]

Amendment of Limitation Act, 1963

3951. **SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to amend the Limitation Act, 1963 to extend the period for starting proceedings to realise the amount in view of the long-term bank loan schemes and the poor recovery of bank loans;

(b) if so, whether such an amendment is being brought; and

(c) if so, the period being fixed for recovery of loans in place of the normal period of three years as at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Government had received certain proposals for extending the period of limitation for recovery of loans granted by banks from three years to six years. These proposals were considered by the Government in consultation with Reserve Bank of India and it has been decided that the present limitation period of three years may be retained.

[*English*]

News Item Captioned "Forest Act May Lead to Mines Closure in Rajasthan"

3952. **SHRI VISHNU MODI** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Forest Act may lead to mine closure in Rajasthan' appearing in 'Financial Express' of 2nd August, 1985;

(b) if so, whether the procedure adopted by the Department of Mines to refer renewal applications to the Forest Department is basically wrong and unwanted; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to remove the difficulties being faced in mining operations and to save the mines from destruction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments refer the renewal applications for mining lease directly to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Wildlife wherever approval of the Central Government is required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Department of Mines in the Central Government has not prescribed any procedure in this matter.

(c) A streamlined procedure is prescribed for submission of proposals to the Department of Forest. The proposals are immediately scrutinised and placed before the Advisory Committee for consideration. This Committee meets every week and its recommendations are not delayed. On the basis of its recommendations the Central Government makes quick decision. While deliberating, the Committee weighs environmental losses against economic benefits. In short, a properly presented proposal gets a quick decision.

Collection of Taxes in Orissa

3953. **SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK** : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise details of direct and indirect central taxes collected in Orissa during the last three financial years and the share of the State Government out of the total collections; and

(b) the measures taken by the Union Government to rationalise the collection systems of central taxes and to increase the share of the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The last three financial years and the shares of the State Government out of total collections is as follows :

	Collection (in Orissa)			Share of State Government (Orissa)		
	1982-83	83-84	84-85	1982-83	83-84	84-85
	(Rs. in crores)			(Rs. in crores)		
Direct Taxes	16.84	21.98	24.45	42.43	43.93	45.77
Indirect Taxes	118.12	126.41	141.38	154.83	178.83	197.40

The share of Orissa State is much more than the amount of taxes collected from the State.

(b) The Government has laid special emphasis on the budget collection during the present financial year and advised that all efforts should be made to exceed the targets fixed. Moreover, a review of the procedure and revenue collection mechanism is an on-going exercise in all the Departments and appropriate steps are taken from time to time with a view to rationalise the same. The devolution of central taxes and duties between the Centre and the States, however, is made in accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Commission.

Black Marketing of VCRs and other Items in Delhi

3954. SHRI JAGANNATH
PAITNAIK :
SHRIMATI NIRMALA
KUMARI SHAKTAWAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that many people were sent abroad by the unscrupulous shoppers to get goods like VCRs and other fancy items which fetch a price in the blackmarket here in India particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government are taking regarding unscrupulous Delhi shoppers who make fast money through purchase jaunts in Singapore, Hongkong and Bangkok ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The baggage rules provide for a free allowance of Rs. 1250/-. For articles in excess of this value, duty is charged at 170% up to an additional value of Rs. 2000/- and 240% for the remaining value. These rates of duty coupled with the comparatively high air fares would make such import for the purpose of sale unremunerative. However, the free allowances for passengers arriving from Sri Lanka and Maldives have been reduced in order to discourage abuse of the baggage concessions. There is also no free allowance for passengers arriving from Nepal.

The free allowance and concessional duty rates are available only for bonafide personal baggage. In case any goods are considered to be not bonafide baggage, they are liable to confiscation and levy of fine and penalties. Customs authorities at the Air ports, sea ports and in cities including Delhi remain vigilant in the matter and carry out frequent raids on the shops and in markets in such cases and take appropriate action.

Setting up of Jawaharlal Nehru Skiing Institute in J and K

3956. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jawaharlal Nehru Skiing Institute is being set up in Jammu and Kashmir;

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

(c) the other projects of tourist interest undertaken in the central sector this year ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir, The Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering, Gulmarg which was set up in 1983 is being renamed as Jawaharlal Nehru Skiing Institute.

(b) The Institute trains professional ski instructors and provides facility of training and guidance to pleasure skiers visiting Gulmarg in winter. Such courses in addition to the State of Jammu and Kashmir are organised at Narkanda (Himachal Pradesh) and Auli-Joshi Math (Uttar Pradesh). It, also, during summer months conducts courses in water skiing, mountaineering, rock climbing, trekking, high altitude camping etc.

(c) During the year, the India Tourism Development Corporation has undertaken the construction of a centrally hested hotel at Gulmarg.

Import Duty on DMT/PTA

3957. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the declared policy of Government is to liberalise the import of scarce raw materials;

(b) whether Government want that the

domestic industries should stand in competition with the manufacturers abroad; and

(c) if so, the reasons for denying OGL status to DMT/PTA and raising of the import duty on them giving more protection to domestic producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The policy of the Government in respect of import licensing is, inter-alia, to facilitate increased production through easier and quicker access to inputs that need to be imported, to make all possible savings in imports, support indigenous production and promote efficient import substitution.

(c) DMT and PTA are alternative raw materials for manufacture of synthetic filament yarn etc. Production of DMT has already been established in the country and since PTA can also be used as a substitute raw material, it was not considered necessary to keep DMT and PTA under the OGL list. The rate structure of import duty on DMT and PTA was revised in order to maintain the competitive position of indigenously manufactured DMT.

Reduction of Price of Steel in India to Stand Competition in International Market

3958. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of production of steel per tonne in India;

(b) whether the price of steel in India is far higher than the price of steel manufactured in Japan and South Korea;

(c) whether any investigation has been made in this regard; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken to reduce the price of steel so that it can stand competition in the international market ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Cost of

production differs from plant to plant due to differences in raw material costs and different product-mix, working conditions and capital related costs. It will therefore be difficult to indicate the cost of production of steel in India.

(b) and (c). According to a recent analysis made by SAIL on the basis of the prices published in the "World Steel Dynamics—Steel Strategist, September 1985", the price of steel in India is higher compared to the Japanese domestic prices. No data regarding the domestic steel prices in South Korea is available.

(d) Price depends on various factors like cost of inputs; wages and salaries, railway freight and duties and levies. Steps have been taken to contain cost of production through higher production and productivity, better utilisation of capacities, better technological norms, saving in energy utilisation and containment of labour costs. To enable the exporters of engineering goods to compete in the international market domestic steel is supplied to them at international prices determined under the International Price Reimbursement Scheme of the Ministry of Commerce.

Provision of Infrastructure Facilities to Mining from the Royalties to mine Owners

3959. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any incentives are proposed to be given for the mining of minerals such as limestone, by rates, rock phosphates and other minerals which are essential for Industries like cement, paper, tiles etc.; and

(b) whether any directions have been given to the State Governments to provide infrastructure facilities such as laying of roads, providing electricity, drinking water to the mining areas from out of the royalties collected from the mine owners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Acquisition/Location of Land for ITDC Hotel in Bombay

3960. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Tourism Development Corporation so far could not acquire/locate a suitable plot/place of land for its hotel project/property at Bombay due to one reason or the other;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of officers visited Bombay during the last about five years under the grab of exploring the possibility of having a hotel there; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to acquire a suitable plot and locate a hotel in Bombay by the Indian Tourism Development Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Efforts have been made by ITDC Management for acquisition/location of land for a hotel in Bombay through correspondence or by visits of officials where necessary for personal discussions with the concerned authorities.

ITDC is still on the look out to secure a suitable site for setting up a hotel at Bombay, subject to suitable feasibility and financial viability, etc.

Identification by Travel Circuits in Orissa

3961. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of travel circuits identified by Government in Orissa;

(b) the details of those travel circuits; and

(c) the details of the steps taken for the development of those travel circuits ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The Central Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Govt. of Orissa have identified the following Travel Circuits :—

1. Bhubaneswar-Puri-Konark-Dhauli-Ratnagiri-Lalitgiri-Udaygiri-Bhadrek-Chandipur-Khiching-Joshipur (Simlipal) and back.

2. Bhubaneswar-Chilika Lake-Gopalpur-On-Sea-Tapta Pani-Koraput-Bolangir-Jhar-suguda-Angul-Tikarpara-Talcher- Bhubaneswar-Development of tourism infrastructure in the State is taken up in a phased manner through the combined resources of the Centre, the State and the private Sector.

(c) In the Sixth Five Year Plan the Deptt. has given financial assistance for the following schemes :—

- i. Preparation of Master Plans of Lalitgiri-Udaygiri-Ratnagiri
- ii. Forest Lodge at Simlipal
- iii. Lion Safari Park, Nandan Kanan
- iv. Purchase of boats for Chilika Lake
- v. Master Plan of Chilika Lake
- vi. Construction of toilet block near Sun Temple at Konark
- vii. Floodlighting of Khandagiri and Udaygiri
- viii. Assistance under Fairs and Festivals for Chilika Boat Race.
- ix. Opening of Govt. of India Tourist Office Bhubaneswar.

In addition the State Govt. has also created the following facilities :

1. One Panthnivas each at Bhubaneswar, Konark, Balichandrapur (Near Ratnagiri-Udaygiri-Lalitgiri),

Chandipur/Barkul and Rambha on Chilika Lake and Taptapani and two Panthnivas at Puri.

2. Opening of Tourist Counters at the Railway Stations at Bhubaneswar, Puri, Cuttack and Berhampur and at the Airport Bhubaneswar

Tourist Potential in Orissa

3962. **SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA:** Will the Minister of **PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of international travel writers who had visited Orissa in recent years, have opined that the tourist potential of the State is immense and these could be well adjusted as one of the best in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken in Sixth Five Year Plan for the promotion of tourism in Orissa; and

(c) the details of the steps proposed to be taken in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) In recognition of the potential in Orissa, 15 media representatives including 2 television teams were invited as guests of the Department to visit the places of interest in Orissa during the first eight months of the current financial year.

(b) During the Sixth Five Year Plan the Department of Tourism has assisted the State Government in the implementation of following schemes :

Schemes	Amount released (Rs. in lakh)
1. Preparation of Master Plans of Lalitgiri, Udaygiri, Ratnagiri	3.20
2. Preparation of Master Plan of Chilka Lake	2.00

3.	Construction of toilet block near Sun Temple at Konark.	2.61
4.	Purchase of boats for Chilka Lake	1.80
5.	Forest Lodge at Simplipal	10.80
6.	Lion Safari Nandan Kanan	19.23
7.	Flood-lighting at Khandagiri and Udaigiri	7.29
8.	Fairs & Festivals- Chilka Boat Race	2.14
9.	Construction of Yatrika at Puri by Bhartiya Yatri Awas Vikas Samiti	13.50

(c) The Department has sanctioned a scheme for purchase of a cruise boat for Chilka Lake. Proposal for construction of Yatri Niwas at Satpada, Chilka is receiving active consideration of the Department. Adequate financial assistance to schemes submitted by the State Govt. for development of infrastructural facilities in Orissa has been and is being provided by the Central Government. In addition, a large number of brochures, folders and posters have been published by the Central Government on places of tourist attraction of Orissa.

[Translation]

Entry Fee for Appu Ghar in Pragati Maidan

3963. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether entry fee to various items of entertainment provided in 'Appu Ghar' for children are beyond the means of common people with modest income;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to throw it open either with a nominal entry

fee or free to children of low income group at least on occasions like Republic Day, Independence Day, Bal Divas and Mahila Divas etc; and

(c) the steps being taken or contemplated in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). The rates vary from Rs. 1/- to Rs. 3/- per head entertainment tax for a particular item of entertainment. That is also a provision for package tickets at reduced rates for general visitors and organised groups from educational and social welfare institutions. Free joy rides are provided to children belonging to economically weaker sections, invalid and spastic children and blind children as and when they come in groups sponsored by their schools or social welfare organisations. On Children's day (14th November), Appu Ghar Anniversary day (19th November), Republic Day and Independence Day, children are invited in organised groups from various schools and social welfare organisations and provided free joy rides and entertainment.

[English]

Purchase of Cotton by Cotton Corporation of India

3964. SHRI AMARSINGH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cotton purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India during the years 1982-83 1983-84 and 1984-85 from each cotton growing States;

(b) whether a huge stock of cotton has been accumulated with the growers this year;

(c) what is the purchase likely to be made by the Cotton Corporation of India this year from each cotton growing state and particularly from Gujarat; and

(d) whether Government propose to release the export quota of cotton to enable the growers to get remunerative price of their products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a)

The purchases of cotton made by Cotton Corporation of India from the various cotton growing States except Maharashtra, where the Corporation does not operate, during the cotton years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are as given below :—

year	Quantity (figures in lakh bales of 170 kgs. each)
1982-83	9.71
1983-84	5.24
1984-85	6.68

(b) Government are not aware of any huge accumulation of stocks with the growers.

(c) The Cotton Corporation of India has a tentative programme of purchasing various about 15 lakh bales of cotton from the cotton growing states including 3.75 lakh bales from Gujarat during the current cotton season.

(d) Government of India have already released for export during the current cotton season a quantity of two lakh bales of long and extra-long staple cotton, 27,000 bales of Bengal Deshi and 25,000 bales of yellow Pickings.

Increase in Officers Cader and Decrease in Class IV Employees in the Nationalised Banks

3965. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of officers clerks and Class IV employees working in the nationalised banks as in the years 1978 and 1984; and

(b) the reasons for increase in officers cadre and decrease in class IV employees cadre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) : Reserve Bank of India has reported that there were 101042 officers, 244509 clerks and 108109 subordinate cadre employees in the 22 public sector banks at the end of December 1978 and 184075 officers, 399495 clerks and 155342 subordinate cadre employees in the 28 public sector banks at the end of December, 1984.

(b) The strength of both officers cadre as well as subordinate staff cadre (corresponding to class IV employees) have in fact registered an increase.

Quantity and Value of Goods Imported During 1982-1985.

3966. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REEDY :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity and value of rice, sugar, cement, steel and gunny bags imported during the period 1.1.1982 to 31.7.1985;

(b) the names of countries where from these were imported; and

(c) the foreign exchange involved in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). The foreign trade statistics are recorded and published on financial year basis in the monthly statistics of foreign trade of India. A statement showing imports (quantity, value and major countries) of rice, sugar, cement, iron and steel and jute and hessian bags and bagging and sacks during the years 1980-81, 1981-82 and 1982-83 (upto February, 1983) is enclosed. Date beyond February, 1983 are not yet available.

Statement

Statement showing import of sugar (excluding Mollasses and natural Honey), Rice, Cement, Iron and Steel, Jute and Hessian bags and baggings and sacks during 1980-81 to 1982-83 (upto Feb. 83)

Sl. No.	Description of Items	1980-81		1981-82		1982-83 (upto Feb. 83)		Names of Major Countries from where imported
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I. (a)	Sugar, Sugar beet and cane, raw solid	—	—	—	—	—	—	Brazil, France Korea RP, U.K., U.S.A.
(b)	Refind sugars and other products of refining beet and cane sugar, solid	213458	8623.37	119242	4696.20	—	—	France, German ERP, Netherlands, New Zealand, U. K., Japan, Nepal, U.S.A., Relgium, Sweden, Switzerland, Yugos-lavia.
(c)	Other sugars in solid form; sugar syrups not containing added flavou-ring or colouring matter; artificial honey whether or not mixed with natural honey, caramol	2672	209.61	17087	1128.89	13219	184.13	
Total I :—		216130	8832.98	136329	5825.17	13219	184.13	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
II. Rice								
(a)	Rice in the husk or husked, but not further prepared	15193	309.11	51453	1196.99	16171	324.23	Nepal, U. K. Singapore.
(b)	Rice, semi-milled or wholly milled whether or not polished or glazed (including Par-boiled and broken rice)	3115	60.00	13489	271.91	3072	60.58	Nepal, Japan.
Total II:—		18308	369.11	64939	1468.90	19243	384.81	
III.								
	Portland Cement, cement fondu, slag cement super-sulphate cement and similar hydraulic cements, whether or not coloured or in the form of clinker	1713905	9758.89	1121112	7303.94	953934	6219.61	Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Korea RP, Korea D-P. RP, Switzerland U. K. U. S. A. Vietnam DRP, Vietnam NEP, Austria, China REP, France.
IV.								
	Iron and Steel	2038649	85242.39	3165219	120354.19	2605584	107615.32	Austria, Brazil China REP, China PRP Hongkong, U.S.A., U.K., Belgium, Indonesia, Singapore, German, FR P, Netherlands, Italy, Japan.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
V. (a) Jute bagging for raw cotton	—	—	—	—	562	40.04	—	—	Nepal.
(b) Jute earl secks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Jute hessian bags	101	4.86	—	—	4166	42.70	5973	162.28	Nepal, German FRP,
(d) Jute sacking bags	—	—	—	—	—	—	3185	30.98	U.S.A.
(e) Jute Rool sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(f) Plastics Coated or paper cum polythene lined jute bags and secks	400	9.07	—	—	75	2.89	47	1.13	Denmark, Hongkong, Italy, Japan, Nepal, U.S.A.
(g) Paper laminated hessian bags	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(h) Other coated or impregnated jute bags and sacks except travel goods.	314	6.06	—	—	6458	187.58	10	0.27	Nepal.
Total V :—	815	19.99	815	19.99	11261	273.31	9215	194.66	—

SOURCE I : For 1980-81 and 1981-82 : Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II (Imports) published by the Directorate Central of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta.

SOURCE II : For 1982-83 (upto Feb. 83) : Advance data received in the Office of Economic Advisor, from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta.

**Grant of Loans of More Than One
Crore to Industrial Concerns by
IDBI**

3967. SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of industrial concerns have been granted loans of more than Rs. 1 crore by the Industrial Development Bank of India since it has been set up;

(b) if so, the names of such industrial concerns who have been granted loans of more than Rs. 1 crore; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the loans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c).
Since its inception upto June 30, 1985,
the Industrial Development Bank of India
has assisted 1151 industrial concerns with
loan of more than rupees one crore each.
In terms of the provisions of the statutes
governing public sector financial institutions
and the Public Financial Institutions
(Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act,
1983, information relating to individual
constituents assisted by the institutions
cannot be disclosed. Hence details relating
to individual units as asked for in the
question cannot be disclosed.

**Development of Rural Tourism in the
Country**

3968. SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY : Will the Minister of PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under
the consideration of Government for the
development of rural tourism in the
country;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;
and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose
for 1981-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
(SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b).
During the 7th Five Year Plan period
Government is laying emphasis on encoura-
ging visits by people from rural areas to
places of tourist interests. This will form
part of Government's overall plan in
encouraging the growth of Domestic Tourism
The Department has also taken up
with the State Governments the possibility
of launching inexpensive specialised package
tours for youth, teachers etc. Also, places
of tourist interest located in rural areas will
be developed. State Governments have been
requested to forward schemes for the same
which will be examined on merits. The
provision for the construction of cheap and
inexpensive accommodation like Yatri
Nivases at places of tourist interest and of
Yatrikas (Dharamshales, Musaffirkhanas,
Sarais) will also promote rural tourism.

(c) No separate allocation has been
made for development of rural tourism as
such.

**Meetings of Bank Officers with Minister
of State for Finance**

3969. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state :

(a) whether the public sector banks
have organised meetings of bank officers
with the Minister of State for Finance at
Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay;

(b) if so, the decisions taken at these
meetings regarding consumer services; and

(c) the machinery devised to implement
these decisions and monitor the imple-
mentation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) and (c). The meetings were in the
nature of establishing direct contact with the
bank officers at all levels with a view to
transmitting to them Government's keen-
ness to improve the quality of customer,
service, to ensure better implementation of

anti-poverty programme and to promote efficiency of banking services. No separate decisions as such were taken at these meetings.

Bokaro Steel Plant

3970 SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bokaro Steel Plant has been in the red ever since it began production;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) if not, the profit year-wise made by the Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. In the initial years from 1972-73 to 1980-81, the plant incurred losses (except for a small profit in 1976-77). However from 1981-82, the plant has been making the following profits :

	(Rupees in crores)
1981-82	6.54
1982-83	18.09
1983-84	0.55
1984-85	11.47

The plant incurred losses initially due to its being under gestation and also because the cost of production including its heavy capital related charges were not fully compensated by the level of steel prices.

Market for Iron ore Pellets Made at Kudremukh

3971. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have succeeded in finding buyers for the iron ore pellets made at Kudremukh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited have obtained a Letter of Intent/Memorandum of Understanding from Malaysia and Indonesia for the sale of pellets to be produced at their Pellet Plant, Mangalore.

Trial cargoes of 10,000 tonnes each are expected to be shipped to Malaysia and Indonesia in the last quarter of 1985-86. Subject to test results being satisfactory the purchasers have agreed to consider buying about 2 lakh tonnes each of pellets in 1986.

The possibility of exporting pellets to other countries is also being explored.

Development of Tirupati as a National Pilgrims and Tourists Centre

3972. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tirupati draws pilgrims throughout the year from within the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans to develop Tirupati as a national pilgrims centre and also as a recognised tourist centre ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tirupati has developed as a national pilgrims centre. The Central Department of Tourism have received no proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh relating to Tirupati.

[Translation]

Decline in Export of Iron Ore

3973. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that exports from certain ports of the country from where iron ore is exported is continuously on the decline for the last few years;

(b) if so, the names of such ports;

(c) whether his Ministry analysed the reasons for decline in exports; and

(d) if so, the reasons for this decline and the steps taken to remove the causes responsible for this decline in exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Although compared to exports of iron ore during 1982-83, there has been some decline in exports during 1983-84 from ports of Paradip and Vishakhapatnam, there has been considerable increase in exports during 1984-85.

(c) and (d). Decline in exports during 1983-84 was on account of stoppage of movement of iron ore by rail for one month during October-November, 1983 on Bailadilla-Vizag sector because of land slide and the all India Port strike from 15th March, 1984 to April, 1984.

Steps Taken to Export Apples

3974. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India exports fruits grown in temperate climate areas;

(b) if so, quantity of such fruits exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) whether his Ministry is taking special steps to promote export of apples; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Among the fruits grown in temperate climate areas, apples are being exported.

(b) Quantity of apples exported and foreign exchange earned during the last 3 years is :

	Qty. (tonnes)	Value (Rs in lakh)
1982-83	2,185	56
1983-84	2,771	97
1984-85	2,237	85

(Source : Processed Foods Export Promotion Council.)

(c) and (d). Cash Compensatory Support has already been increased to 18% on export of apples as against 14% on other fresh fruits. Besides, import Replenishment at 10% and Duty drawbacks on cartons is also available.

Import of Tibetan Wool From China

3975. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some arrangements are being made with Government of China for import of Tibetan wool;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the details of the alternative efforts being made by the Ministry to meet the requirement of users of Tibetan wool ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Tibetan wool was used by the artisans in Uttarkhand area of U.P. Khadi and Village Industries Commission has already initiated action to augment supply of suitable type of Indian wool to the artisans in Uttarkhand Area.

Tourist Places and Circuits Houses in U.P. Incorporated in World Tourist Map

3976. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of tourist places and circuits house in Uttar Pradesh incorporated in the world tourist map; and

(b) the details of the scheme to develop these tourists places and circuits houses ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) The Department of Tourism does not produce any world tourist map.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Instructions to Nationalised Banks for Joint Appraisal of Loan Application from Small Industries

3977. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and Reserve Bank of India have issued instructions to all nationalised banks for joint appraisal of loan applications from small industries alongwith the State Financial Corporation in respect of working capital and term loan;

(b) if so, the details of instructions issued and when;

(c) whether it is a fact that no such joint appraisal is taking place in Orissa due to the reluctance of the bank resulting in delay in sanction of working capital and sanction of inadequate working capital to the unit; and

(d) the steps being taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India had issued detailed guidelines to banks in respect of joint appraisal between banks and State Financial Corporations vide their circular dated 8th July, 1978. The salient features of the instructions, in brief, are as under :—

(i) There should be joint appraisal of term loans by SFCs and Banks to help better understanding of the project and to facilitate timely sanction of adequate working capital limits. (ii) Difference of opinion, if any among the SFCs and banks about the adequacy of margin money or working capital should be sorted out in a joint meeting of the concerned officials of both the institutions. (iii) The prescribed common application forms are required to be adopted in the case of small scale industries seeking term loan both from SFCs and banks. (v) The banks should ensure that the terms and conditions stipulated by them do not conflict with those stipulated by the SFCs. (vi) On a reciprocal basis a bank may concede a second charge on the floating assets in favour of the SFCs subject to the condition that it shall always rank subsequent to the bank's present and future charge on floating assets for working capital.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that they have received some general complaints regarding delay in sanctioning of working capital and sanction of inadequate working capital to the units. They have, therefore, reiterated the above instructions to banks in February, 1982 and July, 1984. The banks were advised by Reserve Bank of India to adhere to the recommendations of the Bhide Committee in regard to coordination between the banks and SFCs. State Level Forums covering all State/Union Territories have been constituted by RBI for resolving all inter institutional coordination problems.

Subsidy by Central Government on Sale of Handicraft Goods.

3978. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the reason why no subsidy is given by the Union Government on sale of handi-

craft goods when such subsidy is available for handloom and khadi; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to give such subsidy on the sale of handicraft goods also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Union Government gives a subsidy of 5 percent in the form of rebate to Central Corporations namely Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India and North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation on the sale of handicrafts through their emporia during All India Handicrafts week every year.

Study for Giving Fiscal Relief to Filament Yarn.

3979. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent decision of Government providing non fiscal relief to filament yarn is based on the view that filament yarn fabrics are used by the richer sections of the society;

(b) if so, the basis for such a view;

(c) the results of various market studies conducted by Government agencies in this regard; and

(d) the details of one or two market studies conducted by the Textile Committee on this point ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Textile Committee has estimated that consumption of polyester fabrics by people with income less than Rs. 10,000 per year is about 41% and with income less than Rs. 20,000 per year is about 68% of the total production of polyester fabrics. Exact estimates of filament fabrics is not available.

[*Translation*]

Tourist Centre at Azamgarh District, U.P.

3980. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no tourist centre at Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Union Government propose to survey a 989 Bigha lake in Jamuwawa Gram Sabha under Lalganj Tehsil in District Azamgarh for development of a tourist centre; and

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Azamgarh is not among the 24 important tourist centre identified by the Department of Tourism in consultation with the State Government in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). No such proposal has been received from the State Government.

[*English*]

Funds of Banks and Public Financial Institutions With Sick Industrial Units

3981. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether sizeable funds of banks and public financial institutions are locked up in sick industrial units :

(b) if so, the present position as compared to the position as on 31st December, 1980;

(c) the share of credit outstanding in respect of sick industrial units in the aggregate credit disbursed by the banks and public financial institutions to industries and priority sector advances; and

(d) the State-wise break-up of (b) above ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). The total number of industrial units identified as sick by the scheduled commercial banks as at the end of December, 1984 (provisional) was 93,282 as against 24,550 units at the end of December, 1980. The total bank credits outstanding in the sick units as at the end of December, 1984 was Rs. 3638.39 crores as compared to Rs. 1808.66 crores at the end of December, 1980. State-wise information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House. The number of sick units in the portfolio of all-India Financial Institutions (except IRBI) as at the end of 1984 was 447 as compared to 205 at the end of 1980. The outstanding assistance of institutions in respect of these units as at the end of December 1984 was Rs. 822.25 crores as compared to Rs 300.66 crores as at the end of December, 1980. State-wise break-up of the number of units and the funds locked

up in them as at the end of December, 1980 and December, 1984 regarding the financial institutions (except IRBI) is give in the attached statement. I. As regards IRBI, there were 151 sick units in the portfolio of IRBI as at the end of September, 1985 as compared to 55 units at the end of December, 1980. The amounts outstanding against these units at the end of September, 1985 was Rs. 77.78 crores as against Rs. 22.04 crores at the end of December, 1980. State-wise break-up is given in attached statement. II. The share of outstanding advances of the banks to sick industrial units out of the total advances constituted 7.8% and 7.7% at the end of December, 1984 and December, 1980 respectively.

The amount of overdues of the financial institutions from 447 sick units as at the end of December, 1984 constituted 39.6% of the total amount outstanding against such units.

Statement I

Statewise details of sick units and credit involved in them in respect of financial institutions

State	(As at the end of December 1980-only for IDBI, IFCI, ICICI)		Rs. 1 lakhs (As at the end of Dec. 1984-only for IFCI, IDBI, ICICI, LIC, GIC, UTI)	
	No. of units	Amount of loan	No. of units	Amount of loan
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	13	1664.85	47	7398.20
Assam	6	3870.31	5	4257.92
Bihar	8	1182.56	13	4115.16
Gujarat	9	740.09	26	7877.57
Haryana	12	2372.96	15	3098.82
Himachal Pradesh	4	199.96	4	410.72
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	1	22.09

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	10	1313.73	37	7697.30
Kerala	16	4147.78	27	5131.20
Madhya Pradesh	8	1456.10	11	2018.04
Maharashtra	42	5495.50	81	12661.14
Manipur	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	1	503.32	1	694.90
Nagaland	1	68.50	1	42.50
Orissa	4	744.60	8	1996.42
Punjab	4	401.14	11	1943.91
Rajasthan	6	451.77	14	1418.31
Sikkim	—	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	10	1020.67	32	4201.23
Tripura	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	22	2333.43	57	9543.83
West Bengal	27	1872.03	48	6374.34
Union Territories	2	166.83	8	1321.49
Total	205	30066.13	447	82225.09

Statement-II

State wise details of sick units in the portfolio of IRBI and the credit involved in them

State	As at the end of December, 1980		(Rs. in Crores) As at the end of September, 1985	
	No. of Units	Amount involved	No. of Units	Amount involved
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1	0.12	9	3.38
Assam	1	0.02	1	0.02
Bihar	—	—	4	1.26

1	2	3	4	5
Delhi	—	—	4	0.43
Gujarat	—	—	9	7.63
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1	0.50
Karnataka	1	0.17	3	2.46
Kerala	3	1.31	7	4.16
Madhya Pradesh	—	—	2	1.60
Maharashtra	2	1.78	14	10.32
Orissa	—	—	1	0.45
Pondicherry	—	—	1	0.37
Punjab	—	—	1	0.20
Rajasthan	—	—	5	2.05
Tamil Nadu	2	0.63	12	4.60
Uttar Pradesh	—	—	8	2.88
West Bengal	45	18.01	69	35.47
Total	55	22.04	151	77.78

**Guidelines to be Followed by Directors
Nominated by Public Financial
Institutions**

3982. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS
MUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has framed guidelines for the Directors nominated by the public financial institutions on the boards of industrial units, particularly on the boards of sick and potentially sick industrial units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to ensure that the guidelines are strictly followed by the Directors nominated by public financial institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir,

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

**Forged SC/ST Employees in Collectorate
of Customs, Calcutta.**

3983. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to refer to the reply given to unstarred
question No. 7073 on 17 May, 1985
regarding investigation of forged SC/ST
employees and state :

(a) whether the investigations have
since been completed, if not, the reasons
therefor;

(b) the date of first allegation received
about such forged Scheduled Caste officers
appointed in the Collectorate of Customs,
Calcutta;

(c) the number of such persons
already retired and those who have been
promoted to higher ranks since the allega-
tions were made against them;

(d) whether proper investigations of all allegations will be completed soon and disciplinary action taken against all those found guilty, whether already retired or promoted; and

(e) the reasons for not handing over all the cases to the C.B.I. for proper and expeditious investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Augmentation of Banks Capital

3984. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some banks have requested Government to augment their capital base;

(b) whether some banks have been asked by his Ministry to work out the modalities of implementing the scheme;

(c) the name of banks from which such proposal has come; and

(d) the programme of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d). Government have taken a decision to augment the capital base of 28 public Sector Banks. A sum of Rs. 400 crores has been provided in the budget for the current financial year as Government's contribution to share capital of the 20 nationalised banks. The authorised capital of State Bank of India has been raised to Rs. 200 crores. A decision has also been taken to raise the authorised capital of seven subsidiary banks of State Bank of India.

Increase in Prices of Essential Consumer Goods

3985. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fall in inflation rate is foreseen by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to high inflation rate there is both visible and invisible rise in prices specially for essential consumer goods for weaker sections of society who are self-employed or belong to casual labour category and therefore not compensated or protected; and

(d) whether there is any plan to protect this category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The annual rate of inflation in terms of wholesale price index has declined from 7.6 per cent as on 6th April, 1985 to 4.9 per cent on 23rd November, 1985.

(c) In the current financial year (upto 23rd November, 1985) while some prices have increased (e.g. rice, wheat, jowar, gram, arhar, milk, sugar, gur, vanaspati and groundnut oil), others have also shown a decline (e.g. moong, urad, fish, chillies, tea atta, mustard oil, salt and soap). Details of the variations are indicated below :—

Commodity	Percentage variation in WPI (Between 30.3.1985 and 23.11.1985)
1	2
All Commodities	+ 2.9
<i>Rise</i> (Selected items)	
Rise	+ 6.0
Wheat	+ 7.8
Jowar	+ 2.4
Gram	+ 23.1
Arhar	+ 12.9
Milk	+ 6.9

1	2
Sugar	+ 14.1
Gur	+ 14.0
Vanaspati	+ 9.5
Groundnut Oil	+ 1.2
<i>Fall (Selected items)</i>	
Moong	- 15.7
Urad	- 3.1
Fish	- 6.7
Chillies	- 7.9
Tea	- 19.1
Atta	- 2.4
Mustard oil	- 0.3
Salt	- 0.5
Soap	- 4.5

(d) Apart from strengthening the public distribution system, special schemes have been formulated to ameliorate the lot of weaker sections including distribution of foodgrains at a concessional price to the people in the Integrated Tribal Development projects, extending the coverage of the Nutrition programme, the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee programme and the National Rural Employment programme.

Expansion of Trade between India and Brazil

3986. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Brazil is keen to expand trade tie with India;

(b) if so, whether any new suggestions have been given by Brazil for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details of the areas proposed to be identified to expand further tie with Brazil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). Brazil has been expressing desire for expanding trade ties with India but on account of its current debt crisis its interest has been more for increasing exports to than imports from India. No new suggestions have been made by Brazil in this regard.

Trade Agreement between India and Ethiopia

3987. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Ethiopia has expressed its willingness to import wheat, food products etc. from India;

(b) if so, whether any accord has been signed between the two countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Ethiopia has expressed interest in importing food products etc. including wheat on concessional credits.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation Plan for Rourkela Steel Plant

3988. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether modernisation plans for Rourkela Steel Plant has been formulated;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be spent for modernising Rourkela Steel Plant during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the detail of scheme included under the above modernisation programme of the said steel plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An allocation of Rs. 360 crores has been made for this scheme in the VII Plan.

(c) The scheme envisages that the rated capacity of the plant would be restored by adoption of appropriate cost effective technologies.

Construction of Hotels in Nepal by Indian Tourism Development Corporation

3989. **SHRI HARIHAR SOREN ;** Will the Minister of **PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some hotels in Nepal;

(b) if so the number of hotels proposed to be constructed by the Indian Tourism Development Corporation in Nepal;

(c) whether Government of Nepal have also been assisting in the construction of these hotels; and

(d) the details of the programme of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The Seventh Five Year Plan of ITDC does not include any provision for construction of hotels in Nepal.

(c) and (d). ITDC Management has signed an agreement with M/s. Hotel Jaya International (Private) Limited to provide technical consultancy during the construction of their hotel project at Kathmandu on mutually agreed terms and conditions.

Grant and Loan from FRG for TAWA Ayacut Development Project

3990. **SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY :** Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of grant given by FRG and loan for TAWA Ayacut Development Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) when the loan and grant agreements were signed;

(c) the deadlines for utilisation of these amounts;

(d) whether India has been able to absorb the assistance so far; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The FRG Government is committed to a grant of DM 30 million and a loan of DM 45 million for the TAWA Command Area Development Project, Madhya Pradesh. Till the end of July, 1985 FRG had released DM 29.3 million (Apex Rs. 12 crores) in the form of grant and DM 10.8 million (Appx. Rs. 4.32 crores) in the form of loan.

(b) The grant and loan agreements were signed on 25.10.1977.

(c) The deadlines for utilisation of these amounts were 31.12.1981. However, the project has since been extended to Mid-1986.

(d) Out of the DM 30 million grant, almost the entire amount (DM 29.3 million) has already been reimbursed to us.

Out of the DM 45 million loan, DM 10.8 million have been reimbursed to us.

(e) Regarding the loan portion, payments are made by the Madhya Pradesh Lan Development Corporation and reimbursed through NABARD. The process is an ongoing one and it is expected that the loan assistance will be absorbed by Mid-1986, which is the terminal date of the project.

Closure of Powerloom in Tamil Nadu

3991. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of **TEXTILES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that powerloom weaving throughout Tamil Nadu State ceased production indefinitely from 12 November, 1985 as a result of which lakh of weavers and workers have been rendered jobless;

(b) whether he has received a representation from the All India Powerlooms Federation in this regard;

(c) if so, the demands of the All India Powerlooms Federation;

(d) the reaction of Government thereon; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) According to information received by Government the stoppage of weaving activity was limited to a few days and hence a lakh of weavers and workers have not been rendered jobless.

(b) and (c). The representation received from the All India Powerlooms Federation *inter alia* seeks relaxation of the reservation of certain fabrics for exclusive production in the handlooms sector, reservation of certain varieties for exclusive production in the decentralised powerloom sector, a comprehensive notification for registration of powerlooms, multi-fibre flexibility, enumeration of powerlooms, restoration of excise differential in favour of powerlooms vis-a-vis the organised mill sector, formation of corporations to promote marketing and export of powerloom cloth and publication of the expert committee report.

(d) Government do not propose to disturb the policy of providing protection to handlooms by reserving articles for their exclusive production in the handloom sector. Compulsory registration of all powerlooms and fibre flexibility have already been announced in the Textile Policy. The existing policy provides that the healthy development of the powerloom sector should take place in the context of parity between powerlooms in the

organised mill sector and in the unorganised powerloom sector.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a).

[*Translation*]

Export of Goods Produced by Cottage Industry

3992. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the goods of cottage and agricultural industries in Bihar exported during the last three years;

(b) the names of the goods, export of which is increasing and of those export of which is declining every year; and

(c) the measures being taken to increase the export of those goods export of which has declined ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c). State-wise export statistics are not compiled. Export Promotion measures are formulated product-wise for the country as a whole.

Capital Investment in Tata Iron and Steel Company

3993. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the capital invested by public sector financial institutions in Tata Iron and Steel Company;

(b) the percentage of investment made by public sector to the total amount invested therein; and

(c) whether Government are considering a proposal to take over Tata Iron and Steel Company and to free it from the control of monopoly houses under Industrial Policy of 1956 ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) ; (a) and (b). As on December 5, 1985, public financial institutions hold 3526713 shares each of Rs. 100/ face value in Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO). This constitutes 43.38% of the paid-up capital.

Non-nationalised Banks hold 18,343 similar shares which are 0.22% of the paid-up capital.

Public holds 4585070 similar shares and this constitutes 56.40% of the paid-up capital.

(c) No, Sir.

Number of Cases of Estate Duty in Bihar

3994. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM** : Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of estate duty which are under consideration in Bihar; and

(b) the total amount which remains to be realised as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) As on 31st October, 1985, there are 799 estate duty cases which are under consideration in Bihar; and

(b) Estimated estate duty realisable on completion of the cases mentioned in (a) above would be Rs. 27 lakhs.

[*English*]

Export Price of South Indian Tea

3995. **KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) what is the existing Minimum Export Price (MEP) of South Indian Tea;

(b) whether the existing MEP is lower than the earlier MEP;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether any representation has been received by his Ministry from the South Indian Tea Industry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) There is, at present, no minimum export price on exports of tea.

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

Raid on Offices/Houses of top Executive of United Breweries and Dunlop India

3996. **SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY** : Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the official and residential premises of top executives of the United Breweries Group and Dunlop India Ltd., were raided; and

(b) if so, whether any material implicating them in a bid to take over companies in violation of FERA and NRI regulations, has been seized ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The office and residential premises of the top executives of United Breweries Ltd. were searched on 9.7.1985. The premises of Shri M. R. Chhabria the Chairman of Dunlop India Ltd. was one of the premises searched.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Accord With Ussr for Economic Cooperation

3997. **SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA** : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have signed any accord with USSR in the field of economic co-operation;

(b) if so, whether both the Governments have placed any proposals identifying the areas of cooperation;

(c) the likely quantities of exports and imports; and

(d) when a final discussion in the matter is expected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). An Agreement on Main Directions of Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation upto the year 2000 AD was signed by the Prime Minister of India and Soviet Leader Mr. M. S. Gorbachov in May, 1985. The Agreement envisages that two sides shall endeavour to cooperate in the following fields in particular; Power, oil and gas industry, coal industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, machine building, production cooperation and participation by Indian Organisations in civil and industrial projects in the Soviet Union.

(c) and (d). The two sides agreed to take measures to secure further dynamic and steady growth of mutual trade. It is expected that the overall trade between India and the USSR would grow by 1.5 to 2 times during the period 1986 to 1990 as compared to the total trade turnover between 1981-1985. Final discussion are expected at Ministerial level, shortly for finalising the Long-term Plan for 1986-90.

Foreign Exchange Earned Through Export of Cashew

3998. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of foreign exchange earned by the export of cashew from India during 1984-85; and

(b) which of the State/Union Territory is the largest producer of export quality

cashew and what percentage of the national output is met by the said State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) The quantum of foreign exchange earned by the export of cashew from India during 1984-85 was Rs. 180.38 crores in respect of cashew kernels and Rs. 1.63 crores in respect of cashew shell liquid.

(Source : Cashew Export Promotion Councils Statistic)

(b) The State of Kerala is the largest producer of cashew accounting for approximately 60% of the national output.

Assistance From FRG

3999. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of assistance given by the FRG for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) the Break-up of the amount committed for project assistance, capital goods, commodity credit and credit to the Financial Institutions like Industrial Finance Corporation of India Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development; and

(c) the amount of aid disbursed so far during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA (POOJARY) : (a) The quantum of Government to Government assistance allocated by the Government of FRG has been as follows :—

	DM Million	
	1984	1985
Financial Cooperation	360	360
Technical Cooperation	30	30

FRG Government follows the system of allocation calendar year wise. The allocation for 1986 is yet to be formally firmed up through annual financial negotiations to be held in the first quarter of 1986-87.

(b) The break-up of the Financial Cooperation for both years each is as follows :—

	DM Million 1984
Project Assistance	210
Capital Goods	60
General Commodity Aid	40
Industrial Development Banks	50
(DM 25 Million each for IFCI and ICICI)	
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.	Nil.
	DM Million 1985
Project Assistance	210
Capital Goods	60
General Commodity Aid	40
Industrial Development Banks	50
(DM 25 million each for IFCI and ICICI)	
National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development	Nil.

(c) The amount disbursed upto the end of October, 1985 was DM 120.372 million.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Steel Stock Yards in Jubalpur and Bhopal by Steel Authority of India Limited

4000. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited had earlier taken a decision to set up steel stock yards in Jabalpur and Bhopal; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far to implement this decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Limited has earlier taken a decision to open a steel stockyard at Jabalpur only. Following this they opened a Branch Sales Office at Jabalpur and also took possession of the land acquired by the Madhya pradesh Government for the stockyard. However, in view of resource constraints, Steel Authority of India Limited later decided to open stockyards only where the offtake/demand of steel exceeded 5,000 tonnes a month. Since the offtake and demand potential in Jabalpur area was found to be less than 5,000 tonnes per month, Steel Authority of India Limited has opened a consignment agency there for the present.

[*English*]

Proposal to Blackist Companies and Individuals Involved in Fraud and Tax Evasion

4001. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided in principle that banks and financial institutions should blacklist companies and individuals involved in fraud cases and tax evasion; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the policy and action plan formulated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). persons/companies who have been convicted in courts or on whom penalty has been levied and has become final for their involvement in bank frauds, are being black-listed to ensure that they do not enjoy further credit facilities from the banking

system. Regarding black-listing of companies/individuals, who are suspected of their involvement in bank frauds or tax evasion, the matter is under examination of the Government.

Demand of Indian Tea in French Market

4002. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing demand of Indian tea in French market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to increase export of tea to France ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). There is no noticeable increase in French tea import/consumption over the past few years. Tea/Board however, helps exporters in obtaining shelf space in chain stores and participates in various promotional events from time to time.

Smuggling of Goan Fenny

4003. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instance of smuggling of Goan fenny (country liquor from cashew) on the high seas off the kerala coast has been detected and reported recently; and

(b), if so, the details of value of the contraband liquor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Hon' ble Member is presumably referring to the recent detection of Goan fenny by Coast Guard authorities from a fishing trawler intercepted by them between Goa and Honavar. The facts are as given below :—

On 20.11.1985, the Customs Collector, Cochin, received an information from

Indian Navy that Coast Guard vessel 'VIJAYA' intercepted a country craft between Goa and Honavar carrying Goan fenny. On 21.11.1985, the Coast Guard authorities handed over 142 bags of Indian liquor (Fenny), one fishing trawler and five crew members to the Customs authorities. On examination, the following goods were recovered :

- (1) Valent Fenny-3189 Pint bottles;
- (2) Blue Star Palm Fenny-2872 Pint bottles; and
- (3) Old barrel extra Special Fenny-127 full bottles. The estimated value of the goods including the craft, is Rs. 1.63 lakhs.

As the transportation of Goan fenny from one State to another involved violation of State Excise Laws the goods, fishing craft along with 5 crew members were handed over to the kerala State Excise Department for further necessary action.

Demand for Higher Bonus by Textile Workers in Mills Under N. T. C. in Tamil Nadu

4004. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 85000 textile workers in about 80 mills in Coimbatore and Periyar districts of Tamil Nadu under the control of the National Textile Corporation went on an indefinite strike on 9 November, 1985 for a higher quantum of bonus than provided under the payment of Bonus Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken so far by Government to the demands of the workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). About 10500 textile workers in 10 mills situated in Coimbatore under the Notional Textile Corporation were on an indefinite strike from 9.11.1985 demanding bonus in excess of minimum bonus admissible

under the payment of Bonus Act. There is no NTC mill in Periyar District.

The workmen will be paid bonus as per Payment of Bonus Act. During discussions held between NTC management and Trade Union representatives, it was agreed that all workmen will return to work immediately; that a recoverable advance equivalent to 9 day's wages would be paid to eligible workers and that a scheme for productivity-linked-incentive would be prepared by February, 1986, which will be applicable after approval of Government of India:

Change in Freight System Affecting Gujarat State

4005. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has accepted in principle that common freight system introduced since 1956 for the transport of Iron and Steel be changed now on the basis of B. D. Pandey Committee's recommendation;

(b) whether Government are aware that the proposed change would adversely affect States like Gujarat;

(c) whether steel price per ton is expected to go up by Rs. 400 and Iron price by Rs. 300 per tonne according to the estimate of Gujarat Government submitted to Union Government;

(d) whether this would jeopardise over 5000 engineering and foundry units in Gujarat;

(e) whether his Ministry has received any representation from any organisation or from the Government of Gujarat against proposed changes; and

(f) if so, the response of the Ministry in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Representations have been received from the Government of Gujarat opposing the move for withdrawal of freight equalisation in respect of iron and steel. In its view such a change will adversely affect nearly 5000 engineering and foundry units in Gujarat as the prices of iron and steel will go up anywhere between Rs. 300 to 600/- per tonne.

(f) Modalities and time-phasing of the withdrawal of Freight Equalisation Scheme in respect of iron and steel are being worked out in consultation with the Ministries/ Departments concerned. These have not yet been finalised.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO USO NO. 2884 DATED 9.8.85 RE : INCOME TAX DEFAULTERS AND THE REASONS FOR DELAY

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : In the statement referred to in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2884 answered on the 9th August, 1985, the following information was furnished :

At Sl. No. 5 in respect of Shri S. N. Maran the Income-tax demand outstanding was shown at Rs. 732.40 lakhs. Actually the amount due from this assessee is only Rs. 7.32 lakhs and not Rs. 732.40 lakhs as was mentioned in the reply.

2. The mistake occurred due to an inadvertent shift in the decimal point and by taking the amount due in thousands as the amount due in lakhs of rupees. The name of Shri S. N. Maran may hence be omitted and in its place following entry may be inserted in the statement annexed to the reply :

Sl. No.	Name of assessee	Demand outstanding (Rs. in lakhs)	Reasons of the demand remaining outstanding
1.	Shri Kadar Ahmed Bhatti.	Rs. 3358.17	The amount has not fallen due for payment.

3. The error is regretted.

The mistake in the Question No. 2884 answered on 9.8.1985 in the Lok Sabha was pointed out by the Commissioner of Income-tax (Central-I), Madras, towards the close of Monsoon Session of the Parliament. Correctness of the reply was thereafter rechecked and verified and also the explanations of the Officers concerned were called for. After considering their explanations, the concerned officers were warned to be more careful in future while furnishing information to Parliament Questions and similar sensitive matters. In between the Parliament was not in session. Hence the corrected statement is being laid in this session.

11.52 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All of you will please take your seat. I will call you one by one.

Mr. Basudeb Acharia.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I have written a letter to you. The Prime Minister in an election meeting in Assam has stated...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have gone through that letter. Nothing is allowed. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I have written to you a letter...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already sent it to collect information whether it is a fact or not. I cannot allow this kind of allegation.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I want a clarification.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already sent it. I will let you know afterwards.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH (Faridkot) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a few days ago... (Interruptions) I want to draw your attention to the fact that a few days ago, in Punjab... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please give in writing.

Mr. Suresh Kurup.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : For the last three days I have been raising in this House the issue of the Delhi University Teachers strike...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are getting information regarding that.

Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Arjun Singh.

11.53 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Export Quality Control and Inspections Act, 1963, Review on the Working of and Annual Report of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. Bombay for 1984, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : On behalf of Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to lay on the Table—

1. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English

versions) under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 :—

(i) The Export Inspection Agency, Death-Cum-Retirement Gratuity (Amendment) Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S.O 5394 in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 1985.

(ii) The Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Second Amendment Rules, 1985 published in Notification No. S.O. 5395 in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1606/85]

2. A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1984.

(ii) Annual Report of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1984 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1607/85]

3. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (3) of sections 22 of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the

Government on the working of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin, for the year 1984-85.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1608/85].

4. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather and Leather Manufactures, Kanpur, for the Year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather and Leather Manufactures, Kanpur, for the year 1984-85.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1609/85],

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, I have told you that I will verify and let you know.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : When, Sir ? On Monday ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will let you know afterwards.

SHRI C JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : I have not been given a chance. Only yesterday we brought 500 delegates of kisans...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Already Members have discussed.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I have already submitted a letter regarding half-an-hour discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will see.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Another thing, Sir. Let me tell you how the Congress-I is utilising their government machinery...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Khurshid Alam Khan.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE (CONTD.)

Central Silk Board Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1985. Reviews on the Working of and Annual Reports of Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd. New Delhi, for 1984-85 and Wool Research Associations, Thane, for 1984-85 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

1. A copy of the Central Silk Board Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1043 in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 1985 under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1610/85].

2. A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 615A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1611/85].

3. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wool Research Association, Thane, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Wool Research Association, Thane, for the year 1984-85.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1612/85]

4. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Man Made Textiles Research Association, Surat, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Man Made Textiles Research Association, Surat, for the year 1984-85.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1613/85]

Securities Contracts (Regulations) Amendment Rules, 1985, Notifications under General Insurance Business Nationalisation Act, 1972, Customs Act, 1962, Central Excise Rules, 1944 and Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA PCOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table—

1. A copy of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1083 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd November, 1985 under sub-section (3) of section 30 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1614/85]

2. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of Section 17A of the General Insurance Business Nationalisation) Act, 1972 :

(i) The General Insurance (Rationalisation of Pay Scales and other Conditions of Services of Officers) (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1985 published in Notification No. S.O. 883 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1985.

(ii) The General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff) (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1985 published in Notification No. S.O. 884 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1615/85]

A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 893(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th December, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain specified equipments imported by accredited correspondents of foreign news agencies and newspapers and foreign broadcasting and television organisations from the basic customs duty in excess of 40 per cent *ad valorem* and from the whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1616/85]

4. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 :—

(i) G.S.R. 882(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th December, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 59/85-CE dated the 17th March, 1985 so as to extend the benefit of full exemption from excise duty hitherto available to glass bangles and glass beads to glass chattons also.

(ii) G.S.R. 883 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th December, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification Nos. 47/84-CE dated the 1st March, 1984, 174/84-CE and 175/84-CE dated the 1st August, 1984.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1617/85]

5. A copy of the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property) Amendment Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 4775 in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum along with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 5512 in Gazette of India dated the 28th November, 1985, under section 26 of the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976.

6. A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the notification mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1618/85]

7. A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding results of the Fifteenth Valuation of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on 31st March, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1619/85]

Review on the Working of and Annual Report of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. New Delhi for 1984-85

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies, Abt, 1956 :—

1. Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85.
2. Annual Report of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1620/85]

11.55 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

Appropriation (No. 6) Bill, 1985

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

“In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 6) Bill, 1985, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th December, 1985, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill”.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :

Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 16th December, 1985 will consist of :

1. Consideration and Passing of :
 - (a) Central Excise Tariff Bill, 1985.
 - (b) Additional Duties of Excise (Textiles and Textile Articles) Amendment Bill, 1985.
 - (c) Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Bill, 1985.
2. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
3. Consideration and passing of the International Airports Authority (Amendment) Bill, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
4. Discussion on the 7th Five Year Plan.
5. Discussion on the Long Term Fiscal Policy.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : This is the circular issued by the Postal Department...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI ANIL BASU : I have written a letter Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will see to it.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAMINDER SINGH (Faridkot) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to your

promise. The verdict of the High Court is being violated. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You give in writing, I will see it. Not allowed. Everything is over. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I told you I will see it, why are you shouting? Give in writing, then only I will see. This is not the way of speaking.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are speaking too much. This is not the way to behave.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Please allow him one minute to Speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already told him that I will see it. He would not finish, there is no end to it. What can I do for this?

(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH : We are not following what is going on in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You can allow him.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already told him that I will consider it. If he goes on speaking where is the way out? He does not understand what I am telling. I have told him that let him give it in writing and I will consider it. That is all.

11.57 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE (CONTD.)

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary) : The following item may please

be included for discussion in the week commencing Monday, the 16th December, 1985 :—

Regarding ore carrying roads in Bellary District during this week. The lorries which carry iron ore to the tune of 20 to 21 tonnes which is above the required minimum weight of 10 tonnes have spoiled the P.W.D. roads at Bellary Dt. which are not now motorable. I have been told that there are ample grants at the disposal of Government of India under the ore carrying road grants. The same grants may be provided to state Government to maintain the ore carrying roads at Bellary. The proposal is pending before the Government.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : I request that the following matter may please be included for discussion in the House for the next week.

More than 70% of the cultivable land in our country is under rain fed cultivation. In Rayalaseema Area in Andhra Pradesh large areas are sown with groundnut crop. Groundnut oil is used extensively as edible oil. In spite of this research and development with regard to dry land farming is very meagre. Drought resistance seeds of groundnut have not been well developed. Incentives given to dry land farmers who grow groundnut are very meagre. Instead of spending 1300 crores of rupees for import of edible oil, this amount if spent on the following measures will improve the groundnut crop growing very much.

- (1) Announce a support price of groundnut at Rs. 550/- per quintal and establish a board for groundnut crop development.
- (2) Drought resistance seeds may be developed. The seeds must be able to withstand a dry spell for about 3 to 4 weeks.
- (3) Advanced implements for Dry cultivation of groundnut may be invented and made available to

the farmers.

- (4) Free soil testing and supply of the fertilizers at free of cost for farmers growing groundnut in dry land.
- (5) Support price of Rs. 550/- will result in the raise of price of edible oil. This can be offset by giving subsidy to the farmers from Rs 1300 crores which we are spending for import of edible oil every year.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter in the House in the next week of the current session :—

The farmers of Chambal division are getting very little water from the canal of Gandhi Sagar in Chambal division of Madhya Pradesh. Similarly, the transformers of the majority of the farmers tubewells have burnt out. I have approached the electricity authorities many a time but no one pays heed. Due to this trouble lakhs of acres of the farmers land remain unirrigated.

I request the Government that more water should be released from Gandhi Sagar and power transformers in Chambal division should be installed at the earliest so that the farmers are able to irrigate their land.

[*English*]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopergaon) : I want the following subjects to be included in the next week's agenda.

The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources provides subsidies for the installation of low grade solar thermal devices such as solar water heater, solar air heater, solar kin, solar cookers etc. However, only a small amount of Rs. 3. 3 crores has been provided during

the current financial year 1985-86. The solar thermal devices help in saving various kinds of fossil fuel and electricity. The solar energy being freely available all over the country, its running cost is almost nil. The subsidy given by the Government is in fact a sort of investment rather than subsidy. These devices, in the long run will help the nation to save various kinds of fossil fuel and electricity. Government should, therefore, make available much larger funds and subsidy for this programme to encourage use of non-conventional energy sources.

[*Translation*]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following subject may kindly be included in the Business for the next week :

Chittorgarh and Kota districts of Rajasthan are in the grip of severe famine and the people are finding it difficult to get even drinking water there. The purchasing power of the people living below the poverty line has come down. Relief works have not been arranged and as such people are dying of starvation. It is, therefore, requested that urgent action may be taken and relief works sanctioned

A survey regarding the problem villages in respect of drinking water should be made again and a special sanction be made for installing maximum number of handpumps.

Arrangements to supply fodder for the cattle should be made. With these measures the poor can be saved from the clutches of severe famine.

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following subject may kindly be included in the Business for the next week :

The progress of electrification in Bastar district in Madhya Pradesh is very tardy. In the district-wise order of priority in the State, Bastar district is placed quite low. As per the decision of the Government, every village will be electrified.

This project will take a long time to complete because there are 3388 villages in the district and till now only those villages have been electrified which fall on the main road-side. When the far-flung areas will be electrified, can only be a wild guess. In certain areas, the Rural Electrification Corporation has tried to lay electric lines but in the absence of permission of felling trees, installation of electric poles only could be done during the last two years. The electric wires have not been laid.

It is, therefore, requested that keeping in view the number of villages in Bastar district, the Central Government should give special directions to the State Government to allow felling of those trees which obstruct the laying of electric lines so that Budget allocations are saved from lapsing and the work is completed in every village of Bastar within the scheduled time limit fixed by the Government.

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the following subjects may please be included in the business for the next week :—

We are celebrating the Congress Centenary this year in the country. On this occasion, we are remembering the great sons of the country who took part in the freedom struggle is one or the other capacity.

The people engaged in the freedom struggle of the country led a life of exiles in foreign countries and continued the struggle from there. Among these notable personalities was the late Maulana Barkatulla who did a great job of moulding the public opinion of the countries of the world like USA, U.S.S.R., England, Germany, France, Australia, Afganistan, Iran, Turkey etc., in favour of the freedom struggle of India.

He represented India in 1919 in Moscow in the conference on 'Unity of the freedom of Asia' and in 1920 in Azarbaijan in 'the Congress of toilers of the East.'

He was the Prime Minister of the first Provisional Government of India set up

in Kabul, whose President was Raja Mahendra Pratap.

Maulana Barkatulla Bhopali had taken an oath that he would return only to free India and would continue to struggle for the freedom of the country from foreign soil whole of his life. That he did, and died in San Francisco on September 27, 1927. His body was taken to Mairajwel and buried there. His last will was that his dead boby should be buried in his country when it attained freedom.

38 years have passed since we attained our freedom. On the occasion of the Congress centenary, if the Government of India sends for the coffin of Maulana Barkatulla and arranges its burial in Bhopal, his birth place, it will be respecting the feelings of the people.

[English]

DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : Sir in the next week Agenda please include the following items :—

Pay revision of the workers of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (KGF).

The pay revision of the workers in these gold mines is due as per the agreement reached last year. These gold mines are the deepest mines in the world. Workers who are working in these deepest mines face too many hazards and their living conditions are very bad. Proper water supply and sanitary conditions are not there. They are living in small huts. In spite of these difficulties their salaries are inadequate and hence revision of their pay scales is to be done immediately in addition to improving their basic amenities.

Kolar district is chronically drought prone area. There is not even a single living river flowing in the entire district. There is large number of unemployed rural educated youth. Farming lands have become barren. The ground water level in the district has gone very deep. The good old Kolar Gold Field is also on the verge of closure. Due to this about 1,50,000 down trodden people who are in the KGF township are going to be affected very badly.

At present BEML factory which is situated in the KGF is not helping in providing the alternative jobs to the backward district. Therefore, there is very urgent necessity for establishing a big industry or at least the expansion of BEML as an ancillary factory in the Kolar district.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : Sir, I submit that the following items may be included in the next agenda :

1. Warangal city in Andhra Pradesh is next to Hyderabad city which is the capital city of Andhra Pradesh. Many of the major industries are located at Hyderabad only. Since the independence of India no major industry was located in Warangal. Due to the unemployment the youth is getting frustrated and taking up activities which are against law and order. The coach factory which was proposed to be set up was shifted in the interest of national integration. So, I request you to set up an ordnance factory which will provide some employment in Andhra Pradesh in the Seventh Plan. All the basic amenities such as water, land, power and other things will be provided at a cheaper rate by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

2. It was learnt that a L.P.C. filling unit will be set up at Warangal during the Seventh Plan. So, this should be taken up immediately and the work should be started very soon thus minimising the pollution in the areas of Hyderabad.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : Sir, I want the following item to be included in the next week's agenda :

With winter starts the disruption in transport services (road and air) and other lines of communication to Kashmir valley from rest of the country. Break in air and road services to this northern part of the country, the trade comes to standstill and results in the shortages of essential commo-

ditities, like kerosene oil, coal vegetable oil, meat etc. This phenomena every winter results in the numerous hardships to the people, besides deterioration and cut in incomes and standard of living. The horders and anti-national elements thrive on this state of affairs. The State Government is not properly equipped to ameliorate the problems of the people at this scale. The Centre with its huge resources of transportation, stocks and resources must take up this problem at higher level and set up a cell in the Transport and Food and Supplies Ministry specially to deal with this problem of great magnitude encountered by Jammu and Kashmir every year especially in winter. The cell can devise ways and means every in the months of scarcity (winter) to assist the State on priorities basis in the fields of communication, transport (air and road) and other sectors with sufficient resources at its disposal.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Sir, I have heard the points which have been raised by the hon. Members. I will put forward the same before the Business Advisory Committee. But I would like to mentioned that in addition to the points which have been raised, it is also proposed to bring forward the following Bills for consideration and passing during the next weeks :

- (a) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Bill, 1985;
- (b) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Cess Bill, 1985.

CENTRAL EXCISE TARIFF BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for tariff for Central duties of excise.

*Published in Gazette of India Extra ordinary. Part II, Section 2 dated 13.12.85.

273 *Additional Duties of Excise (Goods or special Importance Amdt. Bill.* **AGRAHAYANA 22, 1907 (SAKA)** *Futwah-Islampur 274 Light Railway Line Nationalisation) Bill and Suppl. D. for G. (Railways) 1985-86.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for tariff for Central duties of excise.”

The motion was adopted.

**

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I introduce the Bill

ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF EXCISE (GOODS OR SPECIAL IMPORTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : On behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance) Act, 1957.”

The motion was adopted.

**

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I introduce the Bill.

12.10 hrs.

ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF EXCISE (TEXTILES AND TEXTILES ARTICLES) AMENDMENT BILL.*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : On behalf of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Textile and Textile Articles) Act, 1978.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Additional Duties of Excise (Textiles and Textile Articles) Act, 1978.”

The motion was adopted.

**

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I introduce the Bill.

12.11 hrs.

**FUTWAH-ISLAMPUR LIGHT RAILWAY LINE (NATIONALISATION) BILL AND SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND FOR GRANT (RAILWAYS), 1985-86—
CONTD.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we will take up items Nos. 12 and 13 together of the List of Business. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of the

*Published in Gazette of India Extra ordinary. Part II Section 2 dated 13.12.85.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

House that there are still 15 Members to take part in the debate. The hon. Minister will reply to the debate at 2 o'clock. I would therefore request the hon. Members to be brief in their submissions. I will allow each Member three minutes.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Discussions on the Railways should be fast.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, it has to be fast. So, I would request the hon. Members to cooperate with me. About the construction of new railway lines, etc. you can give those points in writing to the hon. Minister. So, the Members are requested to be brief in their submission. Now, Mr. Dhariwal to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the supplementary demands. The amount of Rs. 433 crores, which has been demanded, will be utilised for development and it will not be improper to demand more money for improvement and development.

So far as rail services are concerned, Rajasthan is a backward State. 16 per cent railway lines have been laid there whereas WB is 42 percent. Railways have become a part of life of the common man. The Railways are an important medium to bring about economic and social changes and for proper development.

Kota, from where I come, and its surrounding areas are dacoit infested areas. These are predominantly Adivasi areas as well. Kota is an industrial city and is also a foodgrain production centre.

I wanted to say something about the rail services available in Kota. At present, a train runs between Indore and Delhi *via* Ujjain, Bhopal, Bina, Gwalior and as a result the people in the entire region of Kota, Guna, Nagda, Ratlam etc. are feeling the inadequacy of transport facilities. Therefore, this train should be run *via* Nagda, Kota, Guna, Bina. The delivery of coal for the thermal power plant at Kota gets delayed due to this very reasons. Even from traffic point of view, people are facing lot of difficulties.

To get rid of these difficulties I suggest that there should be three new crossing stations between Kota and Guna—Bijora, Chhajavara Jhulne. Three crossing stations between Guna and Bina have already been sanctioned. They should be constructed at the earliest. The contracts have been awarded but work is going on at a very slow pace. In this way also, traffic is suffering heavily. A fast train should be introduced on Kota—Bina route. Since alarm chain pulling is rampant on this route, the D.R.M. should not be allowed to keep alarm chain system in use of this route.

169-170 Indore—Delhi train *via* Bhopal runs bi-weekly. I request the hon. Minister that this train should be made a daily train. Six coaches are attached to Dehradun Express for Indore from Nagda and four coaches are attached for Haridwar and Dehradun from Kota. Thus, a new train from Ratlam to Dehradun can be run by adding four more coaches to these ten coaches.

Shaupur and Bara are two such areas which are not connected by a railway line. I request you that both these places should be connected by a metre gauge railway line.

Kota is an industrial town and a big city of Rajasthan. Its population is 5 lakhs. A proposal for opening a railway station named Dakamia Talab in Kota is under consideration with the Railway Ministry. With a view to reducing the rush at Kota railway station, this proposal should be approved. Government should approve this project involving a cost of Rs. 76 lakhs.

Delhi—Bombay Rajdhani Express does not stop at Kota. There is no booking for this train at Ganganagar; only the driver is changed and some maintenance work is done. This work can also be done at Kota by giving this train a halt of 5 minutes. Besides, we can have booking for large number of passengers there. This train starts from Delhi and stops only at Ratlam, although Kota, a bigger city is enroute. Rajdhani Express should be given a stoppage at Kota. Even if a stoppage of 2—4 minutes is provided there, the people

of Kota will be benefited a lot. There is no booking for this train at Ganganagar and, therefore, there will be a large booking at Kota which is a city ten times bigger than Ganganagar. Delhi—Bombay line is being doubled, but the Chambal river which is quite near to Kota station, has only a single bridge. Therefore, there will not be any use of converting it into a double line as long as another bridge is not constructed on this river or else the existing bridge is not widened and another line laid there.

In the end, I have to make another submission. A quota of 50 II class sleepers has been provided in the Frontier Mail at Ratlam, but a new train between Indore and Bombay *via* Ratlam has been introduced recently and if this train is made a regular train, the people of Indore, Ujjain, Nagda and Ratlam can get an exclusive train for Bombay. Therefore, this quota for 50 II class sleepers should be allotted to Kota instead of Ratlam. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, speaking on the supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways), I would like to submit that the Railways has not lived upto the expectations of the people and has failed in discharging its responsibilities properly. Every day there are complaints about the Railways in general and corruption and favouritism in reservation in particular. Similarly, with the rise in population the burden and dependence on the Railways is increasing but the Government is not paying any attention in the Five Year Plans to effect expansion of the Railways to meet these demands. The number of rail accidents has risen and most of them are due to the large number of unmanned railway crossings. Something should be done to prevent these accidents which are occurring in large number.

Punjab contributes 65 per cent of foodgrains to the central pool and as a result there is an increase in its transportation from Punjab. The track should be doubled to lift foodgrains from Punjab but it is not being done. The movement of foodgrains should be speeded up. The problem of storage and godown facilities is

increasing because Railways has not been able to lift wheat, rice or paddy for the last three years. This fact came to light during a recent survey. When the Food Corporation of India or the Food Ministry in Punjab is asked to take up the matter with the Railways, they take it up with the Railways. The reply by the Railways is that they are transporting to the maximum capacity and it is not possible to speed it up in the absence of a double track. I would, therefore, like the Government to construct more railway tracks in Punjab and Haryana because Punjab and Haryana are the largest producers of foodgrains in the country. Yesterday, in reply to a question, the hon. Minister had stated that the length of the railway track in Punjab was more in proportion to its population. We do not want to go into the statistics. Additional arrangement should be made there to meet the acute requirement there. Provision for more trains and railway wagons should be made to reduce the load on the Railways. When we asked the hon. Minister in a meeting about the steps being taken to lay new railway tracks, we were distressed to learn that no provision has been made for the construction of new railway lines in the Seventh Five Year Plan. If that is true it may give rise to discontent in the country. How will then the people have confidence in the Railways? It is sad that in spite of the increase in fares every year, the facilities provided by the Railways are very little. I believe that the hon. Minister never travels by train. And in case he travels, special arrangements are made.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Saloons are attached.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Special saloons are attached. If you cannot go yourself, ask your secretary to see how people travel like animals from Delhi to Howrah in the Railway wagons...

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : The travel in Railway coaches.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : All right they travel in Railway coaches like animals. 120 men, women and children sit in a coach which can accommodate only 40 people.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : It reduces the impact of cold.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : It is good in winter but what about summer. Similarly, there is large scale pilferage in food transportation and you must have gone through the enquiry report of the Parliamentary Committee in this regard. If one lakh bags of foodgrains are to be despatched through the Railways one would be shocked to find 2-3 Kgs. short in every bag at the railway station itself. It should be looked into as to who are involved in this pilferage and under whose patronage. We are in the opposition but that does not mean that we should criticise everything. We do not believe in criticism. We owe some duty to our countrymen. We occupy a respectable position in this House and all of us have a common duty to provide more facilities and remove the problems of people. The hon. Finance Minister is not present at the moment but I would like you to ask for more funds for the Railways. In the end I would sum up my suggestions. Provision for double railway track should be made in Punjab to lift foodgrains. Thousands of tons of foodgrains is lying in godowns at the stations. Arrangements for more passenger coaches should be made. Corruption in reservation system should be checked and necessary improvements made in it. Pilferage should be prevented. With these words I conclude and thank you.

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways). Our hon. Minister of State in the Railways Shri Madhavrao Scindia must be well aware of the problems of Bombay suburban train service and I do not wish to repeat those things. When the fares were increased during the last Budget, I had met Shri Bansi Lal. He replied at that time that if we wanted more facilities, like six corridors at railway stations, over bridges and other facilities in the suburban

trains, we shall have to pay more. On his word we faced the people and assured them of better service but there has not been any significant improvement in the Bombay suburban rail service. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that besides constructing Yatri Niwas for passengers in Delhi there is need to improve train services in Bombay as it is not only the capital of Maharashtra but also the industrial capital of the country, and industrial workers should therefore be provided more facilities. I would like to give two or three proposals in this regard.

There are nine carriages in a Bombay suburban train. If twelve carriages could be provided in these trains, it would provide relief to the passengers. Provision for new wagons and extension of platforms will have to be made.

Besides there are too many railway crossings on the suburban route and often the trains have to stop there. I would request that these railway crossings be closed down and fly overs be constructed to provide convenience to all. As you may be aware that when a train restarts its consumption of electricity is ten times more than what it normally requires when it is running. There is thus loss of electricity and, therefore, I request the Government to construct the five proposed over-bridges in Bombay on the suburban route immediately.

I understand that the Railways is not able to solve our problems due to resource constraint. I would like to submit that if the Railway Board and your Ministry agree to float special bonds, in a bid to improve the conditions of suburban train service in Bombay, the people would go out of their way to provide the desired funds. I would like the hon. Minister to consider my suggestion seriously and if possible ask the Railway Board to issue special bonds. The people of Bombay are ready to provide the desired funds on the condition that the funds raised by issuing such bonds will be strictly used for improvements in Bombay suburban train service. If the Government agrees to this suggestion, most of our problems will be solved and it would be in a better position to provide over-bridges and new lines.

I have submitted the suggestions. First, the number of wagons in the suburban trains should be increased from 9 to 12 and secondly, over-bridges should be constructed immediately to solve the problem of delay of trains at the railway crossings. In the end I would submit one more suggestion and conclude. We have been fighting with the management and bureaucrats of Western Railways for quite sometime to introduce a shuttle train between Andheri and Barad for our industrial workers as most of them—

[English]

—are staying between Andheri and Barad.

[Translation]

We have been pressing this demand for the past two or three years but to no avail. The bureaucrats are not yielding. I would, therefore, request you to ask the railway authorities to examine my suggestions and give serious thought to them. Sir, I would request the Railways to introduce a shuttle service between Andheri and Barad. The tracks are already laid there.

In the end, Sir, I would request you to send my suggestions regarding Bombay suburban train service to the Railway authorities.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) for the year 1985-86. The Minister of State in the department of Railways, Shri Madhavrao Scindia deserves congratulations because ever since he took over the charge of the Railways there has been marked improvement in its functioning throughout the country. But Sir, the constituency I represent is at the mercy of the Railways even today. If the hon. Minister looks at the Railway map which is displayed in his room, I am sure, there will be no need to remind him that during the last 50 years only three new trains have been introduced from Jabalpur. The condition of Jabalpur Railway station is same now, when I have completed my studies, as it was when my father first went to school. I

mean to say that there is no change in any respect even in the station in so many years.

Sir, there is a proposal to give a face lift to the Gwalior Railway station. I would congratulate the hon. Minister and I am prepared to do so, in anticipation, if the Jabalpur Railway station is renovated and brought at par with the standard of the Gwalior station as it obtains now. What I mean to say is that earlier also, there were schemes of giving face left to other stations like Malda and some stations in Karnataka.

Just now the former Railway Minister was asking the definition of 'on going'. Suppose our hon. Minister of state is promoted, 10 to 15 more schemes will be added to the already on-going schemes which would then remain 'on going' for another 10 to 15 years. It is my submission that if without adding any extra coach and without incurring heavy expenditure, some rail-facility can be provided to our backward area with minor expenditure, it should be done on priority basis. In this connection I would like to place two points before you. It was promised 30 years back that the work of renewal of Jabalpur-Gondia metre gauge line would be undertaken or it would be converted into broad gauge line but that has not been done to date. Two years back a major accident took place on this line in which 250 to 300 people were killed. I had an opportunity to accompany Shri Ghani Khan Chaudhary to the site of the accident. He said at that time that the work of conversion of the railway line would be undertaken soon. But it is a matter of regret that not to speak of starting the work of conversion of railway line, no provision has been made in this supplementary demand. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister that it is a very important line and the work of renewal or conversion into broad gauge line must be included in the next year's Budget and the conversion work may be undertaken expeditiously.

Sir, as far as the improvement of Jabalpur railway station is concerned, I would like to say that you are spending considerable amount on the face lift of Gwalior Railway Station; a little sum may also be allocated for the improvement of Jabalpur railway station

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

In our area, there is a train Ganga-Cauvery express. In our area, about 50 to 60 thousand Keralites reside. They feel great inconvenience for going to Trivandrum. I am happy that the hon. Minister has promised to attach one bogie in Ganga-Cauvery express. If this is not possible then some arrangement should be made so that they may travel to Trivandrum directly. In this connection I had asked a question to which the hon. Minister of State had replied that—

[English]

There is no room for attaching an extra coach.

[Translation]

I would request that one bogie for Trivandrum should be attached to that train.

A train kutub Express runs from Nizamuddin to Jabalpur. It goes to Jabalpur while its name is Kutub Express. I would like to submit that the name of this train should be changed to Jabalpur Express or Narmada Express. New bogies should be attached to that train. At least the bogies rejected elsewhere should be attached to the Kutub Express. Similarly, the bogies of trains running between Indore to Bilaspur are in a very bad shape. You can inspect them yourself; it would not hurt you to do so. I would like that bogies, which are rejected elsewhere should be attached to these trains. This will give us great relief.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER : Please sit down. He has said that he would consider.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I would like to place 2 to 3 points before you. It was once promised in Jabalpur that the railway line there would be electrified but in the current plan it has not been included. The railways line from Jabalpur to Itarsi Via Bhopal should be electrified.

The railway Ministry was allocated more funds for the Seventh Five Year Plan due to our efforts. Therefore, the work of electrification of Jabalpur railway line should be undertaken.

The Railways had taken a decision that a zonal headquarter would be set up in Jabalpur and an office of General Manager would also be set up there. These decisions are 10 to 12 years old. I would be grateful to the hon. Minister if he clarifies the position. I hope that action would be taken on the long standing demand of Jabalpur Damoh railway line.

It is hoped that the hon. Minister of state while replying to the debate would accept the points raised by me. I know that there is paucity of funds but even then all these things should be kept in mind.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Abdul Rashid Kabuli. Mr. Mushran, please sit down now. Your whip has said that only three minutes should be given and you have already taken eight minutes. Shri Kabuli.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : Mr. Deputy-Speakr, Sir, for the first time I have got an opportunity to speak on the Railways since our new young Railway Minister Shri Scindia has taken charge of the Ministry. Whatever, he has said in regard to the Railways that he would do something concrete in this respect. It is hoped that he would leave no stone unturned in providing facilities. Our State, Jammu and Kashmir should also be brought on the railway map. Hardly 100 Kms. railway line has been laid from Pathankot to Jammu but it has not been extended beyond it. You had assured us that the railway line would be extended upto Udhampur, and the work is going on for the last 3 to 4 years but it is still incomplete. The Government, when Shri Mohammad Shafi Qureshi was the Railway Minister, had proposed to provided narrow gauge railway line in Kashmir. Survey was carried out in this respect but to

*Light Railway Line
(Nationalisation) Bill and*

decision for this line has been taken till today. A large number of people of our State live in the Kashmir valley who are deprived of the facility of the Railways. The Government had assured repeatedly that this challenge would be accepted and a railway line would be laid from Delhi to Srinagar. It is necessary to meet this demand because tourism and fruit industry are the mainstry of the progress of the State.

Due to inadequate transport facilities, fruit worth crores of rupees does not reach other parts of the country. Every year, in the months of September, October and November, which is the plucking season, fruit worth crores of rupees is destroyed because trucks are not available in adequate number. We supply fruit to the whole country through trucks. A large quantity of fruit is destroyed on the way. The only remedy of this problem is that the Government should construct a large number of fruit storages in Jammu so that the entire fruit produce of Kashmir is stored there and then it is supplied to big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Delhi on priority basis.

In this way you can benefit the State otherwise we shall say that we are not getting benefit from the Railways

Secondly, unless railway line is laid in our State, we cannot progress in the field of industry, agriculture and also we cannot get any benefit from the forest produce. I would like to inform the Central Government, through you, Sir, that in the absence of railway facilities, which are available in other parts of the country, the prices of all the commodities in our State are going up. Every year the supply line is disrupted and the prices of all commodities go up. Particularly during winter, for six months, the prices in the market go up so steeply that it becomes unbearable for the common man. We have no railway facilities in our State. while other States are enjoying them, It is therefore, the duty of the Central Government to compensate us for this. Jammu and Kashmir should get special subsidy from the Government as the prices are rising high due to higher freight. (*Interruptions*)

I shall conclude my speech after raising two or three points. You had given some special concessions in the railways for hill stations. On this basis, bogies for Kashmir used to be booked upto Jammu from Bombay, Calcutta and other big cities on concessional rates. But, for the last two to four years, the rates have been increased so much that not many tourists are booking the bogies. With the result that Kashmir has been deprived of the benefit which it used to get earlier and now the bogies are running empty. Previously, the tourist used to visit Kashmir on less fare but increase in the charges for bogies has created difficulties. Whatever concession you have given is negligible. I would request you that the facility of the bogies at concessional rates be restored.

I want to say something about railway reservation in Srinagar. The railway reservation office there is in the hands of a private concern. I want to know the reason therefor. The person who is running the office is indulging in large-scale corruption and is harassing the people. Businessmen, shawl merchants and fruit-growers all become victims of his high-handedness. On making an enquiry, I found that he has filed a writ-petition in the High Court to prevent you to open an office there. I request Shri Scindia to take over that office of railway reservation from the private agency so that people may be benefited.

Finally, I want to request that in winter many people from our area go to Calcutta for trade. Himgiri Express which leaves for Calcutta reaches there late in the night, which exposes them to thieves and other anti-social elements, who rob them. Recently, many of the shawl-merchants were even murdered. During night after arrival they neither get any tonga, taxi etc. to reach their destination nor is there any security. *Goondas* loot them and even murder them. I can give you names of many persons who could not reach Calcutta because they were murdered. I request you to change the arrival time of Himgiri Express at Calcutta because it is unsuitable, so as to solve the problem.

[Shri Abdul Rashid Kabuli]

With these few words, I conclude and hope that the hon. Minister will consider and solve the issues raised by me.

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI
(Bhandara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the supplementary demands for grants for Railways and take over of Futwah-Islampur Light Railway in public interest.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the time of discussion on the Railway Budget in the House I alongwith many hon Members had drawn the attention of the hon. Minister towards the problems of our area. The first demand is that as the Railway do not get adequate allocation from the Planning Commission to meet the demands, the Minister for Railway should be appointed as Member of the Planning Commission. Otherwise, the Planning Commission should provide adequate allocations to the Railways so that the problems are solved.

Railways have made much progress after the Minister of State for Railways took over the charge of the Railways. We hope that he will definitely pay attention to remove the shortcomings in the Railways department. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards electrification. Bhusaval-Nagpur-Durg line was given priority in the Sixth Five Year Plan but unfortunately, as Shri Mushran has also said, whosoever becomes the Minister, diverts all the schemes towards his own area. Similarly, priority of Bhusaval-Nagpur-Durg line was changed and that priority was given to Itarsi-khandwa-Bhusaval line. I would request the Minister to pay attention at least to Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The electrification work to connect Howrah-Bombay line has been completed. The work on Bhusaval-Nagpur-Durg is pending. Therefore, Bhusaval-Nagpur line should be completed as per the priority allotted to it. For the electrification work, the Railways had hired a building in Nagpur on a rent of Rs. 15000 and opened an office there. In spite of this, priority has been changed and the office has been shifted to Allahabad and some other place. Because of this, the staff working there would face difficulty. I

request you to pay attention to this aspect, so that the work of electrification could be done smoothly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the time at my disposal being short, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Problems of my area. My first submission is that the passenger train running from Tarori to Tunsar Road should be extended to Bhandara Town. Railways will not have to spend anything extra on it because the coaches and engines which remain berthed at Tunsar Road the whole day can be taken to Bhandara Town. This will, on the one hand, increase your income and on the other hand, people will get the transport facility.

Secondly, Gitanjali Express runs between Howrah and Bombay. We have been demanding for quite a long time that it should have a stoppage at Gondia. It is said that it is a super fast train and the distance between two halts must be more than 300 kms and it will stop only at big stations. But you see the distance between Bilaspur, Raipur and Durg. I think the distance between Durg and Raipur should be just 40 kms. but this train stops at Durg, Bilaspur and Raipur also. Gondia is a big industrial city and is contiguous to Adivasi areas. I had discussed this matter with the Railway General Manager. I request that it should stop at Gondia also. There has been a long standing demand for this.

It was also requested that Maharashtra Express which starts from Nagpur should be started from Gondia. If there is any difficulty in doing so, then one coach should be added for Maharashtra Express to the local trains running from Gondia to Nagpur which may be connected with Maharashtra Express at Nagpur. Sarnath Express runs between Durg and Varanasi. It was demanded that it should be started from Nagpur. I think there should not be any difficulty in doing so because on the one hand people will get a facility and on the other hand the Railways will also add to their income. The demand for converting Gondia-Jabalpur narrow gauge line into broad gauge is a long standing one. It is a 100 year old line and the engines and the coaches have become useless. The culverts are also in a bad shape. Two years back, a major

accident had occurred there in which more than 300 people had died. The then Railway Minister, Shri Abdul Ghani Khan Choudhury had visited the site and had announced that this line would be converted into broad gauge line during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The line runs through Adivasi areas and I hope you would make allocation in the next Budget for it.

I also request that Gitanjali Express and Ahmedabad Express should run 7 days in a week. Gitanjali Express runs between Howrah and Bombay and Ahmedabad Express runs between Howrah and Ahmedabad. Steel and industrial cities like Bhilai and Rourkela are on this line. People have been demanding for quite a long time that these two trains should run on all the seven days of the week. It is told that there is shortage of rakes and coaches. These should be provided so that both the trains could run on all the 7 days of the week. It is being said that Chhatisgarh Express is going to be made a super fast train. I request the hon. Minister that if it is to be made a super fast train, it should be made so between Delhi and Nagpur and there should be no change in the halts between Nagpur-Bilaspur.

With these words I support the supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) and conclude my speech.

***SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY** (Coimbatore) : Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to make a few suggestions on the Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Railways for 1985-86. I need not say that railway development is the basis for the economic and industrial development of the country. I demand that adequate funds must be allocated for the construction of railway lines in backward areas of the country, as that will alone contribute for helping the people to go over the poverty line.

In 1981 the Railway Board sanctioned the Karur-Dindigul BG line in Tamil Nadu. So far a paltry sum of Rs. 9 crores or so has been spent on this project. This

railway project, when completed, will remove the perennial backwardness in these parts of Tamil Nadu. Unfortunately the process of implementation is going at snail's pace because of paltry allocation of funds. I suggest that substantial funds should be allocated for Karur-Dindigul project for its early completion.

Coimbatore is known as the Manchester of India with hundreds of textile mills and foundries. There has been a long standing demand for an overbridge at North Coimbatore. The people of this industrial city are greatly harassed for want of this overbridge. I request the hon. Minister of State for Railways that this overbridge at North Coimbatore must be constructed at the earliest. Similarly, the goods yard at Coimbatore needs expansion, if the transport bottleneck is to be removed. I suggest that this should also be taken up by the Railway Board. In Ondipudur an overbridge is a must in order to facilitate the to and fro movement of Air passengers because the Suler Airport is on the other side of the Railway line. At Kurichi also the Railways should construct an overbridge in order to meet the needs of the industrial estate that has come here.

Our hon Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi is committed to the economic progress of tribal people. Bearing this in mind, the Mettupalayam—Udhagamandalam Railway line must be renewed and more trains should be run to this hill station. In fact, I would suggest even trolley-train from Mettupalayam to Udhagamandalam.

Coimbatore must have Yatri Nivas, as is being planned by the Northern Railways in New Delhi. The present rest house in Coimbatore is insufficient. I demand that 100 room Yatri Nivas must be constructed by the Southern Railways at Coimbatore.

The Mangalore Mail goes to Madras via Podanur. This deprives opportunities for deprives many passengers from Coimbatore, who wish to go to Madras. The Mangalore Mail must go to Madras via Coimbatore.

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri C. K. Kuppaswamy]

Similarly, from Coimbatore to Palani the track must be electrified so that electric trains can be run to Palani from Coimbatore. Millions of devotees go to Palani from Coimbatore and electric trains will ensure free flow of traffic to Palani.

I will now come to Tiruppur Junction. Tiruppur is known all over the world for hosiery products. There are more than 1500 hosiery units in Tiruppur. We are exporting hosiery products to several countries abroad. When the population of Tiruppur was 30,000, the overbridge at Tiruppur station was constructed. Now it has become dilapidated. The population of Tiruppur has also gone to 3 lakhs. I want that the Tiruppur Overbridge must be rebuilt immediately. The Jayanthi Janata and Kerala-Karnataka Express Trains halt at Tiruppur when they are going up to Delhi. But these trains do not halt at Tiruppur when they are coming from Delhi. I want that these trains should halt at Tiruppur at least for two minutes. This will greatly help the hosiery products manufacturers who go to Delhi for trade purposes.

Similarly, I also demand that between Tiruppur and Coimbatore there should be electric traction and electric trains should be run between these two industrial centres of Tamil Nadu. Both Tiruppur and Coimbatore traders do not get goods wagons in adequate numbers. There is loss on account of delay in the allotment of wagons and that too insufficient numbers. I want that the required number of wagons should be allotted to trade and industry in Tiruppur and Coimbatore.

With these words I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railways.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, still there are some hon Members to speak. At 2 O' clock the hon. Minister will reply to the debate. I propose that we may skip the lunch hour today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I hope that the House agrees to this suggestion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER : It is accepted. We skip the lunch hour today.

Now, Mr. Soundararajan.

SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN (Sivakasi) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to express my views on the Supplementary Demands for Railways.

The Supplementary Demands are for spending money on certain on-going projects and also for starting three new projects during the current year.

The Supplementary Demand is to the tune of Rs. 433 crores. Out of this amount of Rs. 433 crores, the Railway Ministry has allotted Rs. 20.85 crores for South Central Railway, Rs. 60.63 crores for Western Railway, Rs. 22.29 crores for Eastern Railway, 23.6 crores for Central Railway and Rs. 23.90 crores for South Eastern Railway, and Rs. 27.46 crores for Northern Railway. But the Southern Railway is allotted only Rs. 12.29 crores. Not only this; upto 1984 the total area of rail route is 61,460 kilometres. Out of these, in Tamil Nadu the rail route is only up to 3,894 km. This clearly shows that instead of reducing the regional imbalances, it is increasing the regional imbalances. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Railway Ministry follows any norms while fixing the priority to some of the on-going projects. If so, what are they? I want to know this from the hon. Minister.

Sir, Madras City is one of the four metropolitan cities in India. Nearly 60 lakh people are living there, nearly 10 lakh people are coming to and going from Madras daily. There is a rapid transport system in Madras City which is being developed. The total cost of this project is Rs. 53 crores. But so far only Rs. 5 crores have been allotted in the General Budget for Railways, but nothing is allotted in the Supplementary Demands. So,

request the Railway Minister to allot more funds to this rapid transport system. The Manamadurai-Rameswaram bridge work is more important because it is this bridge which connects the mainland of India with that island. Rameswaram is a holy place in India. Most of the pilgrims are coming from north to the South to visit Rameswaram to worship Lord Rama. The total cost of this bridge repair work is Rs. 50.50 lakhs. Only Rs. one lakh is allotted in the General Budget for Railways. So, I request the hon. Member to allot the entire amount for the speedy repair work of that bridge. Not only that. The total estimate of doubling of track between Tambaram and Chengalpattu is Rs. 16.9 crores. Only Rs. one lakh was allotted in the Railway Budget and Rs. 20 lakhs in the Supplementary Demands. This is not at all enough. So, I request the Minister to allot more funds to that project. Jolarpattai-Salem Section is one of the heaviest utilised double line section. So, there is a proposal to provide two intermediate block huts between these two lengthy block sections. The total estimate for this is Rs. 62.8 lakhs. Only Rs. one lakh is allotted in the Railway Budget, but nothing is allotted in the Supplementary budget. I request the Minister to allot more funds to this.

Then there are a few electrification works that are going on in the suburban area of Madras. Thiruvallur-Arkonam, Madras - Arkonam, Arkonam - Renigunta, Arkonam-Jolarpet, Villivakkam-Pattabhiram these are the small electrification works. I request the Minister to take immediate steps to take up the early completion of these works.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Bangalore, has imposed certain operational restrictions of superfast Vaigai Express. Since the existing distance of 545 metres between distant and home signals is less than the emergency breaking distance, there is a proposal to shift the distant signals to one kilometre. The estimated total amount for this comes to Rs. 50.60 lakhs. I request the Minister to allot funds to this.

There are two superfast trains starting from Egmore Railway station in Madras.

One is Vaigai Express and the other is Pallavan Express. In these two superfast Express trains there is no AC Chair car. There is a longstanding demand for the AC Chair Car facility. So, I request the hon. Minister to take immediate steps to attach two AC Chair Car coaches for these two Express trains. Thank you very much.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY (Ballia): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude for allowing me to speak on the supplementary Demand for Railways. I support the supplementary Demand presented by the hon. Minister of State for Railways and congratulate him because ever since he took over, the Railways have been improving constantly. Alongwith it I want to submit certain suggestions and also the problems of my area.

13.05 hrs.

[**SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN**
in the Chair.]

There is a metre gauge railway line in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. In the views of the people there, development of Eastern Uttar Pradesh is possible only when Varanasi-Chapra metre gauge line is converted into broad gauge line. I would like to submit that there is no big factory in Ghazipur, Ballia and other parts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, whereas the government of Uttar Pradesh is prepared to give every facility to industrialists to set up factories there; but in the absence of broad gauge line no industrialist is willing to set up any factory there. In the reply given to a question asked by me, I was told that it was not possible to construct a broad gauge line there because it was financially not viable. A survey was conducted in 1980 in this connection. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that only after construction of the broad gauge line, he will come to know whether the line is financially viable or not. You will have to bear some losses in order to ensure development of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Unless you convert Varanasi-Chapra-Odiyar metre gauge line into broad gauge line, it is

[Shri Jagannath Choudhary]

not possible to set up any industry there. Educated youngmen of the area are unemployed and are without any means of livelihood. In these circumstances I would appeal to you again that without keeping the aspect of profit or loss in mind Banaras-Odiyar-Chhapara metre gauge line may be converted into broad gauge line which would help in the development of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and prove beneficial to lakhs of poor people. In this connection several appeals have been made to the hon. Railway Minister and hon. Prime Minister. I again appeal to consider this matter seriously and leave aside the aspect of profit and loss. I shall be grateful to you for that.

The work on conversion of Varanasi-Bhatni metre gauge line into broad gauge line is in progress. According to my information, this work should have been completed by 1985, but due to carelessness or certain other reasons this work could not be completed. It is also not known when this work is likely to be completed. I desire that this work may be got completed without any further delay. The trains running on Varanasi-Chhapra metre gauge Railway line do not run according to any time schedule. Time schedule of trains should be strictly adhered to. There is lack of cleanliness and electricity arrangements in the trains running on Varanasi-Ballia section. Sometimes I class compartments are attached and sometimes the trains do not have I class compartments. We have to go to Ballia by that train. I would like to say special attention should be paid towards it. Production in the Diesel Locomotive Works at Maduhadih in Varanasi is going down day by day instead of increasing. It appears that Factory may close down some day. I desire that special attention should be paid towards this factory so that its production may increase instead of decreasing. As the time is short, I would like to appeal to the hon. Railway Minister that the suggestions given by me particularly about conversion of Varanasi-Odiyar-Chhapra metre gauge line into broad gauge line may be accepted.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV
(Morena) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support

the Budget presented by the hon. Minister of Railways and would like to congratulate him for the improvements effected in the Railway Department. Provision has been made in the Budget in respect of many railway lines, but not a single paisa has been provided in this Budget for the Gwalior-Shiupur line. The train running on this line is called 'bullock cart' here. People say that bullock cart is coming. I have made several submissions to Shri Scindia about this slow train. It is called bullock cart because people can entrain and detrain at the place of their convenience. There is no station enroute. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister that it may be converted into a broad gauge line.

Besides, railway line from Shiupur should be extend by 80 Kms. upto Bara, as was demanded by Shri Dhariwal. You will neither find drinking water nor electricity on any of the stations on this route. I request the hon. Minister that proper attention may be paid to the improvement of these stations and the existing Shiupur train which terminates at Shiupur may be extended upto Bara. As the population of Shiupur is about one lakh, it is necessary to expand the railway station also.

In addition, on Delhi-Gwalior section there is a station named Banmore which has been developed industrially to a great extent, but there is no over-bridge as yet. I request the hon. Minister that arrangements may be made to construct an over-bridge there early.

At Morena Station reservation quota for only one seat is available by each train. You can yourself imagine the situation if both husband and wife want to travel from there together. I, therefore, request that reservation quota at Morena may be increased to such an extent that husband and wife alongwith an attendant can travel together.

I want to make one more submission. In Chambal Division lakhs of acres of rough and rugged land is lying waste. Government has acquired land of farmers at many places to set up coach factories and in this process it has paid compensation worth crores of rupees. I would request

you that land of Chambal Division may be utilised for setting up a Railway coach factory. Here, lakhs of acres of land is lying waste and you will not have to incur much amount for it. Besides, the local population will get employment and other facilities and decoit problem will also be solved.

In the end, I would like to request that a new railway line may be laid from Ambah to Dholpur-Sirmathura-Karouli-Keladevi-Sawai Madhopur. With these words I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikaballapura) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I feel privileged to support the Supplementary Demand for Grant in respect of the Budget (Railway) for 1985-86.

The work undertaken by the Indian Railways in South India is very meagre. In North India new lines have been laid and conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge have been undertaken. Regarding new lines, conversion and electrification South India finds no place in the map of Indian Railway. This disparity between North India and South India should be narrowed by the Hon. Minister of Railways.

The food that is provided is of very low quality. Especially in trains like Grand Trunk Express and Karnataka Express the quality of food has deteriorated very much. Each plate of food costs six rupees plus tax. But neither quality nor quantity of food has improved. I hope that the Hon. Minister would take all necessary steps to provide tasty food to the passengers.

Thousands of workers are working on daily wages. Their working conditions have to be improved. They should be absorbed as permanent employees by the railway Department after a prescribed period of service. At present their conditions are miserable and they do not have any security. They must be made regular employees at the earliest.

Karnataka Express which runs between Delhi and Bangalore is only a bi-weekly

train. This is a high density line and there is a long standing demand by the people of Karnataka to make it a daily train. So far no action has been taken in this regard. I believe that our youthful Minister Shri Madhavarao Scindia will make Karnataka Express a daily train. This train does not stop at Gowribidanur which is a big town and taluk head quarters. It is a business centre and hundreds of people would be benefited in this train stops here. Hence, I request the Gen. Minister to see that Karnataka Express halts at Gowribidanpur.

A small train with only two bogies runs between Bangalore and Bangarpet. Bangalore is the garden city of India and Bangarpet is big business centre. It is a very big railway junction too. Therefore the number of bogies in this train has to be increased. Instead, there is a move to cancel this train permanently. This train should continue to run and with increased number of bogies. This is a very convenient train for the people of Kolar district. In fact, this is the only railway line in the entire district. Kolar produces huge quantity of potato. Kolar Gold Field and Bharat Earch Movers Limited are situated in this district. This district is backward socially and economically. Therefore, instead of cancelling any train some more new trains have to be introduced between Bangalore and Bangarpet and they should be extended to Marikuppam. This metre gauge line should be converted into broad gauge and extend upto Tirupati.

Between Jolarpet and Kuppam and between Bangalore and Krishnarajapuram the railway line is double. But there is not double line between Krishnarajapuram and Kuppam. This work of doubling the line must be expedited.

A train for Guntakal leaves Bangalore at about 6 p.m. This is not at all convenient to those who want to go to Mantralaya Adavani, Guntakut etc. Passengers to these places would like to leave Bangalore in the night. Hundreds of passengers wait in vain in the Bangalore bus stand daily at 9 P.M. to go towards Mantralaya. Hence the timing of this train should be changed. It should leave Bangalore at about 9 P.M.

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

[Shri V. Krishna Rao]

An axle factory has been given to Bangalore in Yelahanka. Here, regarding employment the local unemployed should be given preference.

The work of broad gauge line between Mysore and Bangalore is going on at snail's pace. The hon. Minister is aware of the fact that these two cities need a broad gauge link immediately. This is also a very high density route. I plead with the Government to complete this conversion to broad gauge line forth-with. Sir, I thank you for giving me this chance to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Basudeb Acharia. The entire time allotted for your Party has already been taken. So, you do not have your Party time. Please be brief.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Only ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. Maximum four minutes.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, I welcome the nationalisation of the Futwah-Islampur Light Railway Line. This was a long-standing demand of the people of this area. I urge upon the hon Minister to give an assurance that, after nationalisation, all those workers and employees who are engaged in this line will be treated as railway employees, that their interests will be protected, that their past services will be considered and that they will be allowed to enjoy all other facilities which are being enjoyed by other railway employees.

In this connection I would like to say that there is one line in South-Eastern Railway in West Bengal, the Bankura-Damodar river railway line, the BDR line. The management of this line was taken over a long time back. This line passes through rural Bengal. So, I request the hon. Minister to look into this, and I hope that he will come next time, most probably in the Budget Session, with a Bill to nationalise this Bankura-Damodar River railway

line. The management of this railway line was taken over by the Government of India long back.

Sir, various sections of this House have expressed that more allocation should be given for the Railways, because Railways is the biggest public undertaking in our country. But the fact is that the allocations in the Five Year Plan are gradually being reduced. From the First Five Year Plan to even the Seventh Five Year Plan the allocations for the Railways are being reduced.

In the First Five Year Plan, the percentage was 11.05. In the Second Five Year Plan, it was 15.43%. In the Third Five Year Plan it was 15.45%. Then in the Annual Plan for 1968-79 it was 7.69%. In the Fourth Five Year Plan it was 5.92%. In the Fifth Five Year Plan it was 5.97%. In the Sixth Five Year Plan it was 5.23%. In the Seventh Five Year Plan also, I think it is not more than 6%.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I have just started Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Every Member is taking only two or three minutes, not only you, even from the rulling benches.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA : The Sixth Five Year Plan was called a rehabilitation plan. Why ? Because when this plan was started, 14000 kms. of railway track was over-aged; For as much as 4000 kms. of railway track there were fractures. So, replacement of over-aged railway stock was given priority during the Sixth Five Year Plan. But when the Sixth Five Year Plan was completed, what is the position ? From 14000 kms. of over-aged railway track, it has now increased to 22000 kms.; from 4000 kms. of fractures to 8000 kms. of railway fractures,

Almost all steam locomotives have become over-aged except a few. The last steam engine which came out of the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works was in the year of 1972. The Government of India, Ministry of Railways have changed the traction policy from steam locomotives to

electrification. But what is the position of electrification? Out of 61000 kms. of railway track, now only 6000 kms. that too in the broad gauge—in the metre gauge only 1% of railway track, has been electrified. In the Seventh Five Year Plan only 3600 kms. are to be electrified. The National Transport Policy Committee have recommended that at least 1000 kms. of railway track should be electrified...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Then what will happen? After 2000 AD when all the steam locomotives will be phased out diesel traction is costlier; electric traction is cheaper—may I know what is the man-power planning after the phasing out of these locomotives?

As per one estimate made by the Railway Reforms Committee, about two lakhs of railway employees and workers will be rendered surplus. Is there any planning? What will happen to 22000 of workers who are engaged in coal and ash handling? They may be contract workers; but they have been doing the perennial nature of job since 20 years. They belong to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe community of our country. They will be thrown out of employment when this steam locomotive will be phased out.

Sir, another important point which I think none of the members have spoken about is in connection with the policy of recognition to the unions in the Railways. There are two Federations—NFIR and AIRF. Previously there was one Federation—the AIRF. Then another Federation, a *Chamcha* Federation was created by the Railways, by the Government of India.

These two Federations do not represent the Railway employees. They do not really represent the Railwaymen. They are not the real representatives of the railway workers. So what is needed is a change in the policy of recognition of the unions in the Railways. They should adopt the policy of recognition by secret ballot. By secret ballot this recognition to the Union should be given.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the supplementary demand for grant presented in the House by Shri Madhavrao Scindia, Minister of State in the Department of Railways. Through you, I would like to appeal to the Planning Commission that more funds may be allocated to the Railway as the present allocations are quite inadequate. Railways are one of the biggest industries of the country. In this industry new coaches/wagons and new railway engines are manufactured and new railway lines are laid and many other new works are undertaken. The Surat-Bhusaval line in Gujarat-Maharashtra passes through Adivasi area, but the people of this area have never seen new coaches. They have also not been provided with other modern train facilities. The same old coaches are in use there. The same facilities, which were available to them before independence, are continuing even now. I would urge the hon. Minister to improve those facilities further.

Lakhs of workers work in the Railways. The number of railway employees and officers is also quite large. but reservation quota is not being adhered to in the matter of recruitment of officers and employees. I had made a submission in 1982 about the recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Railway, but it has not been made. So far General candidates are taken on the plea that suitable candidates are not available. It is not proper. I request that reservation quota meant for them may be filled so that they can get the benefit.

My second submission is that a II Class bogie may be attached to Train Nos. 113 and 114 from Amalner to Surat for the convenience of passengers of Surat-Bhusaval line, who wish to go to Bombay. Similarly, a bogie may also be attached to the train from Surat to Indore-Bombay. Bombay is the capital of Maharashtra and people are required to go to Bombay. Only one bogie is attached from Dhulia for Bombay and as such there is a long standing demand of the passengers to provide another II class bogie and increase the number of berths in I class from 8 to 20. This is very essential.

[Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit]

Besides, I would like to request the hon. Minister, through you, to provide gatemen round the clock on the unmanned level crossings on the Surat-Bhusaval railway line. Similarly, I would request him to interduce another train between Ahmedabad and Howrah because the people living on the Surat-Bhusaval line have little chance of getting a seat in other trains going to Howrah. I would, therefore, suggest that a bogie be attached to 78 up train at Surat and reattached to Bombay—Howrah train at Bhusaval. This would provide convenience to the passengers living on Surat-Bhusaval line. If this is done the people would be thankful to him and I would also thank him.

In the end, regarding catering service I would like to point out that though the new packing appears to be good but pulses, rice and chapati get mixed up inside the packet. I would, therefore, request that necessary improvements be made in it. With these words, I thank the hon. Minister and would like him to give serious thought to the points raised by me and pay special attention to increase facilities in the Railways. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways). Besides, I would submit that in view of the points raised in the House, the Budget should be increased to enable the Railways to meet the demands of every area in all respects.

I would like to draw your attention particularly, to the use of Hindi in the Railways. As I understand, an increment is given for the use of national language in order to promote the use thereof but in spite of that, Hindi is not being used properly.

Secondly, Railway is the cheapest means of transport today for people belonging to middle and lower classes. Railways should, therefore, reach the rural areas. As our young Prime Minister had stated, we have to preserve our traditions and work accor-

dingly which helps in maintaining the unity of the country and railways play a significant role in this respect. Therefore, we may develop means of transport keeping in view the requirements of the country. There is need for Railways to reach rural areas particularly, the Harijan-Adivasi areas. Provision for metre gauge line should be made if broad gauge cannot be provided. The expansion of railway service would help in transportation of essential commodities at cheaper rates and thereby check rising prices.

My most important point is regarding Bilaspur Railway station in Madhya Pradesh. The station was established in 1896 and there has been no improvement in its condition since then. This station was constructed keeping in view the population of the area at that time but how the facilities at the station are not in proportion to its population. I would, therefore, request the Government to provide more retiring room and reservation facilities at the station.

I would like to point out one thing in particular regarding Bilaspur Division. This is the most prominent Division of South-Eastern Railway. This Division earned a revenue of Rs. 20 crores during 1983-84. Out of two lakh employees in this zone, 10,000 are engaged in Bilaspur Division itself. Bhilai and Korba lie on either side of this Division, and there are a number of cement factories and spinning mills there whose thread is exported to Japan. Besides, there are several Dolomite, Coal and Aluminium based factories. Electricity, water and other essential things are available there. Government had informed this House that it proposes to establish tenth Railway Zone in the country. I would request the Government to set it up in Bilaspur so as to extend the benefit to the people of this area. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that out of 55 Divisions in the country, this Division alone loads 8000 wagons of coal every day, which comes to about 14 per cent of total loading in the country. You can very well imagine the size of coal reserves in that area. I would, therefore, request the Government to establish the tenth Railway Zone at Bilaspur.

I want to make another submission regarding lack of retiring rooms and proper reservation facilities at the stations. I want to draw your attention to the casual attitude of Railway employees, particularly the conductors, who are often not available in time for assistance when the passengers without reservation force their entry into upper class during day travel. When the unauthorized passengers are told to leave they say that sleepers are reserved for night travel only and during the day there is no reservation. The genuine passengers do not get any assistance whatsoever for personal safety, reservation and strict compliance of Railway rules and regulations.

I would like to draw your attention to the plight of the Railway colonies. We discuss a lot about improvements in the working of Railways but the Railways department is least bothered about the colonies in which the employees reside. The condition of roads, is bad, there is no sanitation and no proper medical facilities, the department does not pay any attention to it. There was a time when Railway hospitals were thought to be good but today they are without proper medical facilities. I would like to cite an example, Nela Railway station is in Bilaspur Division. One can go there only on foot or on horse back, as there is no motorable road there. Attention has been drawn to it many times but in vain. So far as Railway colonies and other public services under Railways is concerned, whether it is about roads, hospitals, sanitation or employees quarters, no other department Railways except the can help in improving it.

I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister of State particularly to the condition of Kalinga Express which serves as a link between Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. There is no pantry-car in the said train which causes great inconvenience to the passengers. A Pantry-car should be attached to this train and it should be made Super-fast. Indore-Bilaspur Express should also be converted into a Super-fast train, as was demanded by Shri Mushran.

I want to bring to the notice of Shri Scindia the plight of thousands of rural workers who depart from Nizamuddin station after collecting their hard earned

money. I have myself seen how petty pedlars force them to purchase those goods and relieve them of their cash by playing all types of tricks. The poor workers cry for help but even the police do not help them and remain inactive in this matter. This needs immediate attention.

In the end I would suggest that special coaches be manufactured for long distance trains and, if possible, necessary equipments for Family Planning operations should be provided therein to encourage those who are interested and also provide them special facilities in order to achieve the target in this respect.

With these words I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways)

Rajasthan is a backward state, where the work of laying new railway lines has been slow after independence. We had demand that Rajasthan being the most backward State, a separate zone of that State should be created. The Railway Department has taken a decision in this respect, but it has not been implemented so far. Therefore, we want that a separate zone for our State should be created so that our demand for the railway lines is fulfilled. We have been making this demand for the last five to six years. The survey of Kota to Deogarh, Todo Raisingh to Nathdwara and from Lambia to Beawar has been undertaken by the Railway Department but there is no information of further action. No further survey of any line has been undertaken and nor has any decision been taken whether the lines would be commissioned or not. This question is being raised for the last six years. It is true, as the hon. Members have said, that new railway lines are laid and new works are undertaken in the area to which the Railway Minister belongs. As no one belonging to Rajasthan became the Railway Minister till now, Rajasthan has been ignored in the matter of railway facilities. However, I hope that Shri Madhavrao Scindia, who belongs to our neighbouring state, would pay special attention to railway facilities in Rajasthan.

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

The railway lines mentioned by me and particularly the line from Kota to Deogarh should be commissioned at the earliest so that it is linked with Udaipur and the train service is extended upto Ahmedabad.

In this way the whole area will be covered. Out of the railway lines of which survey has been undertaken, at least one line should be commissioned so that we could go to the people with the claim that we have been able to get at least one railway line commissioned for which we have been pleading for the last six years. At least one railway line out of the three lines should be commissioned.

Gulabpura is a big industrial town. There is considerable freight and passenger traffic in that station but it is still a flag station. We had pleaded a number of times that it should be converted into a fullfledged station. The D.R.M. has also visited and rooked into the matter. Negotiations regarding the land have also been held but the matter has not been pursued further. Therefore, I request that immediate action should be taken to convert the Gulabpura flag station into a fullfledged station so that facilities are made available to the people of that area.

Similarly, a station at Bhojras has been constructed between Khandwa and Ratlam which is one kilometre away from the village. As it is quite far away, all the passengers entrain at the Gulabpura station. So, in its place a station at Rupaheli should be constructed and the Gulabpura flag station, where a part time employee issues tickets, should be converted into a fullfledged station. A sizeable number of passengers entrain from that station. There should be a halt for both the 581 up and 582 Down trains at that station to enable the long distance passengers to avail of the facility.

Previously, Meenakshi Express used to run three days in a week. Later on it was increased to five days. But there is no other train except this Express train in that area.

So Meenakshi Express should be run all the seven days for the benefit of the people. A I class bogie should also be attached to it.

Similarly, there is a passenger train upto Ajmer which is converted into Pink City Udaipur Express beyond that station. It has been extended upto Udaipur. There is need to run it daily because of heavy traffic on this route. Passengers face great difficulty in finding room in this train. If it is run all the seven days then certainly the people will be relieved.

In the Chetak Express train running between Udaipur and Delhi, the reservation quota for Bhilwara is very less i.e., four I class and ten II class berths. Bhilwara is a very big industrial city. There is need to increase the reservation quota for Bhilwara. As I had stated on a previous occasion, one bogie from Khandwa used to be attached to another train at Chittorgarh. But that bogie has been cancelled. This has resulted in great inconvenience to the people of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara. That bogie should be restored so that the people of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara avail of the reservation facility.

These are few of my suggestions. But I would like to submit that we have been making demand for broad gauge lines from Kota to Deogarh, Toda Raisingh to Nathdwara and Lambia to Beawar. At least demand for one railway line may be conceded so that we may be able to say to the people of our area and state that the Railway Minister has sanctioned this line on our request. I know there is paucity of funds in the budget but while you are sanctioning railway lines for Madhya Pradesh and other places, at least one railway line may be sanctioned for our area so that the people are able to march towards economic progress and industries are set up in that area. With these words I support the Demands.

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I come from the north-eastern zone where North-Frontier Railway is in operation. The eastern zone has been neglected in all respects. We have some

hopes now that our young Minister will take some revolutionary steps and this area would come up to be at par with the rest of the country at least in the matter of development of railways.

Siliguri-Alipurduar is connected by MG line. But in this metre gauge line, all the trains have been withdrawn and one Assam Link was diverted to broad gauge line from Gauhati to new Delhi. It is a good thing. But Sir, on this route i.e. Siliguri to Alipurduar Junction, most of the tea gardens are located. Tea industry, as you know, is a very profitable industry and it earns a lot of foreign exchange also. Without this train, all the tea chests are now coming to Calcutta by trucks. Because of the increased cost of the fare of the trucks, even the local tea prices have gone up. So, I request you to give special consideration to this particular line because it is the heartline of Duars and all the tea gardens are located on this route as the line touches almost all the tea gardens.

Metre gauge line from Siliguri-Alipurduar was already there. But now there is a new Station called New Alipurduar though the Alipurduar Junction is just four kilometres away. If this line from Gauhati were to be connected to this Alipurduar Junction, there would have been no need of having a new station. This Alipurduar Junction is a very important junction and it can handle ten to 12 trains at a time and yet this station is being neglected and deprived of its importance because the broad gauge line turns from New Alipurduar Station to Cooch Behar. So I request that this should be corrected and the broad gauge line should be connected with the Alipurduar Junction. Alipurduar Junction has got a divisional office of the NF Railway. But it is getting neglected day by day and the people of the entire area are very much disturbed because no train as such is touching the Junction itself. In Alipurduar itself, which is a small sub-divisional office, we have got five stations, but there are no trains. I request you once again to take special care about this Alipurduar Junction. After Partition, this junction was the serving main line to link with the rest of India. So this Alipurduar Junction is very very important from the point of

view of security, administration and in all respects because it serves as a link with Assam, Bhutan and Nepal. So special consideration should be given to this line.

I would like to mention just one more thing. Now we have got one line from Gauhati to Trivandrum. Labourers for working in the tea gardens are generally coming from the States of Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa. But these people have no direct link. So there has been a constant demand to have a train from Dibrugarh to Ranchi. I request you to kindly consider it. In your reply to my demand, you have stated that there is no line capacity. I wonder how you managed to have the line capacity from Gauhati to Trivandrum, which perhaps is the longest route. If you have some regard for these tea garden workers, you can easily adjust this thing and have a train from Dibrugarh to Ranchi. People of your State Madhya Pradesh, as also the people of Bihar and Orissa will be very happy if this train is given to them.

Lastly I would like to state that all the offices of the Divisional Office should be located in Alipurduar Junction. There is no cleanliness and the station is not at all kept well. This also should be looked into and every effort should be made to maintain the Station well. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKER (Kutch) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands presented by the Railway Minister. I fully agree that the aim of the Government is to utilise its resources for the maximum welfare of the people and they are making efforts to provide more facilities to the people. However, due to paucity of funds, it is possible that the demands of the people are not met fully. I agree with the suggestion given by Shri. Shah that Government should introduce a bond scheme to augment the resources. The people will themselves come forward to contribute to the bond scheme for the sake of their own facilities. The Government should implement the scheme without delay.

[Srimati Usha Thakkr]

Sir, now I will draw the attention of the Government, through you, to some of the problems. The commuters of Bombay are facing great difficulties. They are not getting the facilities of quick transportation to reach their office or place of work in time. The hon. Railway Minister should take appropriate action to solve their problems, as he is aware of their problems.

Sir, a super fast train runs from Bombay to Kutch which is my constituency. This is a commendable step of the Railways. The people of this area residing in Bombay use this train. But there is some inconvenience in this respect. This super fast train is a very long train but the platforms of the railway stations where it stop are smaller in size. As a result, the passengers feel great inconvenience in entraining and detraining. To avoid this inconvenience, the people of Samakhiali station residing in Bombay have collected donations for this purpose. I would request the Government to accept the donations from the people and solve the problems by contributing from its own funds also.

Sir, Kutch produces 60 per cent of the salt being produced in the whole of Gujarat. But there is shortage of wagons for transportation of salt from there. The Government should make available adequate number of wagons. This will result in increasing the production of salt and creation of more employment opportunities for the workers engaged in the production of salt.

There is a 50 km. long metre gauge line from Gandhidham to Bhuj. Survey of this line has been undertaken to convert it into a broadgauge line and the report has been forwarded to the Planning Commission for further consideration. I would request the Government to implement it without delay. Kutch being a border area of the country, it is necessary to develop it for the defence of the country. This aim can be fulfilled by providing more railway services.

Sir, there should be halt for Gandhidham Express at Vidyanagar—Anand station for

the convenience of the students of my constituency who go to Vidyanagar—Anand for studies.

Sir, a metre gauge train runs from Delhi to Kutch. The bogies attached to the train are in a very bad condition. At times the facilities of water and electricity are not available there. It becomes difficult for the passengers to travel in such a long distance train along with their families. Being a representative of those people, they come to me to narrate their travails. I would request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and issue appropriate instructions to remedy their problems.

Sir, I convey my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Now I conclude.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, these days the Railway Ministry is in the news for working efficiently. People make demand only when they think that some work will be done otherwise nobody raises any demand. I shall quote from the reports of our Committees.

[English]

The latest report of the Public Accounts Committee expects

“the Planning Commission to take note of the severe constraint of funds for meeting the developmental needs of the Railways. While the Committee would urge the Railways to raise maximum possible resources out of their own revenues, it would be necessary for the Planning Commission to find additional resources to bridge the gap between the outlays needed and the resources available to the extent possible.”

It has been repeated many times. This has been recommended also. The latest report of the Railway Convention Committee—Seventh Report—says

“the Committee are therefore distressed to note that despite substantial growth in the volume of passenger and goods traffic, the modernisation plan under-

taken by the Railways and the considerable increase in the freights and fares, therned contribution of the Railways to the nation's kitty has shown a declining trend over the years." Why ?

Why ? The Report further says :

"The question whether the hardening of interest rates and as a consequence the increase in cost of Government borrowing would justify increase in the dividend rate during the Sixth Plan is a matter on which the Committee would reserve their opinion till the views of the Ministry of Railways get crystallised in the final Memorandum proposed to be submitted by them. The Committee would like to point out at this stage that if the public sector has to attain the commanding heights of the economy, it is inescapable that the nation's largest public undertaking spares no effort to generate adequate resources for its development and expansion."

[*Translation*]

I suggest that the Railways should levy cess. That way you will be able to increase the income. You try your best to increase the income, I agree, but it is not increasing. But there is one thing. This is your report.

[*English*]

I will quote, but only small relevant portion from the Advance Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for 1982-83 on the Railways. They say :

"Despite all these measures, the value of claims preferred and accepted had been on the increase specially after 1977-78. The number of claims preferred for loss and damage had increased from 4.6 lakhs to 7.4 lakhs between 1977-78 and 1981-82. In absolute terms the value of claims accepted, Rs. 14.3 crores in 1977-78 increased to Rs. 19.9 crores in 1981-82."

[*Translation*]

Everywhere there are claims and mis-management. But I agree that the work being done at present raises the hope that there will be some improvement in the Railways. Regarding Planning Commission, I would say that Railways being a commercial undertaking, the biggest in the country as well as in Asia and being number two in the world, why should it approach the Planning Commission and submit its demands to it ? It should take loans and meet the people's demands. I had written only for one train and I want that you should pay some attention towards that. As I could not meet you, you may kindly look into it. I had requested for Ranakpur Express which is a local train and the area is also Adivasi dominant area. You also belong to that area. The people of the area work in factories in Ahmedabad and other places. There are 6 cement factories in the entire Rajasthan. I want that arrangement should be made to stop Ranakpur Express at Chamberi as that will provide a big facility to the people there. People from Pali, my constituency, live there and a station is being constructed there. Now some new Divisional Manager seems to have come in Jodhpur. Earlier, the post was being manned by Thakur Saheb. I do not know how he worked because he has left all the works incomplete. If this work is completed, only then it will be of any use. If Shri Scindia once accompanies me to that place, people will come to know about his capacity to work and will be pleased also. If you see the plan and find it suitable, then please sanction Rs. 2 lakhs. That will serve our purpose. I do not want to say much. It is a 100 year old Act and the Minister is young. I, therefore, want that the 100 year old Act should be changed. It being an old Act, all the rules and regulations are not covered by the Act. I, therefore want that the Act should be changed.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, my constituency and the State Jammu and Kashmir, in mainly a hill area, and no other mode of transport except Railway is available to the people to go to other parts of the country.

[Shri Janak Raj Gupta]

It is true that the Railways have provided some facility there and I want to congratulate the hon. Minister that there has been improvement in the rail services, particularly the fact that the trains have become punctual.

16.00 hrs.

But there is need to bring about further improvement. You are aware that a large number of tourists visit our State and pilgrims also visit the temple of Vaishnodevi but the trains running for that area are not adequate and it takes much time to reach there. Passengers have to wait for a long time for reservation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the time is very short, I will confine myself to three or four points which are very important and would request the hon. Minister, through you, to pay attention to them. There is a train Jammu Mail which starts from Jammu. Earlier, three or four coaches used to be connected to the train for Bombay but for some time past these coaches are not being connected. This is resulting in lot of inconvenience to the people. I, therefore, request that this facility should be revived as no other train is available directly for Bombay. It is, therefore, very necessary that these coaches are attached to Frontier Mail.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, no AC chair car is connected with any train starting from Jammu. Though trains like Jammu Mail, Jhelum Express and Shalimar Express start from Jammu, no train has any AC Chair-car which causes inconvenience to the middle class passengers. One AC Chair-car should be provided with any of the trains starting from Jammu.

Sir, after this I want to say something about Jammu - Udhampur railway line. Though work on it has started but the speed with which it is being done, I do not think it can be completed in the next 20 years. I would, therefore, request that if you want to complete this line, maximum funds should be made available for it. There is a big army establishment in Udhampur and Udhampur in itself is a good town. I,

therefore, request that a reservation booking centre should be opened there. At present there is no booking centre there. Consequently, the people have to come to Jammu from Udhampur and they have to face a lot of inconvenience in doing so. Therefore a booking centre should be opened there for the convenience of the people of the area.

14.03 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Similarly, there is no means of transport available to the people of Jammu-Poonch area for coming to Jammu. They have to come to Jammu for their personal work and it takes them whole day to reach there. I request that at least a survey of the area should be conducted and a ten-year plan should be formulated so that the people of that area, who are till now deprived of the rail facility, are able to get this facility. The survey work, therefore, should be started immediately.

Mr. Chariman, Sir, no train leaves from Jammu in the morning and it is badly needed. It is a very important town and people coming from Kashmir or from Vaishnodevi temple reach there and find that there is no train available in the morning. As a result, they have to face much difficulty as they have to wait there till evening. It is, therefore, necessary to start a fast train from Jammu in the morning. If it is done, the local people as well other passengers will get a big facility.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are time and again signalling me to sit down. You seem to be quite impatient for this. I will, therefore, speak about two or three things and conclude. One is that there is no retiring room in Jammu. If you go there, you will find that pilgrims returning from Vaishnodevi or tourists coming back from Kashmir have no proper place to sit. They have to pass their time by the road side. They remain sitting there for the whole day. A retiring room, should therefore, be provided there.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to say one thing about hill-concession. Earlier, hill concession was available because of which

people used to come there in large number by availing of this facility. This facility has now been stopped. I request that it should be revived because we are dependent on tourism. A decline in the tourist traffic will affect the people there adversely. I, therefore, request that the facility of hill concession tickets should be restored.

Mr. Chairman, in the end I want to say that there are many districts in our State like Poonch, Rajouri, Bhandrwah, Doda and Kishtwar where people have no rail reservation facility. I, therefore, request that one reservation centre each in these places should be opened so that the people there also get some facility and have not to come to Jammu for this purpose. With these words I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) :
Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I support the Supplementary Demand for Grant in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1985-86. While speaking on the demands I would like to offer some suggestion for the consideration of our Government.

Most of the railway lines in our country are very old. They were laid about 200 years ago. We are pulling on with the same lines even after 39 years of our independence. The Britishers had laid these lines and the population at that time was around 30 crores. But now the population is nearing 80 crores. How can we manage with the same railway lines? It is not at all possible. That is why we find railway journey very difficult. Many times there would be no place in the compartment even to stand.

Similar difficulty is being faced in transportation of goods. Therefore it is hightime to have more and more new railway lines. In addition to laying new lines, conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge and electrification work should be taken up very speedily.

There is considerable degree of pilferage in the transportation of goods. When the

goods are to be transferred from metre gauge to broad gauge and vice-versa about ten percent of the goods are stolen. If this is avoided the nation can save at least 100 crores of rupees every year.

There was a comprehensive scheme of Conversion from Metre gauge to Broad gauge when Late Shri K. Hanumanthaiah was the railway Minister to link Kanyakumari and Kashmir via many important cities of India. I want to know what has happened to this plan.

The condition of the railway bogies is very bad. Even during day time it is not possible to sit in the seats because of bugs. Cleanliness is not at all maintained in the bogies. Most of the bogies are very old and they do not have proper doors and windows.

In some of the trains the number of bogies is being decreased as has been done to Bangalore bogies of Grant Trunk Express. Train fares have gone up manifold therefore it is very essential to provide better amenities to rail passengers and to ensure safe and comfortable journey.

We are seeing the same train which our grand fathers had seen. Neither the bogies nor their windows and doors are changed. Even the colour remains the same and the Stations remain unchanged.

One important thing I want the hon. Minister to look into the timings of trains. Most of the trains arrive late. Even Super fast Express trains like Karnataka Express, Kerala Express, reach the destination late by 4 or 5 hours. Some times the delay may go upto 24 to 30 hours. This is the state of affair of punctuality in rail timings. Late Shri Hanumanthaiah during his tenure as railway Minister used to take action even if the train was 5 minutes late. But unfortunately what is happening today?

Even after 39 years of Independence not a single line (new) has been sanctioned to Karnataka State and Kottur to Harihar lines are pending. Chitradurga to Raiadurga

*The Speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

[Shri G. S. Basavaraju]

line also did not take any progress. Chamaraja Nagar to Satyamangala and many other such new lines have remained as dreams for the people of Karnataka.

Electrification, doubling and conversion of line, are also neglected in my state. Conversion of Pangalore-Miraj line is being demanded since Independence. This is a very important line. This is a major link between Maharashtra and Karnataka. It will serve as a boon to the people of these two States. Therefore I request our Hon. Minister Shri Scindia to complete the conversion work between Bangalore and Miraj immediately and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Mr. Deputy - Speaker, Sir, the people of our country have got great expectations and hope that at the time of railway journey, better amenities and facilities will be made available to them by the young Railway Minister, Mr. Scindia. For that reason only we did not oppose the setting up of the coach factory at Kapurthala, and the extension of Taj Express up to Gwalior

(Interruption)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Extension up to Gwalior was done by Shri A. B. A. Ghani Khan Chaudhuri, Sir.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Whatever it may be, but we hope from you that more trains will be run for other areas also and that there will be more coach factories in the Seventh plan so that we do not feel that coaches are not available for the trains. I come from a most backward area of the country. I am from the North-Eastern region and I belong to the N. F. Railway area which is the concern of North Bengal, Sikkim and North-Eastern region. I think, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you will agree with me that this is the most neglected railway line in the country. The Railway Board and the Railway administration is giving step-motherly treatment to

the N. F. Railway. Today, the journey by N. F. Railway is horrible. People think that if they travel by train it is a nightmare for them. At any time there may be accident or the train may not move on time.

Regarding the timings, I may tell you that these are two trains from here for that area—Tinsukia Mail and Assam Mail. Can you tell me a single day within the last six months when these trains have run within the time? Never. They are always late by minimum two hours, or may be four hours or five hours or even full day. This is the position. This Tinsukia Mail has become a military train. Genuine passengers may not be allowed to move by this train...

(Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY. MUSHRAN : Sir, military people are also genuine.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Yes, you may say so, but the Minister will agree with me that this train has become a military special. So, just to avoid inconvenience to the passengers, you should make some other arrangement so that the people from the North-Eastern region, from the backward area, the most neglected part of the country, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people, when they move up to Calcutta and Delhi, they may not face such horrible situations. There is another Mail train, Darjeeling Mail, which runs from New Jalpaiguri ... (Interruptions). Yes, this is my experience and the experience of the people of North Eastern region (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Please say it with a smile.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : It is with anguish I say that Tinsukhia Mail and Darjeeling Mail seem to be running at the speed of a bullock cart.

[English]

This Darjeeling Mail covers a distance of 541 kilometres. The scheduled running time for this train is thirteen hours but if

you go through the actual running time during the last six months, you will find that this train has always been late by two to twelve hours. In the years 1950-52, its running time was eight hours but now according to the Railway's schedule, the running time is thirteen hours, that is, five hours more. So, this is the positions.

Another point I would like to mention is the Malda-Eklakshmi-Balurghat railway line. This line has become an election stunt by the Railway administration, by the Railway Ministry.

As soon as the election comes, they will put some money in the Railway Budget.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : It is a serious allegation.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Yes, it is definitely a serious allegation. It may be against Shri Scindia or any other Minister, and whatever it is, it is a fact that just before elections they put a few lakhs in the Budget. Then there will be some posters, big banners, some advertisements in the newspapers and just after the elections everything will be over and nothing will be there, except the foundation stones of the Eklakshmi Balurghat-Maldah Railway line.

For a long time we have been demanding double line from Maldah to Now Coochbehar, but you are delaying it. If you want more and more people to visit from Delhi or from Calcutta visit to this area by trains, then you must lay double lines in this area. But you are neglecting this area in the matter of laying more railway lines. In such a situation how can we support your Supplementary Demands. The most neglected part of the country cannot support your Supplementary Demands. That is why we oppose it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the supplementary demand for grant in respect of Railways. First of all, I would like to place before the hon.

Minister two to three demands about Haryana, particularly Sonepat, which is my constituency.

The Members, who spoke before me, have made a reference about Shri Scindia and have said that a number of development works are undertaken in the State to which the Minister of Railways belongs, but I do not agree with their views. I come from Haryana. If you go through the supplementary budget, you will find that a very small amount has been provided in it for Haryana. The railway line passing through Sonepat divides the city into two parts. The population of the town is about one lakh. People of Haryana and Punjab come to Delhi via Sonepat. A large number of trains pass through it as a result of which the railway crossing remains closed for as much as 12 hours which results in accident and causes great inconvenience to the people. If you go through the budget, you will find that provision has been made to construct an overbridge at the level crossing lying on Gwalior-Jhansi section. As per the report, that level crossing remains closed for 7 hours out of 24 hours, but the level crossing, to which I referred, remains closed for 12 hours out of 24 hours. I, therefore, request that an overbridge may be constructed at a place towards north of Sonepat where there is the third underbridge. Presently, this is near Malaviya Shiksha Sadan. This demand is very old. I strongly appeal to the hon. Minister to pay attention towards construction of this bridge.

In addition, I would like to point out that a large number of commuters travel between Delhi and Sonepat daily. I, therefore, request you that the Railway lines between Sonepat and Delhi and Delhi-Rohtak may be electrified so that more trains can be run for convenience of people. You are fully aware that only that country develops where there are adequate means of transport. I feel that population pressure on Delhi is increasing due to inadequate means of transport. If transport facilities are increased, this pressure can be reduced and people can settle in the towns adjacent to Delhi.

Besides, I would also like to point out that Government has not so far set up any

[Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik]

factory at Sonapat. Proposals were made to set up some factories there and survey was also conducted, but no action has so far been taken in this direction. Recently, Government has decided to set up a coach factory in Punjab. I have no objection to it, but Government should keep Sonapat also in mind in this respect. I submit that provision may be made for setting up some other factory by the Railway Department at Sonapat.

I would also like to point out that there is no manned level crossing on the Rohtak-Gohana Railway line due to which a large number of accidents take place there. An accident involving a three-wheeler took place at the railway crossing between Jaisal and Kahani just 4 or 5 days before the Parliament elections in which 5 persons were killed on the spot. A large number of accidents take place there every year. In reply to a letter written by me to the hon. Minister, I was told that the number of persons, who pass from there, is quite small. But I would like to say that thousands of persons pass through that place daily and accidents take place in the absence of a manned level crossing.

I have already made a reference about electrification. I want to say that the Railways should set up their own power plant in Haryana where there is acute shortage of power so that railway lines can be electrified there. It will benefit the public as well as the Railway Department. I would say only this much that special attention may be paid to my proposals particularly about construction of an overbridge and electrification of railway lines. An amount of Rs. 60 crores has been provided for electrification in this very supplementary budget. This amount may be utilised for electrification of railway lines from Delhi to Sonapat and from Delhi to Rohtak so that people can get benefit.

With these words I support the supplementary demands and thank you for giving me time to speak.

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWRI
(Bellary) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I

thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the Debate. I thank the hon. Minister for Transport Shri Bansi Lal ji and also Shri Madhavrao Scindia and his staff for having introduced the Hospet Bangalore Broad gauge night train which connects 85-86 Hyderabad Bangalore train at Guntakal. It was a long-pending demand of the people of that area. Because, Hospet is an area where lot of mining deposits are there. The mine owners were repeatedly requesting for the introduction of this train. But today, as it stands, the timing is not suitable. The train leaves from Hospet at 10 P.M. and arrives at Guntakal at 12 Night. It has to halt for three hours to connect that Bangalore Hyderabad train which reaches Bangalore at 11-30. This time is not convenient to the public. I have been demanding the change of timing for a long time. Fortunately I have received a letter from the hon. Minister that instructions have been given to change the timings of 85-86 Hyderabad-Bangalore Express from 1-12-85. We are satisfied to hear about the change. I hope immediate action will be taken to change the timing so as to reach Bangalore by 8-30 in the morning. Because, by reaching Bangalore at 12 O' clock nothing will be served. I am very much doubtful whether there will be sufficient traffic if the same timings are continued. I hope that the hon. Minister will consider the matter and see that the timings are changed immediately.

Once again I request that a separate train may be introduced from Hospet to Bangalore. There is a lot to be done in this area because the infrastructures have not been provided like flyover etc and this caused a lot of inconvenience. So I request the Minister to introduce a separate train and it should be called 'Hampi Express' because this connects the great Vijayanagar empire which is known for its prosperous dynasty.

Secondly, a survey was made to connect this Kottur-Harihar link in the year 1962. The estimate was prepared for times. Subsequently, on the request made by the public of that area, in the year 1980 the final estimate was prepared for Rs. 8 crores to link this Kottur-Harihar line, and this connects the most interior parts of

Karnataka and also the area consisting of Kudligi, Hadagali, Hagaribommanahalli, Harapanahalli, Hospet and parts of Harihar taluk which are chronically drought affected areas of Karnataka. I have been told that a lot of dismantled material is lying with Hubli Division at the time of conversion of metre gauge to broad gauge from Dharmavaram to Bangalore. This can be used for the construction of this link line and it will reduce the cost by 50 per cent. If the line is constructed, it would certainly give employment for the people there and so, the construction of this link may be taken up during this year itself. I hope that the hon. Minister will look into the matter and try to see that the longstanding demand of that area is fulfilled.

The construction of Chitradurg-Raidurg line has been already started and a huge amount of Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 crores has already been spent for this line and if you do not provide sufficient amount during this year and if you do not continue the work, I think that the infrastructure which we have already built may disappear after some time. Therefore, sufficient amount should be provided for this Chitradurg-Raidurg line.

So also the conversion of Mirage-Bangalore metre gauge line into broad gauge line is pending for a long time. This is the longstanding demand of that area. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter and take early action on this.

[Translation]

*SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak. Now through this supplementary Demand, the Rlys. are going to get another 433 crores of rupees for sending under various heads and especially for constructing more and more stations. It is better to improve the present Railway Stations instead of going for new ones. There are no amenities available for passengers at present in our stations. There are many such stations in the country where passengers have no place

to sit and wait. There are no toilet facilities. So before going for more and more new stations, it is better to improve the existing ones. We should concentrate on providing facilities to the passengers in our railway stations. Not to speak of minor and small stations on the way side, but even the major stations do not have even the minimum facilities. Just to cite an example, Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh is one of the biggest junctions in the country. But even then the facilities available for the passengers are very poor. There are no waiting rooms not even enough place to wait. It has become very congested and needs lot of improvement. There are no rooms available there for the people who want to stay there for a couple of days. So I request the Hon. Minister to take interest in developing the Vijayawada station.

Sir, repeated requests have been made to electrify the Vijayawada—Waltair line. Many representations have been made by the people. Yet no action has been taken so far to electrify this line.

Sir, at present there is only one train, namely, Godavari Express which runs from Waltair to Hyderabad. Now it is being run with 21 bogies hauled by 2 engines. It was thought that by running more bogies, more passengers can be accommodated. But, that has not proved to be beneficial. Instead two separate trains can be run with the help of these two engines so that more and more people can travel in them. Two trains instead of one will serve the needs of the people.

Sir, the reservation quota available at Rajamandry for the passengers who want to go to Madras and Bangalore is very less. The present quota of berths available four berths. I request the Hon. Minister to increase the quota for these destinations at Rajamandry. Many people travel from Rajamandry to Madras every day. Businessmen and others from East and West Godavari districts take train at Rajamandry for going to Madras. Since the number of berths available at Rajamandry is very much limited, these people are facing many

*The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

[Shri A. B. J. V. Maheswara Rao]

difficulties. Hence I fervently appeal to the Hon. Minister to increase the reservation quota at Rajamandry. I also request to increase reservation quota at Tadepalligudem.

When compared with Northern Railways Air Conditioned Coaches attached to the South bound trains are very less. I request the Hon. Minister to look into this matter and remove the disparity.

Kakinada is the district Headquarter of East Godavari. But it is most unfortunate to note that it has no connection with the main line. Right from the days of British the position be linked with the main line and it will enable people to go to Waltair and Hyderabad.

Sir, there was a line in operation before Second World War between Kakinada and Kotipallim and it was discontinued later. If this line is restored it will enable the people in this area to go to Amalapuram via Narasapur. It will also help in the transport of goods to Madras. So I request the Hon. Minister to take steps to lay these lines as early as possible.

Sir, the quality of the food packets which are being served in the trains is very poor. Every item get mixed up and it will be very difficult to eat. The catering services are very poor in our trains and I had addressed a letter to the Hon. Minister in this regard. But I am surprised at the reply that he had given to my letter. He mentioned that people infact have appreciated the quality of the food stuff. I am sorry to say that the fact is something different.

Finally I request the Hon. Minister to allot more wagons to traders. I had already requested him once to allot more wagons to traders. Traders are facing many difficulties and suffering loss as their goods are getting spoiled due to rains. Hence I take this opportunity, once again to request the Hon. Minister, to allot more wagons to traders in my area.

Sir, thanking you for giving me the opportunity, I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Saifuddin soz. Three minutes.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have loved me for a couple of minutes

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only three minutes. The Minister should get the time to reply.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : There is a lot that can be said about the Railway Department. I had expected that Mr. Scindia would respond to the situation. I am yet to see him responding. I will raise those things in the debate that will come in the future. In the meanwhile, I will raise only two points.

So far as the railway construction in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, Mr. Bansi Lal and before that even the then Railway Minister, Mr. Ghani Khan Choudhury told me about that. Even after the survey has been done from Kosigond to Baramulla, they said, "We have no money". There was constraint of fund. But the General Manager of the Railway Department goes to Srinagar ** and holds a Press Conference. I was already in touch with the Ministry on different matters. He does not call me and in that conference, he says, "We are examining very shortly the feasibility of opening that railway". I took up the matter with the Ministry. Was he within his rights to hold a Press conference and make an announcement ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We do not know. No individual name should be mentioned.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : A minute more. Then, Sir, as a member of the

Railway Users' Consultative Committee, I was told that I should help the Ministry in finding out somebody or some Institution for managing the outlet for booking passenger tickets and cargo. I would not recommend a friend of mine but I raised the issue with the Chamber of Commerce in Jammu and Kashmir. They found some retired Army officer whose name was to be recommended. I took up the matter with the Ministry and informed them that at present the concern in Srinagar owed 25 lakhs of rupees to the Ministry—that **

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, That name will not go on record. That allegation cannot go on record.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Why did they not inform me of the present situation ? What is the present position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : I will answer it.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I received a letter from you. I am beholder to you that you have responded. I took up the matter with you. I have received a communication from the Railway Department. I am a Member of Parliament from that area. When he goes there, he does not invite me at the conference. You said, "You are looking into it". After that, one and a half months have elapsed. Some People are not allowing you to respond to the situation that is brought to your notice. I have great hope with you being a young-man and a dynamic Minister. But no official should catch your leg and not allow you to respond to the aspirations of the people. That ** owed Rs 25 lakhs to the Railway Department. That is the point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Any allegation will not go on record.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I would like to thank all the Members through you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker ... (Interruption).

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER : Please, order. Many Members spoke but, you listen to the Minister's reply.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : For the very constructive and interesting discussion that took place, during the discussion the Demands for Supplementary Grants.

I am also glad that the entire House has supported the nationalisation of the Futwah-Islampur railway and only two points were raised which I will answer, when I reply to each Member individually. But apart from that—there were also points of caution — I would say, every one has welcomed this. I thank the House for the support that they have given for this nationalisation.

I am sure, after two day's debate, the hon. Members understand the enormity of the task that the railway family is performing. As Mr. Daga said this is the second largest system in the world under a single management, a net-work which criss-crosses the Indian sub-continent and extends to 61,000 km. The railway family consists of 1.7 million people which is almost equivalent to the population of Jamaica or Panama. We run 11,000 trains, manage 7,000 stations and the amount of kilometrage that our trains do daily is equivalent to girdling the globe 35 times. This is the exercise that we are involved in and we are doing our best to put the system on to the rails, on to the tracks, so to speak. There may be certain lapses but in the context of the vast exercise, I am sure the Members will bear with us and I am sure that the honesty of our intentions and the determination and purpose, under Mr. Bansilal, we are trying to impart to the railway ministry, will be understood by the hon. Members.

Our main asset, I would like to say in most categorical terms, unequivocal

[Shri Madhevarao Scindia]

terms, is the splendid talent of human resources that are there in the Indian railways—the entire railway family, right from the officers, the staff, all those who work in inaccessible places.

These people do not know where to send their children, if there is some educational facilities required; they do not know where their next medical facilities would come from. In such inaccessible places, I myself had a few hours after, a tour programme. There happened to be a helicopter at my disposal for the tour programme and I took advantage of those two-three hours in the month of June, to take the helicopter and make some surprise visits in out of the way places. In fact, I would land in the police lines, pick up a police jeep—I must say, quite a few policemen had to be woken up it was 45 degrees heat in the afternoon—take the police jeep and go to the stations. I was amazed, surprised and it was a matter of gratification to me to find how the Station Masters, specially posted in out of the way places—when a helicopter lands, of course, the entire village comes—were being treated. The villagers in all the five stations that I went to showed tremendous appreciation and treated the Station Master almost like a God. They said that he was helping with drinking water, helping with other facilities. This is the sort of dedication that is being displayed by our staff, by and large. Of course, in every organisation, there are bound to be lapses. There are bound to be some black-sheep and we are doing our best to identify those black-sheep and take swiftest possible action whenever any example of lapse comes to our notice. But, in those few examples which, I would say, are in a minority considering the large exercise, let us not lose sight of the fact that there are thousands and lakhs of employees who are doing their best for the Indian Railways, and I think, a word of appreciation for those workers, for those staff members, must be made in my reply and in this House.

A lot of hon. Members, during the debate, showed a very deep understanding of our financial problems. Shri Basudeb

Acharia and many other hon. Members from the Opposition and many hon. Members from the Congress side also, including Shri Mool Chand Daga, all spoke about more allocations to the Railways. So, there is a resource constraint. It is true that, initially, we were allocated Rs. 1,650 crores as our Annual Plan outlay which was the same as that in the last year but which in real terms will, of course, be much less. But keeping in mind the resource constraint we value greatly, the support that the Prime Minister has given, the appreciation that he has expressed by giving us a further allocation of Rs. 400 crores. But whatever the Railways get will never be enough because what we desire is so much more. But in the context of the resource constraint, I think, a lot has been done, and for that, I am extremely grateful.

Because of this shortage of finances, we have to prioritise the items that we would like to take up first. Many times in the debates—and it is but natural—the hon. Members of Parliament lay a great stress only on the passenger aspect. This is but natural. I also represent 1.5 million people just like my hon. colleagues. Naturally there is pressure from the local areas, and that is because passenger carriage is directly connected with railway working in the public mind. That is why, the stress is on passenger carriage. But I would like to tell my hon. colleagues who have such a deep understanding of the nation's economy, who have such a deep understanding of the working of the Railway that we cannot afford to lose sight of the other task which is of a very vital nature and which the Railways perform, and that is, carriage of railway freight. There has to be a judicious blend between the two. Because if the Railway somehow do not meet the targets in freight movement, the effects on the economy will be disastrous. I am sure that Members of Parliament understand that there is a shortage of line capacity. Many times people feel: why can't a passenger train be run when there is no particular passenger train or express train going in between? But there is a time when that path is used for freight carriage. Therefore, the freight angle, which Mr. Ram Singh Yadav highlighted yesterday, must not be lost sight of. We do carry almost 70 per

cent of all the goods carried on the Indian transport system ...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Except tea.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The share of iron ore carried is 95 per cent fertiliser 95 per cent, coal 76 per cent, cement 52 per cent, foodgrains 15 per cent POL 49 per cent — all these are vere essential commodities.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What about tea ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : We are carrying some tea. A lot of tea is also carried by road. But tea is very much in our mind.

It will not be an exaggeration to say that the Indian Railways are the wheels of the Indian economy, and, as I said, within the resources allocated we have to give weightage to both the interests, passenger and freight. I know that it is easy for one to become popular by acceding to a particular halt of a passenger train or to run a passenger train in a particular sector, but both of us, Shri Bansi Lal and myself, firmly believe that the short term popularity of a Minister is meaningless if it is achieved at the expense of the long term interest of the system. That is why certain priorities have been made which I will talk about a little later.

Sir, the annual plan allocation this year has been increased to Rs. 2050 crores. The items of priority in our scheme of things rolling stock, track renewal, electrification and workshop modernisation. This is so as to increase the efficiency of utilisation. It is a fact that new lines are not being given the priority because of the shortage of funds. There is no point in expanding a system rapidly if you cannot handle the system as it exists today. Therefore, it is a fact that a very small allocation has been given. Whereas last year Rs. 114 crores had been allocated for new lines, this year only Rs. 69 crores have been allocated.

I want to put the correct picture in front of the Hon. Members of Parliament

and than I will seek their indulgence, I will seek their patience and I will seek their understanding.

This year, the cost of on-going projects for new lines is Rs. 1500 crores and the allocation as is envisaged in the full five year period for new lines is only Rs. 350 crores. This is unfortunate. If we had more money, would have spent certainly more. But in the priorities we have felt that a matter which affects the freight carriage, something which affects accidents, are the items on which we should concentrate. Therefore, rolling stock has been given as much as—out of Rs. 2050 crores 33% of the entire allocation—Similarly in the case of track renewal which is so important, 20000 kms. of backlog we are facing. If we want to clear this backlog in 10 years, it will mean that we will have to renew 4200 kms. of track every year, because every year 2300 kms. are added for renewal. Therefore, it is very important that track renewal is taken in hand because it affects the punctuality, it affects the movement and speeds of trains and above all, it affect the safety. Therefore, we have given as much as 25% of the entire allocation to track renewal.

We would like to give more. But we can still not meet that 4200 km. target in this 25%. But that is the maximum that we can eke out. So, 35% has been given to the rolling stock, 25% to the track renewal. For electrification also certain priorities have been made, diagonal and quadrilateral.

We are pushing ahead with electrification work and we have allocated 10% of the total allocation to electrification and 5% to workshop modernisation.

In fact, out of the extra Rs. 400 crores allocated, rolling stock has got 45%. We know the probelms that are taking place in West Bengal. There is a capacity to manufacture 26000 wagons. We have to keep the interest of the labour who are employed there also in mind. Therefore, the moment we got more money, as much as 45% was allocated to the rolling stock. So, we are doing our best to see that these priority items have been covered.

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Even out of the Rs 400 crores, track renewal gets 20%, electrification 15%, workshop modernisation 8%. So all the priority items only had been accommodated in the extra allocation of Rs. 400 crores and no money has been specially, out of the way, allocated to any Railway Minister's or Transport Minister's constituency. I can assure you that every rupee as more or less gone into this.

I have already talked about track renewals. We had a budget target of 3000 kms. during this year in 1985-86, our target starting on 1st of April was 3000 kms. But I am not satisfied. I have raised that target to 3500 kms. We will do our best to see that we achieve that target. There are some problems. We face a few problems from the rails supply from Bhilai and some items of sleepers from Durgapur. But we will sort out those problems. They are also doing their best to assist us. In this context I would just like to point out one thing. This backlog has occurred because of the long neglect of the aspect of track renewal. In 1977-78, a total of Rs. 41 crores only, which is 9.7% of the total allocation; was allotted for track renewal. In 1980-81 it became Rs. 109 crores which was 11.2% and now it is Rs. 505 crores which is 25%. I just wanted to point out this fact.

As the hon. Members already know, we are placing an order for an extra 7000 wagons and the total will be 12500 wagons. We would have liked to order for 15000 wagons and we are hoping next year we can place an order for 15000 wagons because we have a tremendous requirement for wagons. We will require about 96,000 wagons in the five year period. Because the allocation was required at this particular point of time, there is only that much that the wagon manufactures can do, but next year we want to step it up.

Then, Sir, signals and tele-communications is an extremely important aspect of railway working. In this also we have allocated funds, not only have we allocated funds but we want to go into modern techniques of signals and tele-communication.

tions. We are just for our own experience—instead of importing technology wholesale, we want to see if the technology can be developed by using it on our own railway importing some technology for a line between Churchgate and Borivli where we will try out the new fibre optic technique which is the latest technique and which I would like to see ultimately on the Indian Railways. But we would like to see what our experience is from the fibre optic technique.

As far as other aspects of the railway working are concerned, I would like to inform the hon. Members because some hon. Members

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) :
What about expansion of railway network in the North-east Frontier, in the tribal areas ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I have got a lot to deal with. I think I will come to that.

Some hon. Members talked about the efficiency of the utilisation of capacity-track capacity, rolling stock, etc. I would just like to point out a few figures. We have been concentrating so much on utilisation of electric locomotives, diesel locomotive and our entire rolling stock. I would like to inform the hon. Members about the percentage of ineffective. In Electric Locomotives in 1982-83 it was 23% and in 1984 also it was 23% and it has come down sharply to the latest November figure of 20.6%. Similarly in the DC locomotives it has come down from 30% last year to 24% this year. So this aspect is not being lost sight of. Similarly, in diesel locomotives it was 13.12% in 1984-85 and in 1985-86 upto October it is 12.39%. These may be small percentages but when translated into real terms they make a very great impact.

As far as our production units are concerned, we have tried to see that they stick to their targets. In Chittaranjan Locomotive Works—we want to give more work to them and we want to place more orders because electrification gets priority,

the CLW produced during the period April to October 1984—34 locos and April to October 1985—41 locomotives. Similarly, DLW production has gone up in the same period. From 63 last year it has gone up to 68 diesel locomotives this year and ICF production has gone up from 489 to 494 because it is working to full capacity.

Tremendous improvement has taken place in the Wheel and Axle Plant. The turn-out was 1188 last year and the target this year was 9250 and next year we will produce hopefully 23,000 wheel sets in the plant. The World Bank appraisal was that we would reach this figure in four years and when we reach 23000 sets next year, we would have done it in 2 1/2 years. So, there has been an improvement in the production units also.

As far as our loading targets are concerned, I am happy to inform the House that our loading target this year was 250 million tonnes for the full financial year. Last year we could achieve 237 million tonnes. The increased quota given by the Planning Commission was 13 million tonnes. Normally, the increase is about 6-8 million tonnes but this year it was fixed at 13 million tonnes. Although we have a diminished fleet in number of wagons and also a marginally diminished fleet in number of locomotives yet we had to do 13 million tonnes more this year than last year. I am happy to inform the House that in seven months we have achieved 12 66 million tonnes out of those 13 million tonnes. So, the quota given to us for the full year has been almost achieved and we are confident to go substantially above the target.

As far as actual commodities carried is concerned, I am also happy to inform the House that carriage of coal has gone up by 10 per cent. Shri Janga Reddy was misinformed when he said that some power houses have been closed due to non-supply of coal. This is not a fact. No power house was closed down because the Railways did not supply coal. The carriage of sugar has gone up by over 100 per cent; cement 2.3 per cent, steel 8 per cent and foodgrains have gone up by about 11 per cent.

In pursuance of our objective of modernisation we are phasing out steam locomotives as soon as we can. Normally they would have been phased out by 2013 AD. We have altered the target and we want to phase out the steam locomotives by 2000 AD. In the six months this year period the ICD containers have gone up from 4511 to 9693 as compared to the corresponding period last year. We are looking around for a number of spots where ICD container depots could be opened. I have already talked about our production units. We have also decided to go in for expansion in the CLW work capacity. Today we are producing 60 locomotives. We hope to produce 70 locomotives next year eventually working up to 100 locomotive. This is our aim. Our electrification programme needs about 500 locomotives in five years' period and we have to make up the shortfall through these measures.

I would like to come now to safety. Safety is an aspect which exercises our mind greatly and I cannot tell you the anguish and pain that right from Minister level downwards the railway family feels when these tragedies occur, especially when they could have been avoided. Certain safety drives have been carried out. Safety groups have been formed and seminars on safety take place so that there is involvement from the lowest level as well. The smallest member of the staff should feel part of the exercise. I am glad to say that though in the initial part of the year—it is also understandable because the measures to take effect take some time—there was a marginal increase as far as accidents were concerned but I am glad to say that in the period 1st April to November, that is, eight months the number of accidents has gone down. The number of accidents attributable to railway staff has also marginally diminished. But I am not satisfied with the diminishing rate and we will all be concentrating on it. But the fact is that it has marginally diminished and the total number of accidents has gone down. What is worrying us is the rise in accidents at the railway crossings. It is really exercising our mind and in fact I have to inform the House that last night also there was an accident in which six people died in the Gorakhpur area and three were

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injured and they are in hospital. So, it is something which is worrying us tremendously because accidents at the level crossings have gone up. We have got in mind the question of level crossings. Our country is vast and the railway track is also very vast. There are about 37,000 railway crossings in the country of which only 15,000 are manned. It is very expensive to man them. We are trying to see that about 300 to 400 at least are manned a year. We are increasing our staff in that. I would like to point out that though the figures have improved, we are very much exercised about the increase in level crossing accidents and that is an item for which we have to give special attention. I would now like to come to punctuality.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Would the hon. Minister like to cover the security aspect of men and materials moved by the railways ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I would like to cover it. Now, I come to punctuality. I was personally monitoring about 60 trains. They were running chronically late. They were running in time only 25% of the time. But that has gone up to 60% to 70%. There are some trains which are causing worries. Mr. Amar Roypradhan was referring to some trains. We are racking our mind to improve the Tinsukhia and Assam Mails.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : The railway line between Malda and New Cooch-Bihar should be doubled.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I would like to mention here that subjects like track renewal, electrification, etc. where engineering work is involved cause delays. Some delays are also caused by people. The railways being the favourite whipping boy of the public, whenever they want to demonstrate, they say "let us go to the Railway station to demonstrate". These are the problems so far as the demonstrations are concerned. We are facing a lot of problems on the Eastern Railway, on the Northern Railway and in a part of the

Central Railway as far as chain pulling and hose-pipe disconnections are concerned. I would be grateful if I get help and cooperation from the hon. Members and create a feeling of responsibility for the railways and their properties and also among the people who use the trains because a lot of inconvenience is caused to them.

The total number of alarm chain pulling between January and August, was 1,32,888. Out of these, 22,000 were in Bihar, 21,000 were in Madhya Pradesh, and 39,000 in Uttar Pradesh. Now, these are the three States having a large number of chain pullings. Similarly, I would like to mention the problem of hose-pipe disconnection. It is also a very major problem. We have increased the fines and penalties. But I think a little more public awakening is necessary and their cooperation is also necessary here. The total number of hose-pipe disconnection during the same period, that is, January-August, was 46,149. Out of this, 20,540 were on the Eastern Railways and 23,558 were on Northern Railways. As far as States are concerned, out of 46,000, UP had 25,000 and Bihar had 10,000.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about Southern Railway ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Southern Railway has an excellent record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): You have given statistics in respect of Madhya Pradesh, Please give the same in respect of Haryana also as to what is the position there.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Haryana is also there but I do not have statistics in respect of Haryana at present.

[*English*]

In the drive against ticketless travel, during the period April to September, 1985, 30 per cent more checks were conducted than for the same period the year before, and one lakhs fifty five thousand check

were conducted. The number of persons detected were twenty-four lakhs during the period April to September, 1985. This is up by 14 per cent and the railway dues realised were 20 per cent more than last year, which amounted to Rs. 5.11 crores.

Before going on to passenger amenities and other aspects, I would like to very briefly touch on a few indices of efficiency which pertain to the railway system. The best yardstick for utilisation of wagons and locomotives etc. is the yardstick called net tonne kilometers per wagon day. This has shown a phenomenal increase. It has gone up from 1074 in six months last year to 1188 which is an all time record. Similarly, the net tonne kilometers has gone up from 80 billion last year in the six months this year to 91 billion net tonne kilometers.

Now, I would like to go into some of the few aspects of the passenger side which we are contemplating. Before that, I would like to say that we have also on northern railway conducted certain experiments with regard to the haulage of 9000 tonne heavy haul trains. So far train load is 4500 tonnes. We want to double it, because this will increase our output, and track utilization. I am glad to inform the House that, by and large, these experiments for the 9000 tonne heavy haul trains have been successful in spite of the fact that we have not yet imported the loco trawl, which is the system which is put on. For pulling the 9000 tonne train, there have to be three diesel locomotives and to synchronise those three locomotives, there has to be a system, so that an order given in the first locomotive is immediately responded to in the second and third locomotive. This system has been ordered and it is being brought in. I think, we have ordered, if I am not mistaken, two sets of system for experimentation, but before the import of that, as a temporary measure, we have already conducted experiments and they have been fairly successful.

There was some talk about passenger amenities. We do realise that there are a lot of complaints specially in the matter of reservation about corruption. Fully realising this, we are doing our best to see how much we can eliminate and how quickly we can

eliminate that. To start with, we are going in for a computerised reservation programme at New Delhi station. It would be for all the 40-50 trains that originate from New Delhi. It should be applicable to them by end March, 1986. Later by the end of the year, Nizamuddin and Old Delhi would also be taken into this plan. We do not want to rush into something and find out later that it ends up in great chaos. We would like to implement it there first, then learn from it and implement it in Howrah, Bombay and Madras. That is what our plan is. This computerised reservation will help greatly as far as elimination of corruption is concerned. Of course, there are possibilities there also. It is not that it can be completely eliminated. But we are trying to narrow down the field as much as possible. Still somebody can go and order so many tickets on some train and something like that. Realising this lacuna, we have added another column to the computerised programme so that the sex of the ticket purchaser—male or female, will also be in it and the age group will also be in it so that it becomes more and more difficult to resell the tickets to somebody else.

As far as freight is concerned, we have a very big computerisation programme called the Operation Information Service, which is a programme of Rs. 520 crores and initially it was going to be completed by 1994-95 because it is such a vast system and in telecommunications lot of work needs to be done. I have tried to move the target down to 1991. In other countries wherever it is employed, it has made an impact of 38 per cent improvement in efficiency in the railway freight movement. So, the OIS programme certainly has a priority in our mind.

As far as catering is concerned, have again we have made a small beginning. Just like in the computerisation of reservations, I feel that here also we should hasten slowly because if we go too fast, then the quality that we are trying to serve and the ways of serving the food may start dropping, and the whole object of this exercise that we want to bring out, will be totally lost. Therefore, we are increasing it slowly and at present we are serving these casseroles in about 20 to 25 trains.

[Shri Madhavrao Scindia]

There have been some complaints. But our feedback in the forms we have given out, is that between 80 to 85 per cent have welcomed it for different aspects for hygienic aspect because it is totally sealed and covered and also for the warmth of the food. We ordered special hot-cases (and this took about four months to perfect) so that about 48 casseroles can be carried on the trains. As I said earlier, there have been complaints only recently. Just a few days back, there was a complaint from some of the MPs from Hyderabad and we are looking into the complaint. I want to nip the problem in the bud itself because if we do not take strong action as far as this complaint is concerned, then the disease may start spreading. So I want to take strong action against the base kitchen which is involved in serving the food cold in the casseroles, so that it is nipped in the bud and people would understand the sort of importance that we are giving as far as passenger comforts and passenger amenities are concerned.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The Railway Users' Consultancy Committee should meet more often. It meets only once in three months.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : There are a number of problems that the people are facing as far as ticket refunds are concerned. So, we have reorganised the entire system and very soon, within a month's time, the new system will start operating in which we have given much more powers to the station masters so that people can get the refund for tickets not used as quickly as possible.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : It may be misused also.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : That aspect has always to be kept in mind. That is why I had given this job to the RITES which is our consultancy organisation. I had given them this job about five months ago. Normally, I set targets for everything, but for this particular thing I have not set any target because I wanted a very thorough study. There should be no

mistake in it because it may have far reaching repercussions...Now they have produced a very comprehensive report in three volumes and we are studying it. And slowly in phases we are bringing it on to the railways.

As far as claims are concerned, here also, I am very happy to inform the House that the number of claims pending for six months has come down from 17,000 in 1.1.1985 to only 6,000 now, which is a 62 percent improvement in the number of claims disposed of. Other passenger amenities like telephone enquiries, increasing the number of telephones; C.C. T.V., public grievances booths in metropolitan cities, all these things we are paying attention to. The hon. Members will be happy to note that another thing is taking on a very crash programme basis is to try and identify corrupt and inefficient Railway personnel and to weed them out expeditiously. There are reviews taken in certain age groups. Normally those reviews tended to be more of formality. I have told them that it should be no longer remain a formality, very-very close look should be taken at the records of the officers and staff and if they are found wanting in any way, they should be retired and weeded out. I will also go on to the queries of all the individual Members. I have only 15 minutes at my disposal.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, no, you have only 10 minutes at my disposal.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I have only 10 minutes at your disposal. I had answers to all the.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, individual things you can write and any general thing you can reply now. Please take your seat. Don't disturb him. Let him finish first.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Shri Jaffar Sharief brought up the point of railway colonies. We have increased the allocation to Rs. 97.20 crores in 1985-86

from Rs. 90 crores in the previous year — an increase of about 9 per cent. But I do realise that staff amenities and railway colonies are something which should receive the due importance because I have said that our greatest asset is the human resources. We have taken up rehabilitation of bridges also. All the 2000 bridges that need rebuilding and rehabilitation at the beginning of the Seventh Plan, we will be providing.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you disturbing ? He is answering everyone.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Jaffar Sharief brought up the matter about Rail Yatri Niwas, About Rail Yatri Niwas, there is a misunderstanding. It is not a hotel. It is really an extension scheme of the waiting rooms — retiring rooms at New Delhi Station and I feel that a lot of middle class and lower middle class passengers come and they are held to ransom by transporters. They do not know where to find proper accommodation. So we want to give cheapest and most simple facility...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : In existing places. for months together, people go on staying, vacating and staying That is happening in all Stations. It is found in many places, the same person is staying and vacating and he will again come and occupy.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : If you want, I can write to all the individual Members.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, any general thing, you can answer. He will write to you individually. He is having a lot of things to say. That is why, I have asked the hon. Members to be very brief. Nobody was brief at that time. What can I do ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I will have to write to you, because I don't have any time because Private Members' Bill is there ...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Any general thing you can tell.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Again I would like to thank the hon. Members for most constructive debate. There was a lot of valuable support and there was also some criticisms, most of which was constructive and we accept it in that spirit, if we don't hear criticism, how can be improve ? So we thank the hon. Members for having pointed out also our lapses. I once again like to implore that public corporation is a must. It must be there. Somebody talked about automatic warning system. In the automatic warning system a magnet is attached to the track and an other magnet is attached to the coach. Therefore, if the train passes or approaches the red signals, automatically the brakes are applied and the driver has to make a conscious effort to cut out and neutralise it. So, it is a very good thing. It was tried out in the Eastern Railway. The hot box detector was tried out also. We were very pleased. It was a tremendous safety measure. Within one week, they all disappeared from the tracks. They have an intrinsic value and were stolen. The same thing is being used, and we are trying it on the Bombay suburban railways, and it is working very satisfactorily.

So, public cooperation is what is important. Actually, this is the basis for the success of the entire governmental exercise. I do not think democracy is a one way street. I interpret democracy as a partnership, a partnership between those who are elected, and those who elect them; and there is a responsibility on both sides. That spirit of partnership, which I think the whole of India acknowledges, is taking place, has taken roots under the leadership of our Prime Minister Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. And if this point is not lost sight of, there is nothing that can stop India from making progress.

I would again like to thank you all. I have noted in all the speeches an undercurrent of understanding. It increases our confidence greatly when we receive this sort of a support. I have always maintained that

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the Indian Railways are the living symbol of the unity and integrity of our country. The nation is in the process of transforming itself into a modern, forward-looking society, a society which is dynamic yet retaining its essential cultural ethos. I think it is a tribute to the way of thinking of our Prime Minister that though deeply committed to modernity, he like his respected mother, constantly and consistently is putting emphasis on the maintenance of India's cultural identity. And it is this cultural identity which can impart to the nation the depth of character which is required to digest the full impact of the leap forward in science and technology and yet retain a national balance of mind, a national identity. Material progress by itself can soon lead to a wayward direction in this nation. I think Indian Railways can truly epitomize modern technological progress and yet remain an important symbol of national cultural unity and integration. We unite in our embrace, India both vertically and horizontally.

The railway compartment recognizes no religion, it recognizes no region, and no caste. In our trains travel people from the frozen peaks of the Himalayan in the north, to the waters of the Indian Ocean, from the desert of Rajasthan to the salubrious climate of the north-east. In our compartment, mix the Imam and the purohit; in our compartment the priest and the Cranthi meet; and our carriage mingles these people of all castes, momentarily making India, Tegore's ideal India where the world has not been broken up into fragments of narrow, domestic walls.

We require your understanding, we require your patience, we require your cooperation; and we are confident that we will receive these in full measure. And building upon this confidence, we will strive to make Indian Railways yet another Indian success story.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the acquisition, in the public interest, of the

undertakings of the Futwah-Islampur Light Railway Company Limited in relation to the Futwah-Islampur Light Railway Line and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 18 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 18 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula, Preamble and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, Enacting Formula, Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the Minister.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put the Supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) for 1985-86 to vote...

The question is :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper

be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1986, in

respect of the head of Demand entered in the second column thereof—Demand No. 16.”

The motion was adopted.

Supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways), 1985-86 voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House
		Rs.
16	Assets—Acquisition, Construction and Replacement Other Expenditure	433,00,00,000

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 5
BILL, 1985*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1985-86 for the purposes of Railways.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1985-86 for the purposes of Railways.”

The motion was adopted.

**

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I introduce the Bill.

I beg to move** :

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1985-86 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1985-86 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.”

The Motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

“That Clause 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title and stand part of the Bill.”

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2 dated 13.12.85.

**Introduced/moved with the recommendation of the President.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Bill be passed.”

Shri Ranga.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Tenali) : I have a word to say. This is only to remind the hon. Minister about the urgent national need to develop the railway connections in the North-Eastern region. We have nine States, and only three of them are connected by rail and some of their State headquarters are tens of miles away from the nearest possible railway station anywhere and it is high time that the Government not only in the Railways, but also in the Finance and any in every other side of the Government should pay special attention to the development of the railways in that region and ensure that all those States and their headquarters somehow or other come to be connected with rail.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

15.29 hrs.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

[English]

As passed by Rajya Sabha

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We now take up Item No. 16 of the Agenda, University Grants Commission (Amendment) Bill,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

Before the House takes up a general discussion on the Bill I would like to share with the Hon. Members the reasons for bringing forward this amendment. According to Section 6 of the University Grants Commission Act, a person appointed as Chairman, unless he becomes disqualified for continuing as Chairman under the Rules shall hold office for a term of five years, and a person appointed as Vice-Chairman or other member, shall hold office for a term of three years. This Section further provides that the office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be whole-time and salaried, and that the terms and conditions of their services shall be prescribed by the Rules. Rules have been notified under these provisions specifying the disqualifications and also the terms and conditions of service. As part of the terms and conditions of service of the Chairman, the Rules provide that unless there is a contract to the contrary, the Chairman shall retire on attaining the age of 65 years. However, in the case of Vice-Chairman, there is no provision in the Rules which prescribes an age of retirement.

Doubts have been expressed that the provision in the Rules relating to the age of retirement goes beyond the scope of the provision in the Act. Since the Act mentions a five-year tenure for the Chairman, a view has been expressed that this tenure cannot be curtailed by the Rules framed under the Act.

In order that the matter is placed beyond all doubts, we propose to make a provision in the Act itself that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the UGC shall hold their respective offices for the prescribed terms or until they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The Bill before the House seeks to incorporate this provision in the UGC Act,

The composition of the UGC provides for the appointment of two members to represent the Central Government from among its officers. The Act also provides that a person who has held office for two terms in any capacity shall not be eligible for any further appointment. In practice, however, it may happen that the officers of the Central Government who are presently appointed by virtue of the offices they hold, may serve the Commission for short spells and become eligible for reappointment. The restriction of two terms may place a limitation of these appointments. We thought it desirable to remove this limitation, which, in any case, does not seem necessary, because appointment of these two Members is made by virtue of their offices. The amendment, therefore, makes a provision to remove this restriction in the case of the representatives of the Central Government on the Commission.

Sir, the amendments are simple and non-controversial. We have ensured that the amended provisions will operate only in the case of those persons appointed after the amendment has come into effect. I am sure this Bill will receive the support from all the sections of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the Bill further to amend the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

Mr. K. Ramachandra Reddy may speak on Monday.

15.30 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Ninth Report

[English]

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with the Ninth Report of the Committee on

Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th December, 1985.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do agree with the Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th December, 1985.”

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : DEVELOPMENT OF HILL AREAS—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Harish Rawat on 2nd August, 1985.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, last time I was speaking on the Resolution moved by Shri Harish Rawat regarding development of hill areas. In this context, I had expressed my views about industrialisation of hill areas. I saw a watch manufacturing factory in Gangtok. This factory has provided employment to thousands of youngmen of the state. Cottage industries should be encouraged in these hill areas. If you conduct a survey in a city like Delhi, you will find that there is hardly a house which does not have a cottage industry in one or the other room. If this work is banned in all these areas of the National Capital Region, it would prove beneficial to Delhi people and cottage industries can be encouraged in hill areas. The problem of air pollution in Delhi can be solved by imposing such a ban.

It has also been seen that tax is evaded and unaccounted dealings take place in the Delhi houses where cottage industries are operating. If cottage industries are

[Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik]

set up in hill areas, it would help in curbing evasion of taxes and development of hill areas also. Besides, housing problem in a city like Delhi can also be solved. The people of hill areas will get employment by encouraging small scale industries there. You will have to ensure that they may get the requisite material at reasonable prices.

I suggest that loan and other facilities should also be made available to people in hill areas so that they may not experience any difficulty in manufacturing their products. You will also have to make arrangements for marketing their products so that they may get remunerative prices for their products. It will increase their income and will ensure their all round development. It will help in the development of the respective area as well as the people of that area.

In addition, I would like to give one more suggestion. If you want development of hill areas and if you want to provide employment to people there, a separate Development Board may be set up for each hill area. That board will go into their difficulties and seek assistance from Government. For that purpose the Central Government should provide more and more funds to these boards to ensure development of hill areas. I would also like to point out that people of hill areas may be given more and more facilities to encourage cottage industries there. More and more power generation equipments should be provided there. Power plants should be set up at each hill station. The Central Government should provide assistance for these works. Provision should be made to give more and more loans to educated unemployed youths there for setting up cottage industries and arrangements should be made to export the products of these cottage industries in order to attract foreigners and tourists in large number with a view to earn foreign exchange. The local population will learn something from foreigners and will get advantage of their experience. I, therefore, submit that the Central Government may give loans to unemployed youths to construct hotels in hill areas in large number for the convenience of tourists, who may also purchase products of cottage industries

It will enhance the prestige of our country in the world.

In addition, I would like to say something about the fruit crop also. In my opinion, the Horticulture Department is required to be toned up. The Horticulture Department should make available all sorts of facilities there. It should provide help in growing quality fruit and make arrangements for marketing of fruit so that the growers may get remunerative price for their produce.

With these words I support the Resolution moved in this House by Shri Harish Rawat.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri Harish Rawat regarding development of hill areas. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister of Planning that in Aravali Hills of Rajasthan there are about 8-9 districts which are inhabited mostly by Adivasis and Scheduled castes. You might be aware that adivasis of Rajasthan are the poorest people in the country. In reply to a question asked by me in this regard, the hon. Minister had stated that those hill areas had not been included in the development programmes. I request that these areas may be included so that these areas may get benefit of the development programmes and the assistance being given by you for the uplift of the poor. A few days ago the Hon. Prime Minister visited this area. He had visited a few villages of Sirohi District and Mt. Abu. On visiting the houses of Garasia, Bhil and other tribes we found that they did not have provision even for one square meal. This is the condition today. They are the most oppressed and exploited people and, therefore, they should certainly be brought under this scheme and Government should ensure that all the facilities being provided by Government for their upliftment and eradication of poverty are made available to them on large scale. I would, therefore, request that all the tribal areas particularly in Udaipur, Dungarpur, Banswara, Sirohi, Jodhpur, Bhilwara, Bundi and Kota should be included in this plan and all those facilities which are being extended to hill areas at present, should be provided to them.

Secondly, there is need to take effective steps in connection with misuse of Government funds that are being provided for developmental works.

The small concessions by way of livestock, land, installation of pumpsets or wells or in cottage and small scale industries to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is not reaching them properly.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Since I have to take my flight I have to leave. With the permission of the House I will request Shri Mool Chand Daga to take the chair till the one amongst the Panel of Chairmen takes the Chair.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

[SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA *in the chair.*]

15.41 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was drawing your attention to the question whether all the facilities are reaching Schedule Castes and Adivasis in the hill areas of Rajasthan. In this regard I would like to submit that a survey was conducted by some institutions and it was felt that the bank officials and block development officers pocketed the amount of subsidy as they thought this money was being given to Adivasis for nothing. This has to be checked. A few days back the hon. Finance Minister had said that a particular bank was not functioning properly and I counter questioned him by asking which bank is functioning properly these days. Do the poor get the subsidy earmarked for them? If these people are to be raised above the poverty line, steps will have to be taken to prevent unauthorised people from swindling the amount earmarked for them. The Government formulates schemes to help the poor, raise their standard of living, increase their income and the 20 point programme was also formulated with this objective. What steps have been taken to ensure its proper

monitoring to find out whether the poor are receiving the benefit or not. The benefit of these schemes would reach the poor only if they are properly monitored. The Congress Party and Shri Rajiv Gandhi have taken steps to eradicate poverty from the country in the near future. Only then this can be done. These programmes would not be successful if necessary control is not exercised over the officials and the schemes are not properly monitored to find out whether their benefit is reaching the people or not. Therefore, there is need for such a system. Thirdly, Rajasthan abounds in mineral wealth and they are found particularly in hill areas. There are huge reserves of sandstone which are used in the lime and cement production. If factories are set up to manufacture these products in those areas, it would ensure employment and eradicate poverty. Sandstone is available in abundance in Kota, Bundi, Bhilwara Chittorgarh and there are some cement factories as well, but there is need for more such factories. A broad gauge line was constructed from Kota to Chittorgarh and the intention was to tap the vast sandstone deposits available in this area and in Mandsaur district of Central India. Therefore there is need for more cement factories in the area. It would provide more employment opportunities. Very few people, say 1000 or 500 people can be absorbed in a factory but the mining industry can employ between 5,000 to 10,000 workers. Mining is done on a very large scale and offers good employment opportunities. Therefore, a survey of the area, particularly the hill areas should be conducted to find possibility of setting up sandstone based industry. Identification of employment opportunities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people should be made to help remove their unemployment and poverty. This should be ensured in all respects.

I have to make one submission more regarding rock-phosphate which is used in the production of fertilizers. Mining of rock phosphate is done on a large scale particularly in Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Bhilwara. I think that at very few places in the country phosphate of this quality would be available. The Rajasthan Government is mining rock phosphate on a very small scale and even that is not being fully utilised. If fertilizer plants are set up in

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

the area, rock phosphate deposits can be fruitfully used and it would also provide employment to thousands of people. There is need to make necessary provision for it (*Interruptions*) Dagaji, you have started ringing the bell as soon as you occupied the chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Vyasji, you have already spoken for 10 minutes.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : What will happen if you are in the chair daily ? (*Interruptions*)

I am speaking for your interests, for the interests of Rajasthan.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are raising a good issue, you conclude in five minutes.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : I was talking about mica. Mica is found in Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and in Bhilwara in Rajasthan and as such a mica based factories should be set up in Rajasthan. Approval for setting up a Mica paper factory in Bihar has already been given. Similarly, another such factory has been approved for Adnhra Pradesh. Mica in Rajasthan is not being put to any use and particularly the mica waste is not being put to any use which also causes damage to the fields. If this paper factory is set up there, the local people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes will get employment on a large scale. This needs to be done urgently.

Now, marble is being mined in Rajasthan on a large scale. This marble is extracted in Dungarpur, Banswara, Chittorgarh Bhiwara and Udaipur. This marble is of a fine variety and is extracted in a very large scale. This marble is green, yellow, and sky blue in colour. A variety of marble is found in this tribal area. A factory based on marble should be set up there either in the public or in the private sector. This will provide avenues of employment. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly speak on the subject.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : I am speaking on the subject. Minerals are found in the hill areas there. These minerals include chalk, quartz, copper, zinc and various other minerals. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that large reserves of these minerals have been found in Bhilwara. Deposits have been found in Rampura, Agucha in Bhilwara district. This is the largest deposit in Asia. A provision for mining of zinc has been made in the Five Year Plan and if a zinc smelting plant is set up there, thousands of people will get employment. Large reserves have been found there in a belt stretching upto 30-40 kilometres. Therefore, there is a need for proper exploitation of these deposits. If industries based on minerals found in Rajasthan are set up there, it would facilitate speedy development of those who are living below poverty line. This in turn would fulfil the policies of Congress Party but also the wishes of our leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Therefore, a lot of cooperation is needed on your part for the development of these areas. No work makes any headway unless the Planning Commission gives its approval. All projects in our State are held up on this account and so has the development of these area. You get it examined and if there is some lacuna, adequate priority should be given so as to facilitate maximum development of those areas leading to economic prosperity of the people. I hope you will give due consideration to my views so that the economy of that area could improve and the people could make economic progress.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of great privilege and preasure to see you in the Chair

I support Mr. Rawat's Resolution seeking the development of hilly areas. And as you know, Jammu and Kashmir is a hill State and when I rise to plead for the development of hill areas. I keep in mind all the hilly States in India particularly Himachal Pradesh which is a neighbouring State to Jammu and Kashmir. I do not say that nothing has been done in Jammu and Kashmir. There is a lot to the credit of the Union Government, but

I want to repeat what I have said in this House a number of times that we did not have any public sector industry in the Jammu and Kashmir State. I bring to the notice of the hon. Minister now, through you Sir, that a former Finance Minister here gives me a figure in response to a question. My question was, what was the percentage of share of Jammu and Kashmir State so far as the public sector industries are concerned and the answer was this. During the last 30 years, there was an investment of say, Rs. 25,550 crores and the share of Jammu and Kashmir State was 0.06%. It is only Rs. 7 crores that were spent in organising MHT Unit near Srinagar. So, we have no public sector in the Jammu and Kashmir State. When we are discussing the development of hilt areas, you must have these things in the background that we have no public sector industries.

15.56 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN *in the Chair*]

Added to that another unfortunate dimension is that we have a Government at the moment which has no long term perspective. It came into being because of ** and that Government feels that the Damocle's sword is hanging on its head and rightly so because people will remove from power at any time. Meanwhile, they are causing incalculable loss to the State because they are running the Government without any perspective without any long term planning. They have no guts to ask from the Union Government, the funding that is required for the development of Jammu and Kashmir State.

Against this background, Mr. Chairman I make a strong plea and I will have the support of this august House, of all Members here that in Jammu and Kashmir State, a pointed attention should be directed for the development of electronics industry. Because electronics industries, as you know, are capital-light and electronics industries also do not create pollution. Ours is a State which can attract, if the

Union Government rise to the occasion, the industry. At the moment, tourism has received a very great bolt and I was happy to learn from Mr. Bhagat recently that he will rise to the occasion and do something for the development of tourism in that State. It is because we can attract tourism and we have been attracting tourists, if you exclude this 2 years or 3 years period. Since electronics industries are capital light they can be established in the remotest corners of hilt regions and those industries do not create any pollution. I rise hear to plead very strongly for the establishment of electronic industries in my State. Of course, in Himachal Pradesh and other States also, they may be established.

So far as this resolution is concerned, I do support the entire resolution. I do not know, when you pass this resolution, what happens. Will the hon. Minister rise to the occasion and say that he would accept the essential elements of this Resolution and would take action? Will he also say that he will bring it to the notice of the Prime Minister what we are speaking because our young and dynamic Pime Minister is also interested in the establishment of electronic industries. So, this resolution receives very great support from me. This resolution says that there will be hill area development cells in concerned Ministries. I would make a little change and say that there will be hill areas development council or something like that. We cannot have a cell in every Ministry. But there can be a body at the national level which can monitor the development of hill areas and decide on establishing electronic industries or some other industries which are capital light. When we come to part (c) of the resolution, it says about the enhanced transport and investment subsidy for setting up of industry beyond a particular altitude Jammu and Kashmir State as a whole is a hill State but it has pockets which are far-flung and are not accessible areas. I will remind the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Azad who is here that he represents the Washim parliamentary constituency. But he must not forget his own district, i.e. Doda. It has pockets which are very far-

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

flung like Babta, Valeza, Mud, Kishitwar, Dodu, Basantgarh, Madh, Gurez, Tulil and Karnah are the places within the hilly State. Even far-flung areas like Ladakh, Kargil and Leh, require a lot of attention, transport and investment. I must congratulate Mr. Rawat for getting a resolution like this. I support Clause (c) wholeheartedly.

Sir, I would be very brief because it is a resolution which has already been discussed a number of times here. I quoted this figure because I do not want to be irrelevant in my speech. I must request the Minister, through you, that when I give him a figure quoted by a former Finance Minister that out of Rs. 25,550 crores that we have spent in public sector industries we got a share of 0.06% to do something about it. He knows that our tourism has received a jolt; our cottage industries, small-scale industries are very much dependent on tourists trade and when tourists do not come to purchase even a carpet or handicrafts or paper machine, our cottage industries sector is in shambles: our small-scale industries are in shambles. Our share in public sector is very poor. I have brought it to your notice today and now when you rise to reply, will you give me an assurance that you will establish these electronic industries in Jammu and Kashmir State and give pointed attention to the development of very backward areas within that State.

[Translation]

*SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkuru): Mr. Chairman Sir, I welcome the Resolution moved by our colleague Shri Harish Rawat for the development of Hilly areas and to improve the living conditions of various tribals of these areas.

In Kashmir area there are different kinds of people living in the Hilly areas. Similarly we find various tribals living in frontier and Deccan hill areas. In Karnataka Nilagiri hills, Biligiri Rangana hills, Mahadeshwar hills etc. are the

important hill areas where we find different tribals like soligas, Kadukurubas, Jenukurubas living.

There is a scheme of special category to develop the hill area in North. But no such scheme exist for the development of hill areas in South. There is one scheme which is known as 'Western Ghat Development Scheme' which comprises Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Unfortunately, this scheme has not achieved anything. This scheme is not functioning satisfactorily. This is the responsibility of both the States and the Centre. The Central Government should see that the money allotted for such scheme is utilised properly. It should also provide sufficient funds for such scheme as the States have financial constraints.

In Karnataka 'Soliga' tribals live in the area of Biligiri Ranga hills. They are leading the same life which they were leading 200 years ago. They live in the interior of thick forests. They do not put on any cloth on their body.

There are other tribes in various hilly areas of Karnataka which are known as Kadu Kurubas, Jenu Kurubas, Hallikyatha, Silli kyatha etc. etc. Most of the people in our country do not know how these tribals are living. Strangely the Western Ghat Development Scheme has done nothing for the upliftment of these most unfortunate people. Both the Centre and the States have completely neglected these tribes.

Jenu kurubas earn their living by collection honey in the hills and selling it in the far off villages and towns. This honey fetches them very little money. They may get about two rupees per kilogram. But the same quantity of honey is being sold for about forty rupees in the cities. The exploiting middle man has not spared even the tribals. It is a difficult task to understand the life of these tribals and to uplift them. A similar tribe exist in the hilly areas of Maharashtra. A recent marathi film 'Jaitara Jait' produ-

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

ced by Jabbar Patel depicts the life of 'Jenukurubas' very vividly. These tribals need the full attention of the States and the Centre.

Shri Harish Rawat has urged in his resolution for the rehabilitation of these people. They are very badly in need of housing facilities. At present they live in bushes, caves and on the trees of thick forests. Educational facilities should be provided to the children of tribals. Films should be produced on living conditions of tribals and these should be telecasted through Doordarshan as a national programme. There are no medical facilities. Birth rate in Soliga Community is descending very fast. Many of these tribals die due to diseases. If this trend continues I am afraid that these tribes may become extinct in future.

These tribals must be identified and they should be deployed to work in some industry. They prepare good handicraft items using bamboo. This has to be encouraged. Marketing facilities to sell their goods have to be provided and the middle man's exploitation should be discouraged.

As suggested by Professor Soz Electronic industries have to be started with the sole aim of helping these tribal people. Transportation facilities are a must for these tribals in far off forests. They live in the midst of thick forest. Roads have to be constructed and other transportation facilities have to be provided to tribals immediately.

Sericulture should be encouraged in these hilly areas and to sell these silk commodities Co-operative Societies should be opened. Otherwise again the middle man will eat away all the profit. Be keeping industry is another important area where these tribals can be helped very well. Hilly areas have abundant natural resources. This wealth of the nature must be exploited to the maximum extent for the benefit of the tribals.

There is one peculiar group of people in Karnataka, and other parts of South India. They are known as 'Buda Budike' They are nomads. They do not have any place to

settle and they go on moving from one village to another. Like other tribals these people also need all help from the Government. They should be provided housing facilities. Housing colonies have to be constructed first of all. Factories have to be opened. Medical facilities, clothing facilities and educational facilities have to be provided to them. They should be brought to the main stream. They should also know about civilisation. They should live like human beings amidst us. They should be assisted to stand on their own legs. For this both the States and Centre should come forward to give liberal financial Assistance. Here I want to give a very important suggestion for the kind consideration of the Hon. Minister. That is to constitute separate Council for each State. The Western Ghat Development scheme is not at all helping the tribal people. Therefore constituting separate Councils is a must. The leadership of such council should be left to dedicated social workers. Politicians should not be involved in these matters. Co-operative societies must be there to help these innocent tribals.

I want to suggest one more point with regard to misuse of money that is allocated for uplifting the tribal community. Accounts of crores of rupees are being shown. But no body knows where does the money go? Therefore severe punishment should be given to such individuals who are indulging in misuse of money. Shri Rawat has also suggested in his resolution that the culprits must be punished.

I hope the Hon. Minister would do his best for the amelioration of the tribal community and to bring them to the main stream of our nation. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars) : Sir, I support the resolution moved by Shri Harish Rawat. Discussions about the hilly areas have taken place many times in this House; but it is time to stress this matter fully.

The hilly area people are thinking that they have been exploited by the people

[Shri Piyus Tiraky]

living in the plain areas all along. We have seen that the people living in the plain areas live in the hilly areas only occasionally. They used to go for their excursion or just to have enjoyment only. But they have not thought of the development of the people. They must know what we are getting from the hilly areas. They must also know that without the hilly areas in India, the people in the plain cannot live.

We get tea, cinchona, medicinal herbs, valuable trees, spice, fruits and what not. All these things are coming from the hilly areas of the country and the people working there have their own customs, their own culture which is different from the rest of the country. But people who are living in the plains never think that these people are also Indians and they must also be treated equally. So, those who are working for the good of the nation, those who are giving us medicines, those who are giving us good fruits, those who are giving us valuable trees and without them the nation cannot progress, what do we do for the development of these people? When we speak of the hilly areas, we do not speak of the mountains alone or the trees alone, we are speaking of the people living there and working there very hard. Very often you see that all the good colleges, all the good schools and all the job-oriented training schools are in the plain areas. So for some time the hill people have to come down to the plains for their study and very few people get the chance to get any job in the plain areas. They are supposed to be second-class citizens. Whenever some hill people come to Delhi, they are first asked, 'Wherefrom they are coming' and if he says that he comes from such and such hill area, then they think that he should be a very backward person and 'how he has managed to come over here?' This is the idea.

They are never put in any decision-making positions. They are always Vice-President, Secretary or Under Secretary or something like that. When it is the highest post or a decision-making post, they think that the hill people must have no such mind or brain to govern. So in the Hill Areas Development Council or in similar bodies

many of the members are from the plains and not a single person from the hill areas is there. In the hill areas there are tribal areas also. These tribal people also are never put to any responsible job. So, Sir, the development work of the hill areas must be given to the hill people and they should be given preference—the people from that side who know their custom, who know their language, who know their culture and who know their way of life and the people from the plains have no respect for these things. They are just seeing them, whenever they go to hill areas on pleasure trips, as some people in the cage, wondering how these people are living there without water, without electricity and other modern amenities and 'where do they get their water from'. The hill people have to walk for miles to get their drinking water. They admire 'What a simple life they are leading?' Sir, what the hill people want is equal treatment in the government and in every walk of life. At least for the development of their area, the responsibility should be given to them so that the hill areas can be developed on the lines of the plains areas.

I would like to mention some areas specially. We have the trouble every time about the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people these people are generally living in the hills because they cannot be accommodated in the plains areas. They are supposed to be second-class citizens. They say, 'They cannot think and they cannot manage to be equalised with the other peoples because they have their separate culture, language and custom also which differs from the rest of the country.' The Government should give a serious thought to all these things and take all possible steps for the speedy development of the hill areas; otherwise the trouble may come from the hills and if the trouble comes from the hill areas, it will be very difficult to manage because, you know, from the history also, that every revolution comes from the hill areas and the hill areas people once annoyed, will drift from all the rules and regulations that we are making here and it will become very difficult. So please be careful.

These hill areas cover also our border areas. The border areas must be very

much secure and must be very much developed because the temptation is coming from the other countries. Being a border area, a very special treatment should be given to the hill areas and the hill people. Chhota-Nagpur, Santal Parganas and parts of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, etc. are all hill areas and the people there you know are very simple. They cannot tell a lie. They cannot cheat others. So they are considered as '*Bewaqoof Yeh Nahi Janta Hai*'. Because of their simplicity it is very easy for the plains people to cheat them and to exploit them and to get from them whatever they want for their own well-being.

Sir, we are getting many, many valuable things from the hill areas but we are not giving these people anything from our side. So this is a very nice resolution and it is time that the Government think over it and the hill people should be equally given power in the government and in the decision making positions also and not in the subordinate positions only. They know the areas, they know the culture, they know the custom and the way of life of the hill People. So the responsibility should go to the hill areas people from where they are coming for the entire development of the hill region.

Thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak

DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : Actually we are discussing about the tribal problems and the hill regions. So I am one with my other friends who have expressed their concern for the development of our hill regions.

Mostly the people who are living in these regions are tribals. These tribal people are engaged in national development. They are very much engaged in national development. They are giving us honey, they are supplying us the wood. As the hon. Member who spoke just now said, they are giving us fruits. They are also providing us very good environment. We go on holidays and enjoy the scenery of the hills. As we are just sucking the honey from the hill region, we are just throwing the outer layer of the fruit to them. This is

really a disparity existing today between the plains people and hill people. Unless this inequity goes, definitely, I tell you, one day or other or even tomorrow they will be exploited by the neighbouring countries because they are in a very strategic position in our country. For example, take Sikkim. It is in a very strategic place. Tomorrow, because of this neglect, if a foreigner goes and exploits them, definitely we are going to pay for it. Therefore, this is a serious matter. We should see that their all-round development is ensured and this disparity should go. Otherwise we may have to pay very heavily for it. Therefore, I want to suggest a few things to you.

In regard to their day-to-day farming, I would suggest to the Government to come forward with a scheme for growing medicinal plants which can be easily grown there. Then horticulture can be developed in a big way in the hill areas. Trees can be grown by using modern methods of sprinkling seeds from aeroplanes on the hill regions. This is one thing.

The second thing I would like to suggest is about the tele-communications system and transportation. There is a lot of room for their improvement. Recently I had been to Sikkim. While going through the plains area to the hill region, it was very difficult to move. From Bagdogra to Sikkim it is such a horrible road journey. On the way I enquired from the people and they say that they have to pay Rupee one for a cigarette. In those parts smoking is a must because of the cold conditions. Everybody is smoking there. I am just giving an example how the living conditions are there. They are paying Rupee one for a single cigarette. Therefore, one packet of cigarettes costs Rs. 10. I asked why. They say it is because of the transportation problem. There are landslides on either side. We took about six hours to reach the interior of Sikkim from Bagdogra. Because of these transportation difficulties and lack of proper tele communication facilities—there were a number of telephone poles which due to landslides have fallen and the communication disrupted—they are sometimes cut off from the external world and they are isolated. That is the condition.

[Dr. V. Venkatesh]

Therefore, Sir, I would like to suggest to the Government that they should come forward to establish a good communication and tele-communication network in these regions. The Government should set up special TV Centres to cover the distinct cultural programmes of the area and they should be exposed to the world as also they would know what is happening outside their region. I would, therefore, humbly request the Government to see that there are special programmes for the common people living in those farflung and hilly areas through special TV programmes.

Sir, in these areas, environment is very fine; a very calm and serene atmosphere are obtained in these areas. We can exploit these areas for the development of the country as a whole. Now, because the people are illiterate, they are subjected to any kind of exploitation. All these things should not be allowed to take place in those areas. Moreover, Sir, they never come forward with a request to the Government for help. They are keeping mum. If the Centre neglects these regions, then tomorrow the neighbouring countries may exploit those people. Therefore, in the interest of our country's security and integrity, Government must establish more educational institutions and they must also come forward for the establishment of Universities in the hilly regions. Then only you can expect some progress and development in these areas. By establishing universities in these areas, people in the plains can also go and study there in a calm atmosphere and they can also devote more time for their studies. This way the people in those areas can acquire more knowledge and get economic assistance.

Coming to the industries, I would like to suggest that instead of going in for the electronic and other modern industries, we should think of establishing more of cottage industries in those areas because the people there would find it easy to promote cottage industries. They may not be knowing the modern industrial production methods. Therefore, I would request the Government

that more and more cottage industries should be encouraged in the hilly areas. Sir, the most important thing is that we should not allow any sort of inequality to grow in these regions. Otherwise, it should be very dangerous for the country.

Coming to health, I have some points to place before this august House. Sir, recently I visited Gangtok and I was shocked to see the living and health conditions of the people in those areas. About 30% to 35% of the people are suffering from TB in Sikkim alone. Moreover, I understand that the doctors are paid basic monthly salary of Rs. 660. There is a great disparity in the pay-scales of doctors living in the plains and in those hilly regions. In our State, that is, Karnataka, a doctor is paid Rs. 1200 per month as basic pay. It is unfortunate that the doctors are less paid in these places. If this kind of disparity prevails, how can you expect them to render good service? Therefore, disparity at the health level, farming level, etc. should be removed immediately. Otherwise, it will lead to many problems in the country.

Then, Sir, water flows down the hills. These waters should not be allowed to be contaminated. In these places, bore-wells should be encouraged so that the people there get water from the underground level which is not polluted. In Karnataka, people get water from bore-wells and they get the protected water from the sub-soil level. In this way, we can prevent communicable diseases, etc. The government should take up programmes for all round development of the hilly and backward regions on a war-footing basis.

[Translation]

*SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Resolution moved by Shri Harish Rawat for the development of hilly areas is an important one. The Govt. should show much more interest in the development of hilly areas

Sir, so far the Government had recognised the hilly areas only in the northern

* The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

parts of the country like Sikkim and Himachal Pradesh. The Government have ignored to recognise many hilly regions in the South. There are many hilly areas in the eastern ghats and especially in Andhra Pradesh. So all the development programmes of the hilly regions are confined only to northern states. I want that the hilly areas in the South and especially in AP must be recognised and the special assistance and other development programmes should be extended to those areas also. There are many hilly regions in my state where most of the Scheduled Tribes people live. The concentration of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other economically backward class people is confined to the hilly regions. These Tribals grow crops in these hills taking much pain, risk and labour. But as there are no marketing facilities to sell their agricultural produce they depend on middle men who exploit their helplessness. There are no transport facilities available in these areas hence the tribals depend on the middlemen for disposing of their produce. These middlemen are literally sucking the blood of poor tribals. Hence, the Government should take steps to provide transport facilities in these hilly areas and eliminate the middlemen for bettering the conditions of the tribals. Also, market facilities should be provided in these hilly regions, so that the tribals can sell their produce at a remunerative price. Tribals should not be left at the mercy of middlemen any more.

Sir, so far no steps have been taken to recognise the hill regions in my state. There are several hilly areas like Parvathipuram, Paderu, Bhadiachalam etc. I request the Government to recognise these areas as hilly areas immediately and extend all development assistance to those places. Now many programmes are being taken up to improve the conditions of the people who live in hilly areas. But unfortunately the benefits of these programmes are not reaching these people. Hence a perfect arrangement has to be made to see that the benefits of the programmes meant for the economic development of the people in the hilly regions do really reach them. There is no proper official machinery to oversee the implementation of these programmes. The Government should take special interest in this regard and see

that the benefits of these programmes percolates down to these people.

Sir, there are huge mineral deposit in A.P. like Manganese Alumina, Mica etc. which are available in predominantly hilly areas and oribal belts. In Eastern ghats Iron ore, Manganese and Mica deposits are aplenty. If industries are set up to exploit these deposit the entire region will prosper. The living conditions of the tribals in the area will improve a lot. There was a proposal earlier to set up Alumina factory in this region of my state. But so far no decision has been taken to set up alumina factory there. The State Government also had been pleading with the Centre for setting alumina factory in the State. The Centre continues to ignore this request even to this day. The setting up of the Alumina factory for the development of the tribal belt consisting of Paderu and Arak Valley is necessary. I hope the Centre would take a decision to set up this factory soon, so that these hilly parts of the State can develop and bring a change in the miserable conditions of the tribals living there.

Sir, there are several hydel projects in the country and especially in Andhra Pradesh which are located predominantly in the Hilly regions. Machkhan, Seeleru and Srisailam are some of such projects.

There are several thousand employees who have settled down around these projects. They are living there for more than 10 years now. But these people have no facilities of transportation, medical and education etc. All these facilities have to be provided if they are to lead a decent life. This will help the tribals immensely. Sir, I take this opportunity to plead once again to recognise Bhadrachalam Paderu, Chintapalli, Sileru, Parvathipuram areas in my state which are in eastern ghats as 'hilly REGIONS' and extend to them all the special attention available under the Hilly Area Development Programmes. Since majority of the people living in this area are tribal and Scheduled Castes and other weaker sections. They will be benefited very much, if these areas are accorded the status of hilly areas. Also before I conclude I request the Government to make special efforts to make the benefits of the develop-

[Shri A. J. V. B. Maheswara Rao]

ment programmes to reach the people for whom they are meant. Thanking you very much for giving me the opportunity, I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time originally allotted for this Resolution was two hours. We had extended the time twice and now we have completed six hours. One more Member is still there in the list and then the Minister has to intervene. We will, therefore, extend the time for this.

[Translation]

SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM (Mandla) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved in this House by Shri Harish Rawat. Means of transport are most essential for the development of hill areas. If we want development of hill areas, it is very essential to develop means of transport there. Unless means of transport are provided there, no development work can be undertaken there. Therefore, Government should provide means of transport in hill areas on priority basis.

The second thing which I want to point out is that no residential accommodation is provided to a government employee posted in hill areas. The result is that a government employee posted there comes back immediately after joining his duty. I would like to give an example in this connection. The Health Department posted 15 doctors in our district Mandla, but all of them returned to their home town after joining their duty and the posts are still lying vacant as they were. The result was that 22 Adivasis belonging to 'Baiga' community died as they could not get timely treatment. I had drawn your attention toward this in the past also.

At least 22 persons died in the period from July to 10th December this year. When a disease breaks out there, neither the district administration nor any other authority can be intimated about it. Even if the district administration gets information, it is not in a position to give any immediate help. The main reason therefor

is the lack of means of transport there. The area has not so far been developed. Therefore, means of transport must be provided there in order to save the lives of people from such diseases.

I would also like to make a mention about industries. I hail from the Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh. I would like to tell you about my district itself. Being a backward area, people avail of the facilities given by the State Government or the Central Government for setting up industries there, but they set up industries in the border area of the district due to which other border districts are benefited and that district does not get any benefit. Sir, Mandla area is the origin of the River Narmada. It is a very important area, but instead of setting up industries there people set up industries in the border of the district and the other districts are benefited thereby. Hence, this matter needs to be looked into. It would be better if small scale industries are set up there.

Sir, the famous Kanha National Park is situated in our area. Besides it, there are many other places which can be developed as tourist spots. Amarkantak can be developed as tourist spot. Being origin of Narmada river, it is a place of pilgrimage as well. Similarly, there is a place named Chanda which is cold as well as a beautiful place like Kashmir. Mandla has been the capital of Gond Kings in ancient period. It is surrounded by the River Narmada on three sides and there are very beautiful and lovely hill spots which have natural beauty and which can be developed into tourist spots, but no attention has so far been paid by any one in this regard. If you want to develop these areas in real sense, you should post officers in these areas who have a keen interest to serve in these areas and who can mix up with the Adivasis there. Government have done a lot of work and still wants to do more, but the officers posted there are not able to establish rapport with the local population which results in denial of any benefit to the people there.

Sir, I would like to make a reference about the house building scheme there. The State Government had formulated a scheme to provide housing facility to

Adivasis belonging to 'Baiga' community. A scheme was formulated and an I. A. S. officer issued orders for construction of houses and a colony of 'pucca' houses came up in accordance with the plan but the houses so constructed were not constructed keeping in view the utility and convenience of the Adivasis. The floors of these houses were made of cement. Scantly clothed Adivasis experienced severe cold in these houses. Moreover the houses were quite adjacent to each other with the result that they gradually abandoned those houses and shifted into jungles. In this way they did not get any benefit of those houses. The houses meant for them should have been constructed at considerable distance from each other so that they could make an enclosure in which they could grow, 'rai' mustard, maize and vegetables etc. and also keep their cattle there. The distance between the two houses should be half a furlong in order to suit their requirements. But instead of doing so, colony type houses were constructed there and they could not adjust themselves in those houses. The Government tried to provide them facilities but it proved useless on account of lack of knowledge about their actual living style.

Sir, I would, therefore, like to state that only such officers may be posted there, as are fully acquainted with the way of life of the Adivasis and who work in a dedicated manner and can implement programmes meant for the welfare of the people. The officers, who do not know anything about the living style of the Adivasis, should not be posted there.

Sir, day before yesterday also I had referred to this thing and today also I would reiterate that unless the Central Government allowed the State Government to build roads, etc in the Adivasi areas, no development work can take place there because in the absence of orders from the Centre the State Government can neither construct roads there nor provide electricity and canal facilities there.

That is why most of the development works have been held up and construction works worth crores of rupees have gone waste.

Under the Forest conservation Rules, 1980, roads, canals, dams cannot be constructed and electricity lines cannot be installed without the permission of the Central Government of it involves felling of trees. Sir, the aforesaid Rules have to be amended so that development works could be undertaken smoothly.

Sir, in such areas lift irrigation facility can be easily provided. So, Government should undertake the work of providing lift irrigation facility immediately.

Sir, I would suggest that an exclusive authority may be set up to monitor and undertake development works of hill areas. This authority should keep a watch on all the development works. If you yourself and the Government would look into all these things, these areas can certainly be developed.

In the end, I thank you very much for allowing me time to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister may now reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : These discussions here have been very fruitful and exhaustive. Each of the point which are made here have been noted down and in fact as you rightly said some time ago that the original time allotted was two hours. It really started on the 2 August, 1985. The next discussion took place on the 16 August, 1985. And the third discussion was on 29 November, 1985. Today is the fourth day. So, we have taken note of the number of Members who have spoken until today that is 32. Each of the point, I have not only taken it down here, but also from the speeches recorded after corrected by the Members, we have taken those copies and each one has been analysed and we have made out a paper. Even those points not really within the four corners of the resolution or the Amendment, but the points which the Members thought important and we found they were we have taken note of those miscellaneous points and also try to answer from whatever

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records available. The main resolution was moved really, on four points. The first point was concerning creation of certain cells for the hill areas so that emphasis could be put. The second one was about electronic industries. The third one was for enhancement of transport and other investment subsidies for the purpose of setting up of industries on which one hon. Member spoke today also. The fourth one was regarding several grants-in-aids whether from the world or some extra money to be paid for the conservation of forests and the ecological balance of the hill areas.

Sir, the amendment which the hon. Member Mr. Mool Chand Daga put in was also taken note of and I will readily reply to it point by point. But before I give the reply to the points, which have been placed by the hon. Members in this House, our approach, as to how the problems of the hill areas are being tackled, shall have to be explained before the hon. Members. The exercise is this. And that is why I say the discussions have been very fruitful. We are really on the threshold of thinking on a new line as directed by our hon. Leader, the Prime Minister to put a special emphasis to find out and locate the basic needs of the people. I am confining myself to the hill area now. The basic needs of the hilly people, as very rightly corrected by the hon. Member, Prof. Ranga. After ascertaining the basic needs, we have to see what those needs are, and then see how those things can be given to them, not only by building a university, bridge or road, but by seeing whether the *per capita* consumption expenditure increases.

A university is most certainly necessary. A road is necessary, and a bridge is also necessary. From this Exercise, it transpires that those people in the hills, in the distant forests and up in the hills, are working in spite of bad weather conditions and without proper food, for the development not only of the hilly areas but in fact for the whole of India as well, while they do their own duty. When this is so, we have to see whether we are spending the amounts in a manner that it goes back to those

people and whether the consumption expenditure, i.e. what he purchases on a single day, increases. This is the test we are going to apply.

The whole philosophy of attacking the problem has to be changed. Things are happening this way; some people are from the plains. It has been very rightly stated by one hon. Member when he spoke about participation of officers who hail from the hills in policy-making. I have been meeting people from the north-eastern States when they come here for Plan discussions. I found that 90% of them are from the hills. That is how consciousness has started developing. That is why 32 hon. Members took more than the allotted time, viz. six hours, and deliberated on this important issue.

So, if we want to have this test satisfied, we have to divide these places on a zonal basis. The first question is: how are the problems of the hilly areas to be tackled? As presently advised by experts and advisers, the hills area in India has to be divided into two basic regions. One, a region which is geographically co-extensive with the hills i.e. the entire State within its boundaries is taken as one category. That is, the whole State is regarded as a hill area. The second is designated hill area, in which a part of the State is within the hills, and another part of it is in plains like in Assam, West Bengal, and some parts in the South. Some of the sub-divisions are hills, but many of the portions are plains. Those areas' problems are also being attacked. This is category No. 2, and this has been named as the designated hill area.

I will give details of States. I will give the general idea first. Within the designated area, two divisions have been given. One is Hill Area Development Programme or HADP areas; and another is the Western Ghat Development Programme or WGDP areas. On that basis, the whole problem is being attacked. The whole idea is to provide food, fuel and fodder. Food, fuel and fodder, to meet the basic needs of the people first.

If an electronic industry is necessary, yes; but the test is whether the investment

which will be put in there is going to that man working up in the hills, putting in his sweat, blood and earning his daily bread by weathering the adverse conditions there.

In the plains, we find that the school-going children—and even in the hill States which are partly hill and partly plains—have to walk 1 or 2 Kms. to reach the nearest school, whereas in the hills of some States, they have to walk 5 to 6 Kms. Therefore, within the State itself, there must be different allocations, and we are doing that exercise to see that even there also, priority is determined, and given to people who need it most.

So, on this basis of food, fuel and fodder we have to approach the entire strategy of attacking the difficulties, or solving the problems of the hill area. Within this definition comes the first category of the hill area which is co-extensive with the boundaries of the State. These States, as we have been advised by the experts and advisers, are Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and the two Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

In the designated hill areas, the States are Assam, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and the Union Territory of Goa.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : There is Andhra Pradesh also, you made a mistake.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : No, no.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about Madhya Pradesh ?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : It is there. Please wait. I am coming. A distinction is being made. How the distinction is being made, I coming to it. These designated hills areas, they have been divided into two groups, where special emphasis has been given in the HADP, that is, two districts of Assam, eight districts of Uttar Pradesh, Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu, three Sub-Divisions of Darjeeling districts in West Bengal, and the Western Ghats Development programme in the Western Ghat hill areas

in the State of Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Goa.

Then, certain areas like Andhra Pradesh and others are there.

AN HON. MEMBER : Orissa also ?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Yes, Orissa also. and some parts of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESWARA RAO: In Andhra Pradesh no area is under the HADP.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : If any question remains, I will answer later on.

In this Programme we have to divide the matter in which the whole work is to be carried out for the purpose of taking out this, whether the consumption expenditure of the people increased and in what manner.

Now, for that reason, monitoring is of course necessary and for the purpose a different department has been created. But until that is augmented, we are doing it on the basis of sub-plan method. That is within the State there must be a separate sub-plan for purpose of earmarking the expenditure to be spent in hill area.

Now, it has been unfortunate that even though the sub-plan and earmarked funds are given, so far there has been no way of controlling the States. They divert the amount which was meant for the people of the hill areas and spend it somewhere else where they felt that it should be spent. In the Plan discussion it was specifically earmarked for that area where it is to be spent. Therefore, now we are finding it and discussing the way, that it will be earmarked not only for the Minimum Needs Programme but within the Minimum Needs Programme, how much money shall have to go to hill areas, how much money shall have to go to tribal areas, how much money shall have to go to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, or the communities which are extremely poor and below poverty level. Unless this is done, this money in being diverted to other area and although it is being shown

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at the end that so much money has been spent of minimum needs, but the area, the definition, the name says 'Minimum Needs Programme' and the Minimum Needs Programme will take us, we are finding in certain—in some other States—areas that it is going to people without demarcation where they need it most. Therefore, we are trying to find out and already a circular has been issued that from one head of expenditure, if money is diverted to another ahead, there would be a deduction from the central allocation. Some sort of penal clause will have to be put in; otherwise, nobody is listening. We are discussing and trying to find out some such thing. Even for hill States and for tribal development and the portion which has been identified as the poorest, money is to be earmarked there. If it is not spent there by the State concerned, then penal clause will apply. Even in the Sub Plan the same difficulty is there. There are some State Governments which divert the money earmarked for hill areas for the people in this plains. There is no doubt that the money had gone to the people who needed it, but there were people who needed it more. Their per capita income is so low that they cannot really have there one meal a day. They are toiling and producing. But market facilities are not there. Their goods are sold to middlemen, who purchase them at cheap rates and then sell them in the plains at double the rates. They buy things from the plains and take them up on the hills and then sell them there at three or four time the price. These problems have been identified now and the priorities have been decided. That is why, under the direction of our hon. Prime Minister, per capita plan outlay has been fixed. For the information of the hon. Members per capita plan outlay in the hill States has specifically been fixed. Take Himachal Pradesh. The per capita outlay in the fifth plan was Rs. 691, in the sixth Plan Rs. 1618 and in the Seventh Plan it has been put at Rs. 3034. Like that in each of the States, whether wholly hill States or designated hill States, per capita outlay has been increased. I can give another example of Sikkim. In the Fifth Plan the per capita outlay was Rs. 1906, in the Sixth Plan Rs. 5309 and in the Seventh plan Rs. it is Rs. 10,952. Therefore, this emphasis has

been put by the hon. Prime Minister for a very good purpose—for locating and giving it to the people for whom it is meant. There has been a consensus in the House that things are improving. In fact, the friend from Jammu and Kashmir has admitted that it is improving. But is it improving in the same pattern in which investment is put? The people of the country are paying for it. We are investing. But is it going to that person who needs it most? There are several other examples. So far as North-eastern region and tribal areas are concerned I have also got the figures. In the Sixth Plan the all India average of per capita outlay was Rs. 891 and for North-eastern region it was Rs. 1219. In the Seventh Plan, the national average is Rs. 1493 and for North-eastern region it is Rs. 2281.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI A. J. V. B. MAHESWARA RAO : North-Eastern region covers Sikkim and all those places but the Eastern region covers Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, etc.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Yes, eastern region I know. But I am comparing because of the speeches made today that these tribals should be looked after, and very rightly it is said so. They are being exploited by some people. That is why I am saying that it has drawn the attention of the Government. We are conscious about this and so this is the allocation made. We can now go by the figures allotted. Thereafter we have to see monitoring, thereafter we have to see, in fact, physically whether it has reached ...
(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH : When population is decreasing, naturally the per capita will increase.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Population is decreasing where?

DR. V. VENKATESH : Because of the ill health, people are dying.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : My friend is not right. The country would have been very happy if the population comes within

a reasonable limit, but we do not want Malthusian theory of population that there would be destruction by natural calamities at disease by which people will die, we want to use knckjiankgi Theory (Interruptions). I will certainly request the hon. Member to take it without any politics because the point he has made has been rightly taken note of. Without any politics please look at it whether we are in the right direction and whether the emphasis is well placed within the financial constraints. There are so many financial constraints. Therefore, this is the question which has to be answered to the Members.

So far as the electronic industry is concerned, there are certain points made, and very rightly so. When our experts examined it, they found that electronic industries, so far as hills are concerned, are really good for three good reasons. First is the dust free atmosphere—that is what scientists are advising us—second is that bulk transport of raw materials or finished goods is not essential for electronic products, and the third is amenability of small-scale operation. But considering these, we are also balancing with the need and the necessities and the viable atmosphere remaining in the plains, because the industry shall have to succeed. Not that we put in an industry and it does not reach the level of producing materials in time and profitably. Therefore, the advantages and disadvantages of the hills and the plains, availability of market, availability of personnel, putting the people in right places and so many other things are also being considered. So far as the hill areas are concerned, electronic industry, if it is set up in the hills—my friend from Jammu and Kashmir Prof. Soz has come. He has mentioned whether I can give any assurance that an industry of electronics will be set up in Jammu and Kashmir. Whether it is Jammu and Kashmir or some other hill States where it is necessary, what we have one is that we have invited entrepreneurs of such industry so that it goes to the hills,

and also the electronic industry improves not only in the hills but also in the plains. Higher investment subsidiary has been raised to the limit of Rs. 50 lakhs (Interruptions).

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will you establish electronic industry in Jammu and Kashmir or not ?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : The point is whether it will be in a particular State or not, that has to be decided, but generally ... (Interruptions).

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I do not want Jammu and Kashmir to get neglected when I have placed the case before you ... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not the question and answer hour ... (Interruptions)

SHRI A. K. PANJA : We have to look at the development of the entire hill area, and of it certainly the Jammu and Kashmir. For that I am saying that we have to attack the problem of hill areas and for that reason we are encouraging electronic industry. Why? Leave alone politics. Kindly appreciate ... (Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : On a point of order, Sir. There is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The bell is being rung—

Since there is no quorum, the House stands adjourned to reassemble on Monday at 11 A. M.

17.14 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then Adjourned Till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 16, 1985/Agrahayana 25, 1907 (Saka),