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Vaisakha 20, 1907 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

*Friday, May 10, 1985/Vaisakha
20, 1907 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Balbir Singh, who was a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha during 1977-79 representing Hoshiarpur Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab.

As an able Parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and relentlessly worked for the upliftment of down-trodden and weaker sections of the society.

Shri Singh fell to the assassin's bullet today morning at Hoshiarpur.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend who was a stalwart in his own way. He never feared anything in his life and worked for the people.

On behalf of the House we send our condolences to the bereaved family. I hope the House will share my views.

Now, the House will stand for a short while.

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

2

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Production of Gold in 1982-83 to 1984-85

*793. SHRI S.C. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the yearly production of gold in India from 1982-83 to 1984-85;

(b) the output of Yeppamana Mine in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the new places where gold is found ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total amount of gold produced during 1982-83 to 1984-85 is as follows :—

Year	Quantity of gold produced (In Kgs.)
1982-83	2241
1983-84	2078
1984-85	2036

(b) The output of Yeppamana Gold Mines in 1984-85 was 25.7 Kilograms of Gold.

(c) Exploration for gold during the last few years in the southern extension of Kolar Gold Fields in Andhra Pradesh have resulted in location of two new gold prospects, one in Chigargunta and the other in Mallappakonda.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : The production of gold in the year 1982-83 was 2,241 kilograms and then in 1983-84 it was 2078 kilograms. In 1984-85, it has come down to 2036. That means, there is a shortfall of gold. What are the reasons when we are producing the gold, even then the Bharat Gold Mines Limited is incurring loss? What are the losses?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, it is true that the production of gold is coming down because the main area where the gold was found was the Kolar Gold Mine run by the Bharat Gold Mines. We have been going deeper and deeper and the gold reserves have been progressively going down. I would like to give some statements which will be really of interest to show how steeply the gold reserves have gone down in this year. That will show that it is because of the depletion of the gold reserves that gold production is not becoming profitable. This Kolar Mine is a very old mine, one of the oldest in the world. It began starting production in 1980 and its level of production was 89 tonnes in the period 1981 to 1990. From 1901 to 1910, in ten years, the production was 170 tonnes. The next 10 years, i.e. from 1911 to 1920, it was 125 tonnes. From 1921 to 1930, it was 117 tonnes. From 1931 to 1940, it was 99 tonnes. It has fallen down steeply from 1971 onwards and during the period 1981 to 1983, it has come down to 4.4 tonnes, today, although we have gone nearly 3 kms. deep. Now, the main reason is, we have not been able to find other areas where economically viable gold can be exploited. This is the major reason why the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., is losing this year. It will lose about Rs. 12 crores. Last year also, it lost. So, we are constantly losing because of this.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Sir, two new places are located, that too in Andhra Pradesh. What is the progress of those locations and what will be the quantity available—whether it will be economically profitable.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, at Chigargunta, the deposits, the reserves that we have found are of 4.19 million tonnes of ore bearing gold. The grade is 4 to 5 grams per tonne of ore which is considered economical and viable. We are trying to see how we can exploit it economically. Other areas are also being explored both in Mallappakonda and Yeppamana mines and Hatti mine block and Hosar block in Karnataka and in Kerala in Nilambur which is the river belt area and in other States.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Sir, the Minister was kind enough to say that the production is going down although you, are going very deep in the mines and the gold is not available in abundance. May I know from the Minister is it due to the acute power shortage that the production is decreasing in Karnataka?

I would like to ask how about the performance of the Hatti Gold Mines in Karnataka and whether they are earning profit or they are making losses.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as Hatti Gold Mines are concerned, I will not be able to say anything.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not connected with this.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I need notice to collect this information.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Hatti Gold Mines produce gold.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Hatti Gold Mines is producing gold, I know; But you asked about the shortage of power. Recently I have taken up this question with the hon. Chief Minister when we met him here. There was an old agreement to get hydro power for this gold mine at a particular rate and it was more or less a dedicated power. Now suddenly they have increased that rate and they want us to take power at a

very higher rate and also from this source. That has increased the cost very much and makes it really prohibitive to work out. But it is not shortage of power. It is heavy increase in the cost of power that is affecting the working of the mines. As it is, it is becoming costly. This has been an additional straw on the camel's back.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : What is the total investment that has been made on the Yeppamana Gold Mines in Andhra Pradesh? It is reported that it has yielded only 25.7 kg of gold. What was the production in the year, 1983-84?

Nearby there are Vajra Kareer mines where diamonds are proverbially recovered from ancient times. Will the hon. Minister also say whether any survey is being made at Vajra Kareer and Anantapur districts?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I need notice for this. This is a specific question about a specific area and I do not want to give a general reply.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : You have said 25.7 kg have been produced by Yeppamana Gold Mines, of Andhra Pradesh. What is the total investment that has been made on that?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will collect the figures and send them to you. I do not have them readily with me.

Closure of Iron ore Mines in Gorumahishani-Badam-Pahar Sector in Mayurbhanj District (Orissa)

*795. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether some iron-ore mines have been closed down in Gorumahishani-Badam-Pahar sector in Mayurbhanj district, Orissa ;

(b) if so, the reasons that led to the

closure of these mines ;

(c) since when these mines have been closed down; and

(d) the efforts made to re-start the mining operation in these mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). 6 mines on an average used to be worked in the district in the last 3 years. At present, only 3 mines are being worked in this District. Notices of closure have not been received from the other mines. In the notice received from one mine for temporary discontinuance of operation, the reason cited was low off-take of iron ore from Badam Pahar. This is reported to be the general reason for discontinuance of iron ore production in this area.

(c) Since notices for closure from other mines have not been received, nor have production returns been filed by these mines since 1981-82, it is not possible to indicate when these mines have ceased producing.

(d) MMTC procured 1.88 lakh tonnes of iron ore in 1984-85 from this District, which is more than the quantity annually procured from this District in 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84. For the year 1985-86, MMTC plans to procure a larger quantity than the 1984-85 level to meet its increased export commitments. The increase in procurement by MMTC is expected to act as a stimulant to increase production of iron ore in this District.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : The hon. Minister has replied that at present three mines are being worked in this sector, this Gorumahishani-Badam-Pahar sector in Mayurbhanj district. He has already stated that six

mines on an average used to be worked in this district.

The hon. Minister may kindly give the figures of the number of mines which were operated ten years back and also the off-take of the present year.

I am glad the hon. Minister has replied in Part 'd' of the Question that in 1985-86, MMTC plans to procure a larger quantity than the 1984-85 level. I am glad to learn that we are very much committed to the welfare of the tribal community and it is our moral responsibility to see that they are gainfully employed.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Steel Ministry and the Commerce Ministry will increase the off-take of another 15,000 tonnes per month to the present level during 1985-86 and in order to do this, whether the mines which have been closed down would be opened by a directive of the Ministry.

I would also like to know whether the mines which have been given temporary discontinuance notice would be opened.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : The operation of the mines is dependent entirely on the requirements of the industry. In the past few years, with regard to iron ore, it has been a buyers' market and we have been having problems with exporting it, particularly from Paradeep Port because it can take only ships of the size of 55,000 DWT whereas Brazil and Australia, the other two suppliers of iron ore, can take upto 200,000 DWT. I am glad to inform the hon. Member that the MMTC have succeeded in persuading the Japanese steel mills to take about five lakh tonnes of iron ore from Paradeep Port and increasing the exports to other countries, particularly to South Korea, Czechoslovakia and G.D.R. The MMTC is expected to export 23 lakh tonnes through Paradeep Port in 1985-86. This will naturally mean more work for

the mines that are operating. I do not have the figures for the mines that were in operation ten years ago. But I do know that there were about 15-16 areas where mining was done. Out of these, three closed down in 1981-82.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : As one of the policies of the Government of India is to disperse establishment of industries in backward areas, may I know whether the Steel Ministry will also examine the feasibility of setting up a pig iron plant in the region which would ensure utilisation of iron ore on a long term basis ?

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : We will certainly bear this in mind.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : I want to know from the hon. Minister how many workers lost their employment on account of the temporary closure or temporary discontinuance of the operation of these mines and what steps are being taken to give them employment.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I have not got this particular information. I will collect it and have it sent to him. We will find out; in any case, we will ameliorate the difficulties of the local people.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Is the Minister aware that the railway line which used to transport this iron ore from Taband to Bangriposi and from Bangriposi to Baripada and then to Rupsa is now closed down. If that railway line is reopened, these mines could be exploited better.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : It would depend entirely on the demand for iron ore. If demand increases and if the Government feels that opening of the railway line will be economical and feasible, we will do so.

Gold Deposits in Chaliyar River near Nilambur in Kerala

*796. **SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of STEEL,

MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Union Government has been drawn to the reports of gold deposits in the Chaliyar River near Nilambur in Kerala;

(b) whether deposits are of feasible quantity to be exploited;

(c) whether Government of Kerala have approached the Union Government for approving a project of mining of gold; and

(d) the action initiated by the Union Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b). Government is aware that gold bearing gravels are found in the Chaliyar river terraces near Nilambur, Kerala. The commercial viability of these deposits has not yet been established.

(c) and (d). The State Government proposes to take up pilot scale mining to establish the feasibility of mining of alluvial gold deposits and is in contact with the Government of India regarding the financing of this project, for which UNDP assistance has been provided earlier.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHANAN :

For decades people have been collecting gold from the river bed Nilambur. In between it had been stopped for a while and in the last few years it has been revived again. There are many stories on both sides of the river how people became rich by mining gold in this Chaliyar river. But unfortunately it has not been possible for the Government of India or the Government of Kerala to take up those project very seriously. I am also told that the extraction methods that we have now, the level of technology that we have, are not conducive for extracting gold

from alluvial gold deposits. As the Minister has explained, Bharat Gold Mines is losing. Many major deposits like KGF are drying up. So we are faced with the problem where we have a large number of deposits, some of them in difficult mining areas as in the gold-bearing gravel terraces of this river. Therefore, I want to know whether the Geological Survey of India is involved seriously in this project and whether they are going to get the latest technology so that they can pursue these deposits with some vigour.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is precisely the idea. That is why in the pilot plant we have in mind we are going to utilise the latest technology with UNDP's assistance to see how best we can exploit the gravel and extract gold because that is the real problem. Although we are aware that large areas extending many kilometres, say 50 to 60 km on the bank of the river, have these blazer deposits as they are called and they could be exploited, but because of the extensive stretch, unless we have the correct technology, we will not be able to economically exploit these sands and that is why we are also taking the assistance of the Australian government because they have some expertise in this. So, wherever we can get the latest technology and the know-how we want to utilise because we are keen to see that the gold deposits which are found in the Nilambur river are utilised.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHANAN : I am grateful to the Minister that he is taking some interest in this because as I said, for decades it has been lost. I want to know how much assistance he is going to give in specific monetary terms—for this project, how much he is going to allot and what kind of assistance he is going to take and what is the time-frame in which this project would be taken up seriously.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The project has been taken up seriously. As far as seriousness is concerned...

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : It is not lacking.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as resources are concerned...

MR. SPEAKER : They are lacking.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : There also I want to say that we will ensure availability of adequate resources. For this purpose at present we do not have any project report showing the requirements of the resources. Unless these experts are able to tell us how much resources would be needed for capital equipment, for exploration and all that—both Australian and UNDP experts are involved—this is a pilot project and the viability report is yet to be obtained. Once that is done, there will be no shortage of resources. Time limit, of course—it is very difficult to give, but I can assure you that we are as keen as anybody else to find gold. Who does not want gold?

[*Translation*]

Promotion of Export of 'Gawar' Based Products

*797. **SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether desert districts of Rajasthan, Mehsena and Banaskantha district of Gujarat and also Haryana and Punjab State received good crop of 'Gawar';

(b) if so, whether there are many Gawar-based factories in these States which are producing 'Gawargum' and 'Gawar Powder' and exporting the same to foreign countries; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take concrete steps to deal with the situation created as a result of stiff competition from Pakistan and help in promoting the exports in 'Gawar' based products?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table on the House.

Statement

(a) Guar is grown generally in arid and semi-arid areas. Certain districts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab produce good crop of Guar.

(b) Guar Gum processing units are located mainly in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana. These units are producing Guar Gum and Guar Powder which are being exported to foreign countries also.

(c) Government have already initiated a number of measures to promote export of Guar Gum and its products. These include extension of adequate cash compensatory support and import replenishment facilities, conducting market surveys of major importing countries, etc. A comprehensive study has also been commissioned to investigate the market, pricing policy, competition from other countries and possibility of developing new end-uses, particularly in the food industry.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government of India are giving incentive to the exporters of Guar Gum and Guar powder. We welcome it. The question is that Pakistan is also in competition with us for Guar powder. Will the Central Government endeavour to forge ahead of Pakistan in competition by increasing the incentives and by taking some concrete steps?

[*English*]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : There is a general feeling that whatever incentives or assistance we are giving now are not adequate. There has been a demand that it should be increased Government are examining it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : My second question is this. What is the

progress with regard to the study which was initiated to explore markets for Guar and to fix its price with a view to giving remunerative price for Guar to the farmers of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab and Gujarat, for earning additional foreign exchange for the country from the exports of Guar Gum and Guar power, on competition with other countries and for developing the food industry, and the time by which the report will be submitted and relief provided to the farmers ?

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : So far as this aspect is concerned, it is within the administrative control of Agriculture Ministry. I am only concerned with exporting of the end product and, therefore, I would not be able to answer this question.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : When the question of Rajasthan and Haryana come up, you have simply said that 'I am concerned with export only'. Kindly tell us the extent of export made last year as also this year and the reasons for not giving incentives for promoting exports and, in case you give incentives to promote exports, the nature thereof ?

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : The export of guar gum reached an all time record in 1981-82 to the tune of Rs. 108 crores. In 1982-83 it came down to Rs. 35 crores. In 1983-84 it was Rs. 16 crores. In 1984-85 it had slight recovery and it went up to Rs. 24 crores. As far as incentives are concerned, I have already answered this question. We are giving the incentives. But there is a feeling that more incentives should be given. We will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

The policy of Government should be to encourage more and more exports. What steps have already been taken and are proposed to be taken in future to increase exports which have declined during the last two to three years so as to give encouragement to North India and Rajasthan ? I want to know what concrete steps have been taken by Government. Government should do something in view of the rapid decline in export. We have a right to know why no steps were taken in this regard ; the hon. Minister owes an explanation.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has just now touched these points.

[English]

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I think I have clarified the reasons why the export of guar gum—has come down. This particular product is mainly used for the oil drilling and during 1981-82 the export had gone upto Rs. 108 crores because that was the period when there was the oil boom ; various countries went on drilling oil ; the offtake was very high. But now the position is very different. Many countries have slowed down oil drilling and so the requirement has decreased. That is the reason why it has not been going up. As far as further efforts are concerned, we have already commissioned a study by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade which is going into all the aspects, including the aspect as to how we can meet the challenges from other countries.

Indian Exports to Singapore

*798. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the visit of Singapore trade team to India in April, 1985 was beneficial to Indian export trade ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the extent of increase in export

expected during the next five years as a result of the discussion with the Singapore trade team ; and

(d) the new products which are likely to be exported to Singapore ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The team largely consisted of representatives of trade and industry and came to establish contact with their Indian counterparts and get a first hand knowledge of the progress made in India, particularly in the engineering sector. The team visited a number of industrial units in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Bangalore with a view to identify opportunities for joint ventures and increased trade between the two countries.

(c) It is not possible to forecast the extent of expected increase in exports as a result of discussions with Singapore Trade Team.

(d) The new products that are likely to be exported to Singapore include high-tech. products, computer software, electronic components, heavy engineering items, granite, marble, construction materials and scooters.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : The Minister has stated in the Answer that the Government has identified certain new products for export to Singapore. I would like to know from the Minister whether it is true that the import from Singapore is as much as three times of our export to that country. If it is so, I would like to know whether some more items are identified to be exported to Singapore, so that our export value is at least on par with the import

value.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : Sir, I can give the figures of exports and imports. I do not know whether it is three times higher or not. I do not think it is three times more. In 1982-83, our exports were Rs. 121 crores and imports Rs. 395 crores ; in 1983-84, exports—Rs. 195.17 crores and imports—Rs. 384.96 crores ; and in 1984-85, provisional figures upto April—September, exports—Rs. 84.12 crores and imports Rs. 270.62 crores. And I do not think, if you calculate, it will come to three times.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Is it true that the Singapore Government is importing goods from India and then the same goods are exported to other developing countries with their trade names ? If so, is any effort being made to capture the markets, in those countries and export to them directly by us ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : This is a trade practice followed by several countries. Singapore can follow this. We can follow this too. We can import from one country and then export to another country. This is a trade practice and I do not know why we should have any objection.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : The Finance Minister at a press conference in Lucknow on 7th April had this to say and I quote—

“The Union Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh today cautioned the people against the impending foreign exchange crunch and said it was time the country applied brakes on the bulk trade which consumes foreign exchange.”

These are the actual words and now the only solution to avoid what the Finance Minister has called—‘the impending foreign exchange crunch’ is to increase substantially our exports and reduce, if possible our imports. I would like to

know from the hon. Minister how it happens that whilst we keep on saying that we are the tenth largest industrial country in the world and the third country with the largest scientific and technological manpower, it becomes so very low in the world map as far as our foreign trade is concerned, both with regard to goods as well as consultancy and services. What is the Government doing in the field of exports. Just by increasing exports by one crore of rupees is not enough. There should be a substantial drive so that this foreign exchange crunch is avoided.

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : I do not think his question arises out of this particular question. But I may remind the hon. member that though we are the tenth largest industrial country in the world, we also have the second largest domestic market in the world. Next to China, we are the largest in the domestic market.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Singapore Trade Delegation to our country comprised even the electronic industry people who are settled in Singapore and also some other industrialists who are very much interested to get goods from our country, apart from the traditional items like handlooms, spices and other things. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Trade Team which visited our country from Singapore has identified certain areas of manufactured goods in the field of engineering as well as electronics for importing to Singapore. If so, is there any proposal regarding the visit of our Indian team to Singapore in the near future to sort out this problem ?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : The Trade Team was not the official team. It was a private team which has come to India. But I think that was in response to my personal request to the Minister of Commerce of Singapore, when I visited Singapore in September last year. We found that Singapore was not aware of the capabilities of India as

to what is good and what is bad. So, we invited them saying that they should sponsor a trade team to India and in response to that they have sponsored this team. They have come and they were busy here from 4th to 17th. They visited various parts of the country, including Bombay, Madras and Bangalore and they had seen all aspects of our industry and some items had been identified for the new thrust, which I had replied to part 'd' of the main question.

[*Translation*]

**Availability of Wool for Traders in
Uttar Pradesh**

*800 **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the traders of Dharchula, Mursyari, Didihat areas in Uttar Pradesh purchase wool in large quantity from Nepal;

(b) if so, whether these traders have not been getting wool from Nepal for purchase in desired quantities for the last two years ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make good quality wool available in these areas so as to protect the interests of local wool traders and weavers ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The Government have received reports about shortage of Nepali wool in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh including Cherchula, Munsyari and Didihat.

(c) In order to meet the situation created by the shortage of Nepali wool in the said areas, the Khadi & Village Industries Commission have already taken the following steps :

- (1) During 1984-85, Khadi & Village Industries Commission made a provision of Rs. 15 lakhs for procuring and supplying the required quality and quantity of raw wool from Rajasthan to the local artisans 'no loss no profit basis'.
- (2) 3,000 kgs. of Nepal wool which was purchased during the last year has been moved to Munsyari and made available for the local artisans.
- (3) 2,039 kgs. of scoured long staple cross-breed wool has been supplied and kept near Pithoragarh for distribution to local artisans.
- (4) An amount of Rs. 20 lakhs has been made available to the U.P. State KVI Board for setting up a Wool Bank for procuring raw wool from Uttarkhand area and also from other parts of the country. This wool would be made available to the local artisans in Utterkhand area.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is aware that Indian artisans manufacture woollen garments of export quality. The wool supplied to them used to be of good quality and at low rates. But the wool being supplied by the K.V.I.C. in Rajasthan is not of that quality and its price is also high. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government will make arrangements to procure wool as per the requirements of Indian artisans from Nepal after holding negotiations with that Government until such time as a trade agreement in this field is reached with China ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : We are fully seized of the difficulties in this matter. The raw wool which used to come from Nepal was not being procured under any bilateral agreement and there was no procedural restriction on its imports. For some reason, difficulty is being experienced in its procurement for the last 2 to 3 years. In this regard, I fully agree with what has been said in the reply that the artisans should be provided with full assistance which at present is not being done. On receipt of this question, we have asked the State Government to look into this question and on our part we are prepared to give whatever assistance is required from the Government of India.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : The hon. Minister has not replied to that part of my question in which I had asked whether negotiations would be held with the Government of Nepal so as to maintain the supply. My second supplementary is that since a lasting solution lies in providing assistance to the sheep rearers then, whether you propose to start a centrally sponsored scheme to encourage sheep rearing on a large scale ?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : This is a question which is very marginally related to our Ministry. This mainly concerns with the Ministries of Agriculture and Industry. But, what is needed is that the State Government should send a proposal after making thorough investigation and survey indicating the quantum of assistance and the names of the Ministries from whom it is required and then only can we take some decision after giving consideration to all aspects of such a proposal. We are of the view that the quantum of assistance being given by the K.V.I.C. is insufficient and, therefore, in view of its importance, we have written to the State Government. Action will be taken soon after a reply is received from them.

[*English*]

SHRI C.P.N. SINGH : The hon. Member, Shri Harish Rawat, has asked

the hon. Minister whether his Ministry would see to it or have some arrangements with the Government of Nepal for this particular wool trade. Now, there has been a lot of talk about the bilateral relations with them. The hon. Member, Shri Rawat, comes from the border area and he knows that the economy has a lot to do with a wool trade that comes from Nepal. Now, will his Ministry try and have this arrangement with Nepal or not?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : If that is going to help the situation, certainly we shall consider.

Taxation on Inter-State Consignment Transfers

*801. **SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI**

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward suitable legislation and frame the rules regarding taxation on Inter-State Consignment transfers ;

(b) if so, when, and

(c) the reasons for the delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). A conference of Chief Ministers held on 28-5-1984 recommended by consensus different aspects of framing legislation for taxing inter-State consignment transfers. The Government has not yet taken decision on the various issues involved.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : The legislation concerned is of most vital interest to all the States. It is not a regional or local issue. So, Government should have given us more details in their first reply. Anyway, I have with me the summary record of the

Conference of Chief Ministers held on 28th May 1984. Here, there is a set of unanimous recommendations, and the last line of it says :

“Further that the legislation to implement the above be introduced at the earliest opportunity.”

In view of this, and also in view of the fact that the States are losing an enormous quantity of potential resources due to failure on the part of Central Government to pass the necessary legislation, I want to know from the Minister whether Government will bring the legislation immediately in this House, in this Session of the House, and pass it during the current session.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Here, I want to mention that the Group that has been set up by the Chief Ministers, i.e. the group headed by the Finance Minister with the Chief Ministers of some of the States, has not come to a consensus regarding the proceeds of the proposed consignment...

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : It is not necessary. It was done after wards.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : That is, how they are to be disbursed. So, a Chief Ministers' Conference was convened on 28-5-1984. Some recommendations were made; but as the hon. Member knows, a new Government has come into existence in the month of January 1985. We are looking into all the aspects. A fresh look will be there, and the Government has not taken a decision. It is under consideration.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Government is always continuous.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : In a letter dated the 5th October 1984, the then Finance Minister in reply to a letter from the Chief

Minister of West Bengal to the Prime Minister had stated—I quote :

“The Central Government is aware of the anxiety of the State Governments to get the proposed levy of consignment tax finalised in the context of the growing need of the States for mobilising additional resources. As you know, the resolution adopted in the Chief Ministers’ Conference held on 25-8-84 gives the broad outlines of the scheme for the levy of the proposed consignment tax. While working out on them, there arose several important constitutional, legal and other issues and it required time to sort out the same. Beside, the Ministry of Law was extremely busy with certain other legislative matters. For these reasons, it was not possible to get the proposed Bill ready for introduction in the last session of Parliament.”

Last session means, the last monsoon Session.

Originally, the national Law Commission had made the recommendation; and on that recommendation, the 46th Amendment of the Constitution was there. So, may I know from the Minister what exactly are these issues which could not be sorted out in the last more than seven months ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : It is true that there was a Law Commission’s report; and in the 61st Report, they have recommended this; and we have amended the Constitution. There was the 46th Amendment also, to that effect. Now, as I said earlier, we are having a fresh look at all the issues; that means the implications and others. Therefore, the Government is looking into the question....

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : We came to know that there was already a consensus with regard to the apportionment of the taxes; and according to that consensus, the entire proceeds were to go to the States. In view of this, where

was the hitch about coming to a decision, and introducing a Bill in Parliament ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As per the recommendations, so far as the disbursal amount i.e. the proceeds of the proposed consignment tax is concerned, the sub-group did not come to any conclusion. There was a dispute and when it was placed before the Chief Minister—the Chief Ministers’ Conference was called on 28-5-85—some recommendation had been made. As per that recommendation, 50 per cent of the proceeds should go to the assessing States and another 50 per cent should go to the pool wherein that distribution should take place. In the meantime, we had received so many representations from Administrative Ministries of the Central Government. They also feel difficulties and that also we have to take into consideration; that is why I stated, we are going to have a fresh look at it; and it is under consideration; we are looking into all the aspects of it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Considering that the government continues, considering that no new situation arises, in the meantime, will the Minister kindly let us know the time limit by which this legislation will be introduced here and passed ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : How can he assure that the government will continue ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As already stated, I don’t think I have to repeat it once again.

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Is it not a fact that the former Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, had promised many States Governments that this will be taken up immediately ? Now you are saying that you are going to have a fresh look at it. When did you decide, to have a fresh look at it ? Is it after this government came to

power in January ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I have already stated. You did not hear I think. That is why after the new government has come into existence, we are having a fresh look at it; we are going into all aspects of it.

Debt Burden of Developing Countries

*804. **SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the debt burden of the developing countries was discussed at the meeting of the International Development Committee of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank in April 1985;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the stand taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The debt issue was mainly discussed in the Interim Committee (a Committee of the Governors of the IMF). The Development Committee (a Joint Ministerial Committee of the Governors of IMF and World Bank) also discussed the issue in brief mainly endorsing the conclusions reached and recommendations made in the Interim Committee.

(b) The Interim Committee noted with concern the severe debt servicing difficulties faced by many developing countries and urged the creditors and debtors to work in co-ordination to restore the creditworthiness of and investment climate in these countries through adequate flows of new lending on realistic terms and restructuring the past maturities of loans extended by private and official creditors.

(c) The views expressed by the Com-

mittee were in line with Government of India's thinking on the debt issue.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : I suggest that Mr. Sinha and Mrs. Sinha be clubbed together.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you still feel they are apart ? Why do you want to drive a cleavage now ? Professorsahib's intentions do not seem to be good.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : The questions are not identical. I have gone through the statement and I confess I have not been able to understand the reply. What concrete steps were suggested to be taken by the Interim Committee and what was the reaction of the other body ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : If you go through the answer part (b) you will find that "The Interim Committee noted..." That Interim Committee and also the Development Committee of World Bank, these are two committees; and unfortunately, the hon. member could not find a distinction, difference between these two committees; and that is why we have cleared it.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : I know the distinction between the Interim Committee and the Development Committee; and I know that the Interim Committee, a group of 24, met and prepared a note of demand which was considered by the Interim Committee; and this is the result of the Committee. Therefore, I say you are expressing pious sentiment and sympathy. What concrete steps were suggested to be taken up and what action has been taken ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Because he had cast some aspersions that he could not understand the reply, what I submit is, this is how that question was formulated. The question reads.

"Whether the debt burden of the

developing countries was discussed at the meeting of the International Development Committee of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank of in April 1985;"

What I ventured to say is that there are two different meetings, one is from the IMF, it is the Interim Committee and another is the Development Committee of the World Bank. Two meetings were held. In the reply what I stated is as follows about the steps taken :

"The Interim Committee noted with concern the severe debt servicing difficulties faced by many developing countries and urged the creditors and debtors to work in co-ordination to restore the credit-worthiness of and investment climate in these countries through adequate flows of new lending on realistic terms and restructuring the past maturities of loans extended by private and official creditors."

AN HON. MEMBER : It is a long reply.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : That is why I stated that the reply is exhaustive. To make it simpler I can say that the suggestions that have been made there are accepted to see that free flow of credit for developing countries, should continue. That is one, and the terms of the assistance should be liberal and on realistic basis. I think this is simpler than what I stated earlier. The loans which are matured may be restructured in the form of simpler loans and therefore they can be re-scheduled or revised. That is what was accepted.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. No is not allowed. You sit down.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : It was not an aspersion. It

was only imagination. I only meant that the answer was not clear.

There were specific suggestions made by the Group of 24 and one of them was that the leading rates should be easier and the conditionality should be relaxed. I want to know whether it was suggested that a Task Force should be appointed to review the while situation in order to take steps for easing out the debt burden. I want to know from the Minister, what was the actual decision taken by the Interim Committee or the Developing Committee. I understand that they said, that there will be no dialogue, no negotiation, no conditions etc. So, I am asking this question. Is that so ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As I have already stated, the suggestions that have been made have been accepted by the Committee.

Even in the reply I have stated that the free flow of credit should continue and also that the terms of the loans should be liberalised and restructured on a liberal basis. These are the suggestions made.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Simpler language is more vague !

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Gadadhar Saha Absent. Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I am here, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : How can you lag behind ?

AN HON. MEMBER : She is given a back seat.

Change in Foreign Exchange Regulation Act

*806. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE please state :

(a) whether the "Round Table" he'd in New Delhi in April, 1985 under the aegis of European Management Forum has demanded changes in the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act;

(b) whether its demand includes lifting of ceiling of 40 per cent on foreign equity participation; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The meeting of business executives that took place in New Delhi on 15—16 April, 1985, under the aegis of the European Management Forum was not sponsored by any official agency. It is gathered from the press reports that a suggestion was made at the meeting that the current 40% limit for foreign equity participation should be raised substantially to enable meaningful foreign participation in Indian ventures. Under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, there is no ceiling on foreign investment. What it does provide for in sections 26 (7), 28, 29 and 31 thereof is that a foreign company operating in India which has more than 40% foreign holding will require the Reserve Bank of India's permission for undertaking any expansion or diversification in its industrial, commercial or trading activity, for performing agency function on behalf of other Indian entities, for acquiring immovable property etc. It may be mentioned in this connection that Government's policy towards foreign investment continues to be selective and this was also reiterated in the Technology Policy Statement of 1983. Under this policy, our normal preference is

for minority foreign participation not exceeding 40%.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : In reply towards the end the Minister has stated that the policy towards foreign investment continues to be selective. May I know the industries in which Government have permitted higher than 40 per cent share-holding ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Where there is need for very high technology and 100% export oriented units in such cases, the policy can be relaxed so that the foreigners can come than 40 per cent equity. The particulars of these industries are not here with me. But I can say that out of total foreign collaboration approvals of 752 in 1984 151 involved equity participation i.e. equity upto 40 per cent.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I am not satisfied with the reply, Anyway, I am asking my second supplementary. Has the Government considered the request for extending the period of collaboration to 10 years ? In what field Government consider permitting transfer of technology on equity participation basis ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : It can be relaxed in high technology and 100 per cent export oriented industries. In these cases, this policy is flexible. This has been made very clear. The period of collaboration agreement is generally 8 years and it can be extended on merits. Each and every case will be examined on merits and relaxation is also permissible. That is why, we have stated that another legislation is not required. It is flexible.

[*Translation*]

Goods Purchased for Various Departments of Government

*807. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the value of the goods purchased by the Department of Supply for the various departments of Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the quantity of goods purchased from the small scale industries, public sector undertakings and the open market each year;

(c) whether Government purchase those goods from the public sector undertakings which are available from the small scale industries; and

(d) if so, the circumstances which these are purchased from there.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Value of the total purchases made by the DGS and D on behalf of various Government departments including State Governments, Union Territories and Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years are :

Year	Value in crores of Rupees
1982-83	1872.09
1983-84	2294.28
1984-85 (Provisional)	1651.10

(b) It is not possible to give details regarding quantity of goods purchased from any of the sectors whether SSI, PSU, etc. as quantity data are not additive, unit of quantity varying from item to item. However, details regarding value of total purchases made from various sectors during the last three years are given below :

	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (Provisional) (Value in crores of Rupees)
SSI	218.04	270.42	184.03
Public Sector	794.23	1027.70	786.06
Private Sector	859.82	996.16	681.01

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Except for items reserved for exclusive purchase from SSI Units competitive prices and capacity to supply the stores in required quantities are the over-riding considerations in such cases.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You have taken a decision and you have given this reply also that you will purchase about 60 per cent goods from the small scale industries. You have also issued a number of circulars to the

effect that the Department of Supply should purchase goods from the small scale industries to the extent possible. But in your reply, you have quoted figures contrary to your own rules. To my question you have replied—

[*English*]

It is not possible to give details regarding quantity of goods purchased from any of the sectors SSI, PSU, etc.

[*Translation*]

You have not been able to reply to my question. I had asked whether your Department of Supply which made

purchases to the tune of crores of rupees, would give preference while making purchase to Small Scale Industries as compared to Public Undertakings so as to encourage the farmer. And what is your reply? You have simply given the figure. What is the reason why you purchase such a small quantity of goods from small scale industries?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Mining Survey in Bundelkhand
Region (M. P.)

*791. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES
AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted a mining survey in Bundelkhand region in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of the areas surveyed and the quantum of minerals likely to be found area-wise and the action being taken for their mining; and

(c) the number of places yet to be surveyed and the time by which survey will be completed along with details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K.
NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Areas where survey has been carried out include Chhattarpur, Tikamgarh, Panna, Sagar and Damoh districts. Based on these surveys, the estimated reserves of major minerals in the Region are as follows :

Name of Mineral	Qty. in lakh tonnes	Area/District where found
Phosphorite	170 (25% P ₂ O ₅)	Chhattarpur, Sagar
Pyrophyllite	5.7	Tikamgarh
China-clay	0.12 8.16	Chhattarpur Gwalior
Barytes	0.59 0.30	Tikamgarh Shivpuri
Fire-clay	1.96	Panna
Bauxite	0.30	Shivpuri
Iron ore	7.7 (about 38% iron)	Gwalior
Diamond	5.3 lakh carats	Panna
Limestone	10 170	Sagar Damoh

Besides minor deposits of dispoire in Tikamgarh and sporadic mineralisation of pyrite from Chhattarpur have also been located.

Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation is already exploiting the Phosphorite and Pyrophyllite deposits. Mining of diamonds is being done by National Mineral Development Corporation Limited. Clay and Ochre are also being exploited. The extraction of other minerals on a commercial scale will depend on their techno-economic viability.

(c) Geological mapping, survey and other related activities are a continuous process and therefore no date for completing the work can be set. During the current field season (1985-86), besides systematic Geological Mapping in Chhattarpur, Sagar and Panna districts, GSI is also engaged in investigation for base-metals in Damoh and Chhattarpur and for Potash in Panna and Satna districts.

[English]

Decline in Exports of Glycerine, Soaps, Detergents and Cosmetics

*794. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exports of goods like glycerine, soaps detergents and cosmetics have declined substantially; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this decline and the steps proposed by Government to increase the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main reason for the decline is the lower off.take in the major markets.

Steps taken to increase the exports are diversifying into other markets such as West Europe, Middle East, Far East

and Africa, sending out Study-cum-Sales Teams, participating in international fairs etc.

Foreign Exchange Crisis

*799. SHRI P. APPALANARASIMHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are anticipating foreign exchange crisis;

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

(c) the measures proposed to meet the impending crisis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Production and Cultivation of Opium

*802. SHRI AMARSIGH RATHAWA :
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which are producing opium in the country;

(b) whether there is a great demand for opium within country and also for export purposes;

(c) the steps being taken to cultivate more opium in the country;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted in this respect to find suitable land to cultivate poppy; and

(e) if so, the details of the findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) At present, the cultivation of opium poppy in the country is undertaken in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The production of opium in India is essentially export-oriented. Some quantity of opium is also used within the country for production of opium alkaloids, medicinal opium cake/powder, etc.

The quantity of opium exported and the quantity used within the country during the past three years are as follows :—

Year	Quantity of opium exported (in tonnes at 90° Cons.)	Quantity of opium used within the country (Approx.)
1982-83	845	137.2
1983-84	676.7	130.2
*1984-85	684.8	93.7

(*provisional)

(c) to (e) : The current international market situation for Indian opium and the accumulation of large stocks of opium in our factories do not warrant any increase in the area under poppy cultivation. Hence, no survey to find suitable land to cultivate opium has been conducted.

**Complaints regarding Loans to Needy
Under Self-Employment Scheme in
Kerala**

*803. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints from Kerala regarding non-cooperative attitude of banks in providing loans to the needy under the self-employment scheme ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Complaints are received from time to time regarding difficulties faced by individuals in various States with the banks in respect of the Scheme for providing Self-employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth which was introduced in the year 1983-84. Banks have been directed from time to time to expedite disposal of applications. The working of the scheme is also discussed at times in the meetings of the State Level Bankers Committee. Instructions have been sent to the State Governments that the District Advisory Committees should be asked to meet atleast once in a month to oversee the progress of the scheme.

**Geological Survey in Birbhum
West Bengal**

*805. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES

AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any geological survey has been conducted to find out coal and steel mineral deposits in the District of Birbhum, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the location where such deposits have been discovered ;

(c) whether any exploration activities have been undertaken to explore coal etc ; and

(d) if so, the results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). As a result of the surveys for minerals carried out by the Geological Survey of India in the Birbhum district of West Bengal, a total reserve of about 533 million tonnes of coal has been estimated. Low grade iron ore with iron content varying from 28% to 59% occurs in the areas associated with Gondwana sediments.

Besides the known coal occurrences in the Aurang-Kanwartala (Kasta Area) and Gangaranchak-Bhadulia areas in Birbhum, the Geological Survey of India has recently discovered the

occurrence of thick coal seems in the Dewanganj area near Suri. Detailed exploration of coal by the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CEMPDIL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited, is presently in progress at the Kasta area and the G.S.I. is carrying out further investigation for coal in the Dewanganj area.

Loan/Grants to Jammu and Kashmir

808. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of money allotted to the Jammu and Kashmir by Union Government as grants during the three year period ending 31st March, 1985, year-wise ;

(b) the amount allotted as loan for the same period year-wise ; and

(c) the ratio between loans and grants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Central assistance released to the Government of J and K and the percentage of Loan and Grant during 1982-85

	1982-83		1983-84		1984-85	
	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
Central assistance released for State	132.30	65.62	157.71	77.26	173.73	86.88
Plan (in Rs. crores)						
Percentage of Loan and Grants	66.85	33.15	67.12	32.88	66.66	33.34

Other than the above a medium term loan of Rs. 10 crores was released to the State during 1984-85.

Trade Between India and Mexico

*809. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trade between India and Mexico has increased considerably during the last two years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The two-way trade between India and Mexico has not increased during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 as compared to 1981-82. The full year's figures for 1984-85 are not yet available.

Modernising Mining Methods

*810. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to modernise mining methods in the country ;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked in the Seventh Five Year Plan for this purpose ;

(c) the scheme prepared therefore and

(d) the steps taken in this regard in the Sixth Five Year Plan period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). Modernisation of mining methods is a continuing process. Steps taken in regard to mining are generally a part and parcel of the mining project. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate precisely the investment in this regard.

Steps taken in the 6th Plan and pro-

posed to be continued in the 7th Plan, in regard to coal, mines, include introduction of large capacity excavation equipment, mechanisation, modern power support longwall equipment, tele-monitoring systems etc.

Similarly, in the mines of public sector units engaged in the production of non-ferrous metals, modern equipment and techniques are being introduced where possible.

Educating Public Against Smuggling and its Effect

5964. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps for educating the public opinion against smuggling and its bad effect on economy ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the progress made in the matter ; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to dispel the craze for foreign goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Steps taken for educating the public regarding the harmful effects of smuggling on economy and to discourage the craze for foreign goods include the following :

(i) Suitable insertions in newspapers on all-India basis and carrying out of special supplements by the newspapers ;

(ii) Radio broadcast of a feature, entitled "Phoren peddlers" produced by All India Radio on behalf of the Customs Department ;

(iii) Exhibition in cinemas all over the country of two documentary

films on smuggling produced by the Films Division in major Indian languages ;

- (iv) Telecast of static and movie spots ;
- (v) Printing of a message that "smuggling harms the nation" on the labels of notifications and other materials despatched to various members of the public and trade.

(d) Appropriate economic and fiscal measures have been taken to increase the domestic production of quality goods at internationally competitive prices in respect of certain sensitive items like watches, electronics, etc. to dispel the craze for foreign goods. Besides, intelligence-based, concerted raids and searches are carried out against the open display and sale of foreign goods.

Leakage of Amonia Gas in Industrial Township of Nagda

5965. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether amonia gas leaked from the Birla—owned Grasim factory in the industrial township of Nagda in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) whether Government are aware of such leakage as reported in the 'Indian Express' of the 22nd April, 1985 ; and

(c) if so, action Government propose to take against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Company has reported that adequate precautionary steps have been

taken in the matter and the incident has been reported to the concerned State Government authorities, who have inspected the spot of leakage on the same day. The matter has been referred to the State Government for comments with a view to taking further necessary action.

Export of Cut and Polished Diamonds

5966. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of cut and polished diamonds has registered a fall in 1984-85;

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

(c) the total amount worth of cut and polished diamonds exported from India in the past three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the reasons for the marginal decline in the export of cut and polished diamonds included general recessionary market conditions besides hike in interest rates in major markets abroad, reluctance on the part of Indian exporters to sell on long term credits, and the rising strength of the dollar.

(c) The provisional value of exports of cut and polished diamonds from India in the past three years was :

(Value in Rs. crores)		
April, 1982	March 1983	912.83
April, 1983	March 1984	1188.89
April, 1984	March 1985	1172.10

Steps to Save Doon Valley and Shivalik Hills in U.P. from Losing Fertility

5967. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doon Valley and Shivalik hills in Uttar Pradesh are still being destroyed to obtain wood, stone and other minerals;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to affect adversely the fertility of fertile plains in Meerut Division in future; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to save plains from losing its fertility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Mining operations for limestone/rock-phosphate in Doon Valley on the Garhwal Division have been curtailed severely to minimise the adverse effects of such operations upon environment and ecology. In compliance with the Supreme Court's order dated 12-3-85, several mines have been closed permanently, 19 mines are being scrutinised by High Powered Committee constituted by the Supreme Court itself and only 6 mines at present have been allowed to continue mining operation. Abandoned mines are now being taken up for reclamation with the help of Eco-Task Force of the Department of Environment. Ban on green-felling continues to be in operation above an altitude of 1000 m. or on slopes steeper than 30 degrees.

(b) and (c). Since no mining activities are being carried on in the south slopes of the Sivalik range adjoining Meerut Division, the question of adverse effect of mining upon the fertility of the plains in Meerut Division does not arise.

Import of Polyester Filament Yarn

5968. PROF. BIMAL KANFI

GHOSH: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of polyester filament yarn imported during the Sixth Five Year Plan period 1980-85 as compared to the target fixed for such imports;

(b) whether the actual import was in excess of the target initially fixed for such imports during the said period, the reasons thereof;

(c) the demand for polyester filament yarn in the country and indigenous production during the same period;

(d) the Seventh Plan target for indigenous production and imports of polyester filament yarn; and

(e) the year-wise break up of (a) to (d) above ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) to (e). No target for import of polyester filament yarn during the Sixth Five Year Plan period was fixed. Demand for Polyester Filament Yarn during 1984-85 (at the end of Sixth Five Year Plan period) was estimated at 30,000 tonnes.

A Statement showing indigenous production and imports of Polyester Filament Yarn is enclosed.

(d) The Working Group on Textile Industry for the Seventh Five Year Plan has estimated the demand for Polyester Filament Yarn to be 78,000 tonnes by 1989-90.

Statement

(Quantity in tonnes)

Year	Production of Polyester Filament Yarn	Imports of Polyester Filament Yarn
1	2	3
1980-81	10,685	11,072
1981-82	15,508	16,620

1	2	3
1982-83	24,687	13,350 (Provisional)
1983-84	47,989	6,202 (Provisional)
1984-85	54,656 (Estimated)	1,406 (Estimated)

Shortage of Coal in Tea Gardens of North Bengal

5969. **SHRIMATI INDUMATI BHATTACHARYYA** : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. has received complaints about acute/shortage of coal in the tea gardens of North Bengal ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the reasons for inadequate supply, if any ;

(d) the annual requirement of coal in the tea gardens in North Bengal and the extent to which these requirements were fulfilled during 1984 ;

(e) the trend of supplies during the period between January and April 1985 as compared to the supplies during the corresponding period in 1983 and 1984 ; and

(f) the steps taken proposed to meet the full requirements of the North Bengal tea gardens ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Poor performance in public sector and specially in steel plants.

5971. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS**

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

(a) whether attention of his Ministry has been drawn to news item in the 'Financial Express' of 2nd March, 1985 wherein it has been stated that the Chairman of the Public Enterprises Selection Board stated that reason for poor performance in public sector and specially in steel plants is due to political interference in the affairs of management ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri Billimoria has made these observations in his personal capacity. Government does not agree with his views that the functioning of the public sector is impeded by any so called interference as Government does not unnecessarily interfere in the functioning of the public sector. SAIL plants have not been able to operate at their rated capacities mainly because of constraints of adequate and the right quality of coking coal, deterioration in other raw materials, inadequate power supply, obsolete technology and ageing of plants. To achieve the rated capacity, efforts are being made to ensure adequate inputs and of right quality, improvement in raw materials, better maintenance and technological upgradation by refurbishing and revamping of the steel plants.

Programme of Bank of Maharashtra for Education of Wives of Bank Officials

5972. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bank of Maharashtra has an education programme to educate the wives of the Bank officials and has opened classes for this ;

(b) what type of education (special) is imparted to wives of the Bank officials ;

(c) the details thereof ; and

(d) whether the Bank appointed a former high Executive of the Bank as an adviser to this programme and if so, the details thereof including the remuneration paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Bank of Maharashtra has reported that it had conducted training programme of a short duration for the wives of its executives during the last few years. This programme was intended to impart an awareness of social service and motivate the wives of the executives to participate in bank's schemes for social objectives.

(d) The Course was conducted by M/s. Besant Raj Consultants (P) Ltd. during the years 1980, 1981 and 1982. From 1983 onwards, this programme is being conducted by the Faculty Members of the Staff College of the Bank. M/s Besant Raj Consultants (P) Ltd. were paid the following fees in addition to expenditure on hotel accommodation, conveyance etc.

1980 . . Rs. 27,957.00

1981 .. Rs. 14,812.30

1982 ... Rs. 10,071.00

Problems of Ship-Breaking Industry.

5973. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the main problems facing the ship-breaking industry in Saurashtra;

(b) according to the representations received by Government, how many workers are effected ; and

(c) whether this problem has been further aggravated by the demand for retrospective excise duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The shipbreakers of the Saurashtra region have represented that the shipbreaking industry in that region suffers from problems of inadequate infrastructural facilities, restriction in annual allotments of ships, inadequate availability of Oxygen and LPG, recent imposition of excise on scrap arising out of scrap ships etc. The total estimated number of workers employed in Alang and Sachana is about 9,000.

(c) Representations against retrospective imposition of excise duty on the arisings of shipbreaking have been received and the matter is presently under consideration of the Government.

Exemption of Excise Duty to Eastern Metal and Ferro-Alloys Ltd. Cuttack

5974. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Metal and Ferro-Alloys Limited, a factory located at Haridaspur, Cuttack, Orissa is manufacturing ferro-alloys using aluminothermic process without the aid of power.

(b) whether according to notification

issued by Government vide No. 209/83, this unit is exempted from paying the Excise Duty ; and

(c) the reasons why the Excise Department is pressing the unit to pay the excise duty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDANA POOJRY) : (a) to (c). M/s Eastern Metal and Ferro-Alloys Limited, Haridaspur, Cuttack, Orissa are manufacturing ferro-alloys using aluminothermic or Thermit process. As per notification No. 209/83, now superceded by notification No. 62/85-CE dated 17-3-85, units manufacturing ferro-alloys are eligible for exemption from excise duty if manufactured without the aid of power employing the aluminothermic or Thermit process. Collector of Central Excise, Bhubaneshwar has held that the unit is using power in the manufacture of ferro-alloys and hence would not be eligible for exemption from excise duty under the said notification. The unit has disputed the decision and has gone to court. The matter is subjudice.

Setting up of Jute Mills in Raigarh, Madhya Pradesh

5975. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of jute mills set up in Raigarh district, Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) whether there have been enough scope for setting up of more number of jute mills in that district ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to set up more number of jute mills in that district to create better employment opportunity for the local unemployed people ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) There is one

jute mill in Raigarh district, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up any new jute mill in Raigarh district of Madhy Pradesh. The existing capacity of jute industry in the country is considered adequate.

Gaya Cotton and Jute Mills

5976. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of Supply and Textiles be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Gaya Cotton and Jute mills controlled by the National Textiles Corporation has almost become a sick unit ;

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ;

(c) if not, the amount of profit earned by this unit during the last four years ;

(d) whether the workers of these mills have not received their wages for the past four months ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(f) the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). During the last four years, the losses incurred by Gaya Cotton and Jute Mills have been as follows :

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)
1981-82	— 26.80
1982-83	— 74.70
1983-84	— 214.08
1984-85	— 167.76

The following steps have been taken/ are being taken to improve the performance of this mill :

- (i) arrangements are being made for timely procurement of cotton from different available channels;
 - (ii) working capital has been replenished to the extent of cash losses incurred ;
 - (iii) effecting modernisation of plant and machinery ; and
 - (iv) effecting rationalisation of workload and labour force.
- (d) No, Sir. All permanent workers have been paid their wages regularly.

(e) and (f) : Do not arise.

Setting up of Silk and Tussor Cotton Industries in Birbhum in West Bengal.

5977. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the utilisation of raw material for silk and tussor industry in Birbhum in West Bengal ?

(b) in view of the sufficient cultivation of tut plantation and rearing of cocoons in some areas of Birbhum, West Bengal, which is considered essential raw materials for growth of silk and tussor industry, what are the schemes in Central sector for setting up of silk and tasar cottage industry in Birbhum ;

(c) the financial and institutional assistance provided so far for setting up of this industry ;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted by Central agency for proper study of the prospects of this industry ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof ;

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) In West Bengal 700 tonnes of mulberry raw silk and eleven tonnes of Tasar raw silk was produced during 1983-84. The silk produced is utilised by the Handloom weavers and Khadi Institutions in West Bengal but specific information about consumption of mulberry and tasar raw silk in Birbhum district is not available.

(b) and (c). Inter State Tasar project being implemented by Central Silk Board in West Bengal under Indo-Swiss Technical Cooperation programme covers development of Tasar Silk Industry in Birbhum District also. Under the project a sum of Rs. 78.32 lakhs has been released so far the Tasar Sector, a Basic Seed Multiplication-cum-Training Centre is functioning at Mohammed Bazaar for arranging production and supply of Tasar Basic Silkworm Seed to State level pilot project Centres for further multiplication and supply of quality silkworm seed to the Tasar rearers. Similarly under the Mulberry Sector, CSB has established a Regional Research Station at Bolpur in Birbhum District for tackling the problem of sericulturists in the area. Further an extension Centre for Mulberry has also been established in Birbhum District for dissemination of improved techniques of mulberry cultivation and silk-worm rearing among the farmers.

(d) to (f). A survey was organised by Central silk Board to study the prospects of Mulberry Sericulture Development in Birbhum district and the intensive sericulture development project envisaged for Birbhum district to cover 1000 acres mulberry plantation is a result of this survey.

Minerals in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh

5978. SHRI H. A. DORA : Will

the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the minerals available in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether any survey has ever been conducted there ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to establish industry based on minerals available there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a). The Minerals available in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh are clay, manganese, sillimanite, graphite, quartz and building materials.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steel Authority of India Limited has taken mining leases for manganese, while quartz is being exploited by a private company. Of the other minerals, only clay and building materials are at present of economic significance.

Abolition of Freight Equalisation Scheme in Respect of Steel.

5979. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to abolish the freight equalisation scheme in respect of steel ;

(b) if so, whether States like Kerala will have to pay much higher price for this commodity now ;

(c) whether Kerala has represented against the abolition of this scheme ; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to consider any other scheme for compensating the States which will be hit hard by the abolition of the freight equalisation scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The decision to phase out the Freight Equalisation Scheme in respect of iron and steel has been taken on the basis of the National Transport Policy Committee recommendation which in its report to Government had observed that "freight equalisation has had little effect on generating employment activity in backward regions. Freight equalisation in industrial commodities does not meet the desirable objective of dispersal of economic activity but can lead to non-optimal location of industries. We, therefore, recommend that it should be phased out."

The modalities and time phasing of the withdrawal of the freight equalisation scheme in respect of iron and steel are being worked out in consultation with the Ministries/Departments concerned. While working out the modalities abolition, care is being taken to ensure that the industries/consumers located away from the integrated steel plants are required to bear only the minimum extra cost as and when this scheme is phased out.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

SC/ST Officers in N.T.C.

5980. SHRI GANGA RAM : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts in the pay scales of Rs. 1500 and above in the National Textiles Corporation (Delhi, Punjab and Rajasthan) and its mills ;

(b) the number and percentage of officers working in the above grades belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the said organisation ;

(c) whether efforts have been made to appoint the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled

Tribes officers in the above grades directly or by promotion of these working in the Edw and Mills, N.T.C. (DPR) Ltd. Beawan and other units ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) There are 49 posts in the pay scales of Rs. 1,500 and above in the National Textile Corporation (Delhi, Punjab, and Rajasthan) and its mills.

(b) At present, there is no officer working in the above grades belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the said organisation.

(c) and (d). Efforts are made to appoint the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe officers in the above grades directly. At present, the mills under National Textile Corporation (Delhi, Punjab and Rajasthan) have no suitable Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidate in the zone of consideration for promotion to the above grades.

Import of Rose Oil

5981 : **SHRI G. G. SWELL :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether we have been importing rose oil at exorbitant prices ;

(b) the reasons for such imports ; and

(c) the reason why we cannot be self-sufficient in rose oil production having regard to the congeniality of the climate for rose cultivation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Rose oil is being imported in small quantities at reasonable prices.

(b) Indigenous production is not sufficient to meet the demand.

(c) Due to low prices and competition from synthetic oil, the extraction of rose oil is not attractive.

Appointment of Casual Employees Engaged in JCI

5982. **SHRI AJOY BISWAS :** Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casual employees engaged in the Jute Corporation of India during 1981-83;

(b) whether there are any instructions of the West Bengal Government that all appointments should be made through employment exchanges;

(c) whether the Jute Corporation of India is violating the instruction of West Bengal Government and all appointments are being made by-passing the employment exchanges; and

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to give instruction to the Jute Corporation of India to adhere to the instructions issued by the West Bengal Government ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The total number of casual employees on roll of Jute Corporation of India in 1981, 1982 and 1983 were 742, 648 and 668 respectively.

(b) to (d). The Jute Corporation of India have reported that they are not aware of any such instructions issued by the West Bengal Government. However, in compliance with the provisions of the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, normally all regular appointments in the posts carrying pay scales, the maximum of which does not exceed Rs. 800 are being made from amongst the candidates

sponsored by the local employment exchanges. In case of local employment exchange failing to sponsor suitable candidates, recruitment is made from the open market through press advertisement. Seasonal casuals are recruited as and when required at daily rates on "No-work-no-pay" basis. Normally such appointments are made locally from amongst the trained labour and if the past experience is any guide, it is neither feasible nor practicable to make such recruitment through local employment exchanges.

Shortage of Steel in South India due to Restrictions by Railways

5983. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether restrictions have been placed on the movement of steel by the Railway Department;

(b) if so, whether these restrictions have led to an acute shortage of steel estimated to the extent of one lakh tonnes in South India for the current fiscal year as a whole;

(c) if so, the reasons for putting restrictions on movement of steel by railways; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to alleviate the situation as to shortage of steel in South India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (c) The movement of various materials including steel to South India was affected from November, 1984, onwards due to breaches caused by cyclone, resulting in disruption of traffic. Normal movement of materials could be resumed only by middle of January, 1985.

(b) and (d) Receipts of steel materials in the Southern Region from SAIL steel plants during 1984-85 was 7.97 lakh

tonnes, this was marginally higher than receipts of 7.87 lakh tonnes during 1983-84. The total supply of steel materials, both from indigenous production and through canalised imports, for the Southern Region of SAIL has been 10.09 lakh tonnes during 1984-85, which is 4.8 per cent higher than 9.63 lakh tonnes during 1983-84.

Less Pensions to Government Employees

5984. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Government employees except Joint Secretaries and above would be getting less pension than what they would have got on or after the 31st March, 1985 under the new pension scheme particularly if they do not opt for commutation; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration that Government employees would not be sanctioned less pension than what would have been paid to them particularly as the intention of Government was to give benefits and not to reduce the pension of the low paid employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA PCOJARY) : (a) No, Sir. The decision to treat the entire amount of dearness allowance admissible upto average index level 568 as dearness pay for employees retiring on or after 31st March, 1985 would result in *higher pension* for all employees uniformly. However, if we take into account dearness relief, it is seen that in some particular category of employees, the pension under the new scheme may be less than the pension plus dearness relief under the old scheme. Even in these cases, the death-cum-retirement gratuity and commutation value would be higher under the new formula.

(b) The Government have allowed option to all the employees to receive

pension with the benefit of merger or without the benefit of merger. Thus, if any employees feels that the revised scheme of pension is not beneficial to him, he can opt out of this scheme and receive pension in accordance with the rules in force prior to 31-3-1985.

Area Under Rubber Cultivation

5985. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) the area under rubber cultivation in various States;
- (b) the amount released by the Rubber Board under Rubber Plantation Development Scheme for rejuvenation and for fresh plantations, State-wise;
- (c) whether the amount allotted to Kerala is fully utilised; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Statewise area under rubber cultivation is as follows :—

	(In Hectares)
Kerala	2,71,200
Tamil Nadu	16,300
Karnataka	10,100
Others	10,620
Total	3,08,220

(b) Out of a total amount of subsidy of Rs. 1374.81 lakhs released by the Rubber Board from 1980-81 to 1984-85 under rubber plantation development scheme for new planting and replanting about 90% has been utilized in Kerala, about 4.5% has been utilized in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and about 5.5%

has been utilized in other rubber growing States.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Increase in Disbursal of Housing Loan by Nationalised Banks

5986. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether in view of very serious shortage of housing for poor and middle class people, Government are considering to step up housing loan amount presently disbursed by the nationalised banks;
- (b) the present percentage of total loan advanced to the low income group and the middle income group;
- (c) the present instructions to the banks on these loans; and
- (d) whether Government propose to issue fresh instructions for increasing the present percentages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) . (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India has been issuing guidelines to banks for extension of housing finance from time to time since 1979. Reserve Bank of India advised all Scheduled Commercial Banks to earmark specific sums every year for lending to individuals and specified agencies for construction of houses, repairs etc. Banks are expected to allocate about 0.5% of their total advances as at the end of previous year for being provided as housing finance, Reserve Bank of India had earmarked Rs. 75 crores for the year 1979, Rs. 100 crores for the year 1981 and Rs. 150 crores for 1983 respectively.

The quantum of funds to be provided for housing in respect of various categories of borrowers for 1983 was as under :

Dirrct finance	(Rs. in crores) Amount earmarked
1. Individuals/groups of borrowers belonging to SC/ST and EWS	30.00
2. Individuals/groups of borrowers belonging to low income groups	20.00
3. Other individuals	15.00
<i>Indirect finance</i>	
1. Investment in guaranteed debentures/ bonds of HUDCO/Housing Boards etc.	75.00
2. Housing Development Finance Corporation	10.00
Total	150.00

The rates of interest and margin stipulated in the Scheme are as under :

Rate of Interest

SC/ST upto and inclusive of Rs. 5000	4.00% p.a.
Others upto and inclusive of Rs. 5000	12.50% p.a.
Over Rs. 5000 and upto Rs. 50,000	13.50% p.a.
Above Rs. 50,000	15.00% p.a.

Margin

SC/ST and Economically weaker sections, Low Income Groups provided the loan amount does not exceed Rs. 5000	20%
Others including loans routed through HDFC	50%

Steel Plants Facing Power Crisis

5987. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether some public sector steel plants are facing acute power crisis ;

(b) if so, the names of steel plants which are facing power crisis at present ;

(c) the total requirement of power for each of the steel plant ;

(d) the total Mega Watt of power

each of the steel plant gets from the respective State Governments ; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Rourkela Steel plant is facing an acute power crisis.

(c) Total requirement of power plant-wise for the Integrated Steel Plants under Steel Authority of India Limited is as under :

Steel Plant	Contractual Maximum Demand- MVA (MW)
Bhilai Steel Plant	180 (162.0)
Rourkela Steel Plant	160 (144.0)
Durgapur Steel Plant	50 (45.0)
Bokaro Steel Plant	145 (130.0)
Burnpur Steel Plant of IISCO	25 (22.5)

(d) and (e). The availability of power to all the Steel Plants of Steel Authority of India Limited was lower than the

maximum demand except at Bhilai. Restrictions imposed on power supply during 1984-85 were as under :

Plant	Period	Restriction imposed		
		Range MVA	Duration Hrs.	% of Calendar Hrs.
1	2	3	4	5
BSP	April-June '84	0-70	41	2
	July-Sept. '84	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Oct.-Dec. '84	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5
	January '85	Nil	Nil	Nil
	February '85	Nil	Nil	Nil
	March '85	110	2	Negligible.
DSP	April-June '84	0-43	1066	49
	July-Sept. '84	0-43	998	45
	Oct.-Dec. '84	0-43	864	39
	January '85	0-43	347	47
	February '85	0-43	537	80
	March '85	0-43	356	48
RSP	April-June '84	0-60MW(Avg)	2184	100
	July-Sept. '84	5-100MW(Avg)	2208	100
	Oct.-Dec. '84	20-100MW(Avg)	2208	100
	January '85	0-100MW(Avg)	744	100
	February '85	30-100MW(Avg)	672	100
	March '85	0-100MW(Avg)	744	100
BSL	April-June '84	25-124	1064	49
	July-Sept. '84	60-124	1000	45
	Oct.-Dec. '84	50-124	1363	61
	January '85	50-140	378	51
	February '85	0-124	543	81
	March '85	70-140	346	47
IISCO	April-June '84	0-21	1030	47
	July-Sept. '84	11-21	947	43
	Oct.-Dec. '84	0-21	875	40
	January '85	0-21	359	48
	February '85	0-21	510	76

1	2	3	4	5
	March '85	0-21	354	48
Total	April-June '84		5385	49
for	July-Sept. '84		5153	47
SAIL	Oct.-Dec. '84		5310	48
Plants	January '85		1828	49
	February '85		2262	67
	March '85		1802	48

Delays and Impediments in Development of large Captive Opencast Mines.

5988. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been delays and impediments in the development of large captive open-cast mines financed by the World Bank, linking the super thermal Plants at Singrauli and Korba in Madhya Pradesh, Farakka in West Bengal and Rihand in Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the details of such impediments and the causes of delays and the steps being taken to remove the impediments and the causes of delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). None of the opencast coal mines that are under development for supply of coal to the super thermal power plants is being financed by the World Bank. The coal mines linked to the super thermal power stations mentioned in the question are as under :

Name of STPS	Name of linked coal mining project.
Singrauli STPS	Jayant opencast project in Singrauli coalfield.
Rihand STPS	Amlori opencast project in Singrauli coalfield.
Korba STPS	Gevra opencast project in Western Coalfields.
Farakka STPS	Rajmahal opencast project in Eastern Coalfield.

The development of coal mining projects at Jayant and Gevra is progressing according to the scheduled and coal supplies to the thermal power stations have already commenced. In the case of the Amlori project, there is a slippage of two years an account of delay in the acquisition of forest land and supply of the Rajmahal mine is anticipated to be delayed by 3 years because of the following reasons :

- (i) Delay in Land acquisition ;
- (ii) Delay in the supply of major items of equipment by Heavy Engineering Corporation ;
- (iii) Delay in getting power from Bihar State Electricity Board and
- (iv) Difficulties in solving complicated hydro-geological problems.

Poppy Husk Produced in Mandsaur District

5989. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of poppy husk produced in Mandsaur district of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years *i.e.*, from 1982 to 1984 and what use of this poppy husk has been made during this period; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to start an alkaloid factory with the use of foreign technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The control over poppy husk is exercised by the State Governments and hence, no data regarding production is available. Under the rules framed by the Madhya Pradesh Government, cultivators are required to dispose of poppy husk either by sale to the licensed dealers or by utilising it for manurial purposes.

(b) There is no such proposal at

present.

Production and Market for Handicraft Products

5990. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of the handicrafts produced during the last three years;

(b) the incentives given to the handicrafts manufacturers to raise their production during 1984-85;

(c) whether handicraft manufacturers have complained that there is no market for their products in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No reliable data are available. However, according to rough estimates derived from export figures the value of handicrafts (including gem and jewellery) produced during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Value
1982-83	Rs. 3050 crores.
1983-84	Rs. 3250 „
1984-85	Rs. 3500 „

(b) The following incentives/facilities were available to artisans/handicrafts manufacturers during 1984-85,

(1) Credit facilities for artisans under the D.I.R. Scheme and the composite Loan Scheme.

(2) Institutional and apprenticeship training schemes in various

crafts to enlarge the production base.

- (3) Design and technical assistance for product development.
- (4) Supply of improved tools at subsidised rates.
- (5) Financial assistance to primary handicrafts cooperatives.

(c) and (d). With the growth of the modern industrial sector in the country, the market for handicrafts has started shrinking due to competition from machine made products.

(e) With a view to improving the marketability of handicrafts, exhibitions, market meets and product promotion programmes are arranged by Government organisations. Financial assistance is also provided to Central and State Handicrafts Corporations for marketing of handicrafts.

Employment to Displaced Persons of Alumina Plant and Aluminium Plant of NALCO, Orissa

5991. SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Aluminium Company Limited has followed the guidelines issued by the Bureau of Public Enterprises for providing employment to the displaced persons of the alumina plant and aluminium plant;

(b) if so, the total number of persons who got employment in both the plants, category-wise and plant-wise;

(c) the schemes and programmes started to train the displaced illiterate persons by National Aluminium Company Limited to absorb them in the plants;

(d) whether any survey has been

conducted by any agencies to know the number of employable persons among the displaced persons ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 69 displaced persons have been employed in workmen category in Mines and Alumina Complex at Damanjodi and 'nil' in Captive Power Plant and Smelter Division at Angul.

(c) NALCO has drawn up a scheme at Damanjodi to train one employable nominee of each displaced family in semi-skilled jobs. On completion of training, it is proposed to appoint them in the Company in a phased manner. During the training period of one year, the trainees will be paid a stipend of Rs. 400 per month. Two batches of trainees numbering 44 are undergoing training. No such scheme has been envisaged at Angul where the number of displaced families is likely to be 8 only.

(d) and (e). NALCO had conducted interviews at Damanjodi to assess employability/suitability for training and 130 such persons were considered suitable for training. One able bodied person from each of the remaining families can be considered for employment against the unskilled vacancies only.

Payment of Closing Allowance to Bank Employees

5992. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that closing allowance is being given only to the Managers and Officers of the nationalised bank at every half year end; and

(b) if so, whether the same allowance

is proposed to be extended to the other employees of the banks as not only Managers but employees are also responsible for maintenance of prompt accounts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). In terms of Regulation 23 (vii) of the Officers' Service Regulations, 1979/1982, all officers who are directly engaged in the work relating to closing of accounts or are required to do extra work arising out of such closing of accounts are eligible to obtain Closing Allowance at the rate of Rs. 150 for every half-yearly closing. As regards clerical and subordinate staff of the banks, the awards and settlements, which govern their pay, allowances and other service conditions, do not provide for payment of a closing allowance. However, such of the Award Staff who are required to sit beyond office hours in connection with the bank's work including closing of accounts, are paid Overtime Allowance.

Proposal of Refinance Facility for Investment in Orissa by Nabard

5993. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to introduce refinance facility for investment on consumer business by Co-operative Central Bank in Orissa by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development;

(b) if so, whether any detailed scheme has been submitted by NABARD to Government; and

(c) if so, Government reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government have not

received any such proposal from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

(c) Does not arise.

Installation of 20 Spinning Mills in Maharashtra

5994. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Maharashtra Government have requested the Commissioner of Textiles to install 20 spinning mills in the state :

(b) if so, whether the Commissioner of Textiles has given clearance for installation on some spinning mills in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the number of spinning mills for which clearance has been given; and

(d) when the remaining mills will be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). In March 1984 Maharashtra State Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation intimated a decision to set up 20 co-operative spinning mills in Maharashtra. Permission to set up 18 co-operative spinning mills were issued by the office of Textile Commissioner under the delicensing Scheme. Since the delicensing Scheme has been withdrawn with effect from 31.8.1984, the "Carry on business licenses" under the provisions of Industries (Development and Registration) Act in respect of these 18 units are required to be obtained. The remaining proposals would be considered under the current policy.

Nationalisation of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company

5995. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to nationalise the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, sir.

(b) The Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and its affairs are managed by its Board of Directors. The administration of the Company is not controlled by the Central Government or Company Law Board. The Company has been served with a notice on 10-8-1979 by the Government of West Bengal for winding up its business under Prize Chits and Money circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978. The Company has, however, obtained a Stay Order from Calcutta High Court and the matter is sub-judice.

Jha Committee's Recommendations for Use of Post Office in Mobilising Small Savings

5996. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jha Committee on Economic and administrative Reforms had made any recommendations regarding the use of the agency of Post Office in mobilising small savings;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Post and Telegraph Department has agreed to implement the paid recommendations; and

(c) when these far reaching proposals will be acted upon by Government and how many of the recommendations have been agreed to for implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Economic Administrative Reforms Commission did not make any report on this subject.

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

Steps to Prevent Illegal Mining

5997. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state the steps Government have taken so far or propose to take to prevent the private mining in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : Under Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder, mining of minerals is open to Private Sector as well as Public Sector. At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government. to prevent private mining of minerals in the country.

Recommendations of the Committee to Review the Policy for Public Enterprises

5998. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee set up by the Union Government last year to review the policy for public enterprises has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government have taken or propose to take on its recommendation ?

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

(b) and (c). It is not in the public

interest to divulge the details of the report or the action proposed to be taken thereon at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Programme to Provide Powerlooms to Handloom Weavers

5999. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government introduced a programme to provide powerlooms to handloom weavers during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the extent to which it was implemented and the details in respect of remaining part thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to continue this programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan also;

(d) whether the amount of loan and subsidy given is too small to set up a powerloom; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to increase the same ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKAR SINGH) : (a) 25000 Powerlooms had been ear-marked for allotment to the Handloom Cooperative Societies during the Sixth Five Year Plan period.

(b) Statewise quotas were placed at the disposal of the respective State Governments for allotment to Handloom Cooperative Societies. Implementation of the same is being carried out by the concerned State Textile Authorities, who were requested that the quotas should be utilised within the Sixth Five Year Plan Period itself.

(c) Government have not decided so far to continue this programme during Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e). The Central Government have not provided for any special scheme of loan or subsidy for this programme.

[*English*]

Proposal to Start Another Yard of SAIL at Cochin

6000. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the facilities in the yard of the Steel Authority of India Ltd., at Willingdon Island, Cochin are inadequate to meet the industries in Kerala;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the facilities; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to start another yard of the Steel Authority of India Limited at Cochin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c) SAIL feel that their present stockyard at Cochin is inadequate due to its

(i) being small in size and land being in two portions thus making the operations difficult; and

(ii) not having facilities for unloading a rake of iron and steel materials.

To overcome these constraints SAIL have selected a suitable alternate plot of land closer to the railway station for their stockyard. The State Government has been requested to initiate acquisition proceedings and the Railways have been requested to conduct a feasibility survey for a siding.

Refinancing to Mini Cement Plants by IDBI

6001. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has stopped all refinancing to the mini cement plants w. e. f. 15 January, 1985;

(b) if so, the reasons for taking such a decision despite of the fact that the mini cement plants have tremendous socio-economic benefits;

(c) in case the above decision is on a temporary basis, the exact period for which the finance will not be made available; and

(d) whether the fate of small entrepreneurs who have substantially gone ahead both in terms of project work and monitoring investment have been duly considered before taking such a decision ?

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

(b) On the basis of an assessment of the total capacity already created in the industry, including in the large-scale sector, coupled with proposals in the pipeline vis-a-vis demand, it was considered appropriate to regulate the tempo of setting up of mini cement plants and accordingly all the primary lending institutions were advised not to entertain any fresh proposal w. e. f. 15th January, 1985.

(c) and (d) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has undertaken a review of the viability of a few assisted mini cement plants in the context of the current cost structure besides ascertaining the effective steps taken for implementing the project, extent of expenditure incurred, receipt of licences approvals etc. by the pipeline cases. On completion of the review/scrutiny IDBI will take appropriate decisions about extending refinance assistance to the pipeline cases.

**Tea Industry Urged to Raise
Prkouction**

6002. **SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have instructed tea industry in the country to frame and adopt a long-term plan for raising production;

(b) the response by the Industry to this proposal; and

(c) the steps initiated towards this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). Discussions are constant'y being held with the tea industry regarding steps to raise production. Draft 7th Plan, under which target of production has been fixed at 766 M. kg. at the end of the Plan, has also been formulated in consultation with the industry. The budget proposals for 85-86 contain a provision for facilitating plough back of pre tax profits for development of the gardens. A task Force has been constituted under Deputy Governor Reserve Bank to suggest measures for ensuring smooth measures for ensuring smooth flow of funds from financial institutions for development of plantation crops including tea. Investments in tea are reported to have gone up considerably in last two years resulting in a record increase in production.

**Exploration of Gold and Iron-Ore
in Kerala**

6003. **DR. K. G. ADIYODI :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of experts has been sent to Kerala to explore gold and iron ore in Kerala;

(b) if so, when and its results;

(c) whether there is any proposal to carry out commercial exploration of gold and iron in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). U N. Experts participated in the investigation of gold and iron-ore in parts of Kerala under a programme of assistance available between 1977-1984. The

Geological Survey of India has also carried out exploration for gold and iron-ore in Kerala during 1965-1978.

So far the following reserves of iron ore and gold have been estimated :

Mineral	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Area
Iron-ore	882.9 (with 31 to 41% iron)	Khozikode and Mallapuram districts.
Gold ore (placer)	30 million cubic metres of gravels with an average grade of 0.1 gm of gold per cubic metres of gravels.	Nilambur valley
Gold (Primary)	3.0 lakh tonnes of ore with an average grade of 4 gm. of gold per tonne of ore.	-do-

(a) and (d). The State Government of Kerala proposes to take up pilot scale mining to establish the commercial viability of mining of alluvial gold deposits and is in contact with the Government of India regarding the financing of this project. Presently there is no proposal for commercial exploitation of the iron-ore deposits, which are of low grade.

Infra-Structural Projects for Falta Export Processing Zone In West Bengal

6005. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any time-bound action plan has been drawn up by Union Government to implement all the infrastructural projects for the Falta Export Processing Zone (FEPZ) in West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the target date set in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI PA SANGMA): (a) and (b). The construction of boundary wall is expected to be completed by end of 1985. Other essential facilities such as construction of Standard Design Factory (SDF)

administrative buildings besides provision of power, drainage, sewerage, drinking water, roads etc. are targetted to be completed by the middle of 1986.

[Translation]

Benefit to Small Exporters Through Programmes of Trade Development Authority.

6006. SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to State :

(a) the total annual estimated expenditure of the Trade Development Authority ;

(b) whether the gains accruing to country's export trade from this Authority are commensurate with its expenditure ;

(c) if so, the details of gains accruing to the country ;

(d) the number of sub-offices of this Authority ;

(e) the programme of the Authority for providing incentives to small exporters ;

(f) whether small exporters have really been benefited by this programme ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) (a) The expenditure of TDA during 1983-84 was Rs. 1.83 crores, besides assistance from certain international trade promotion agencies for specific export promotion activities, which amounted to US\$ 9.71 lakhs during this year. Figures of expenditure during 1984-85 are not yet available.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Some of the events organised by the Authority, such as business delegations, buyer-seller meets, etc bring quantifiable gains. In 1983-84, implementation of these programmes resulted in business potential of about Rs. 50 crores including spot orders valued at about Rs. 17 crores. The activities of the Authority also include provision of export infrastructure facilities to exporters. The gains from these activities although not quantifiable are constantly being evaluated with a view to ensuring that they are commensurate with the expenditure.

(d) Besides its Head office in New Delhi, TDA has four Regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore and Kanpur. It has also five foreign offices in Federal Republic of Germany (Frankfurt), USA (New York), Japan (Tokyo), Liberia (Monrovia) and Sweden (Stockholm).

(e) to (g). Small exporters are covered by all programmes of the Authority and have been benefited. The programmes include providing trade information to exporters through its centre located at Delhi and sub-offices, catalogue shows organised at various places in India to help small exporters to get upto date information on export markets, research and analysis of export related activities, dissemination of information relating to supply capability of select Indian exporters assistance to exporters under the Package Servicing Plan and participation

in export marketing and export production activities by small exporters who form nearly 60 percent of the regular membership of the Authority. Assistance to selected small scale units who are not currently exporting in entering the export market through a package of services is also provided.

Share of North-Eastern Region in Deposits and Distributed of Nationalised Banks

5007. SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total deposit of nationalised banks during the past five years ;

(b) the share of North-Eastern Region and desert areas therein and the amount of loans distributed in these areas ;

(c) whether it is a fact that deposits exceed the amount of loan disbursed ;

(d) if so, Government's policy in this regard ;

(e) whether adequate applications are not being received for loans or there is delay or hindrance at bank level; and

(f) the steps being taken to encourage setting up of industries etc. in adivasi areas and desert areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) Aggregate deposit (excluding inter bank deposits) of Public Sector Banks (S. B. I. Group + 20 Nationalised Banks) during the last five years were as follows :

As on the last Friday of December	Amount (Rs. crores)
1980	33532
1981	40808
1982	47153
1983	55311
1984*	63102

*Provisional

(b) to (d). Deposits, advances and CD Ratio of public sector banks for the last

five years in respect of North-Eastern Region and all-India are given below :

(Amt. in Rs. crores)

	North-Eastern Region			All-India		
	Deposits	Advances	CDR (%)	Deposits	Advances	CDR (%)
March 1980	399	150	37.6	28870	19502	67.5
March 1981	489	194	39.7	34518	22926	66.4
March 1982	599	251	41.9	39673	26692	67.3
March 1983	741	395	41.2	46089	31164	67.6
March 1984*	885	387	43.7	54513	36378	66.7

*Provisional

The present reporting system does not yield separate information in respect of desert areas in North-Eastern Region.

Credit-deposit ratio in any areas represents only mathematical relationship between deposits and advances of branches in that area and is not an indication of adequacy or otherwise of the credit deployed in that area. Credit is only an input in productive ventures, undertaking of which by entrepreneurs is influenced by factors like availability of power, transport, communications and other infrastructural facilities, proximity to market, industrial climate etc. Level of credit deployment in any given area itself depends upon the level of economic activity, particularly in the organised sector of trade and Industry.

However, the banks have been asked by the Reserve Bank of India to take necessary steps for improving the credit deployment in the states where credit-deposit ratio is low.

(e) The banks have been advised that all loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25000 should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25000 within 8 to 9 weeks. The banks

are required to maintain a register at branch level wherein the date of receipt, sanction/rejection with reasons thereof, etc. are recorded.

(f) Reserve Bank of India have instructed banks to charge concessional rates of interest on advances to small scale sector for promoting investments in backward areas. The extent of concession in interest rates is indicated below :

I.	Composite loans upto Rs. 25,000	Rate of interest (% per annum)
	(a) Backward areas	10.00
	(b) Other areas	12.00
II.	<i>Terms loans of not less than 3 years</i>	
	(a) Backward areas	12.05
	(b) Other areas	13.05

Reserve Bank of India have also asked banks to incorporate suitable schemes for adivasi and desert areas in credit plans depending on need for credit support and viability of the schemes.

[English]

Introduction of Long Wall System of Work in Coal Mines.

6008. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines under various coal companies in which long wall system of work has been introduced during the last three years :

(b) whether there are some coal mines in which it was first introduced and then closed down subsequently; and

(c) the details regarding the difference in cost of production between the traditional method and the long wall system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). During the last three years (1982-83 to 1984-85) powered support longwall system of mining has been introduced in four coal mines. In none of the mines, this system has been discontinued.

(c) Since productivity of this system is much higher than the traditional board and pillar system, the operating cost is low, though the initial capital cost is high. The other main advantages of mechanised longwall system lie in its safety and better recovery of coal thereby resulting in better conservation of coal reserves.

Improve in Trade Relations Between India and the U.K.

6009. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of India's export to the United Kingdom have recorded an impressive growth during 1984 leading to a significant reduction in the country's trade deficit with the U.K. ;

(b) if so, the extent to which the trade deficit with the U.K. has been reduced ; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the trade between the two countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b). India's exports, imports and trade deficit with U.K. during April-September, 1983 and April-September, 1984 were as follows :

	(Rs. Crores)	
	1983 (April-September)	1984
Imports	468.37	483.31
Exports	236.44	322.24
Deficit	231.93	161.07

(c) Trade promotion measures such as trade delegations/exhibitions/trade fairs/missions/conferences, information, training and marketing are continuing.

Liberalisation of Sale of Coal

6010. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has decided to liberalise the sale of coal upto 500 tonnes at a time from certain Coal India Limited collieries;

(b) whether the decision has been taken to reduce the coal pithead stocks and relieve pressure on rail movement of coal;

(c) whether under this scheme it has also been decided by Government to earmark a number of coal collieries in a coal company for the liberalised sale of coal by road; and

(d) the time by which the scheme is likely to be introduced and if already

introduced, the extent to which it has yielded results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir.

(d) The scheme has already been introduced and the sales under the scheme have started.

Requirement and Production of Special Steel

6011. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :**

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

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

(a) the annual production of special steel in the country;

(b) the annual requirement of special steel for use in the country and for export purposes;

(c) whether the production of special steel has been adversely affected recently;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor ?

(e) the extent of the loss of production in tonnes as well as in rupees during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85; and

(f) the steps taken to restore the

production of special steel in public sector steel plants to the original level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The annual production of alloy and special steels, including medium and high carbon steels was about 7,02,000 tonnes (Provisional) during 1984-85.

(b) As per the report of the Working Group on Iron & Steel set up by the Planning Commission for the 7th Plan, the demand of alloy and special steels for the year 1985-86 has been estimated as 8,53,000 tonnes

(c) and (d). Alloy and special steels are being manufactured by electric arc furnace units reporting to Iron & Steel Control Organisation as well as by public sector plants like VISL, ASP and Salem Steel Plant. Production of steel by Electric Arc Furnace units during 1984-85 was less than the production during the year 1983-84 while the production of public sector units during 1984-85 was more as compared to the year 1983-84. In aggregate the production has been affected adversely mainly due to large scale imports during the previous years and inadequate availability of power.

(e) The following table shows the increase or decrease in production of alloy and special steels by electric arc furnace units reporting to the Iron & Steel Control Organisation, Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited and Salem Steel Plant;

Sl. No.	Category	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) over the previous year—(000 tonnes)		
		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (Prov.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	EAF units	(—) 87	(+) 105	(—) 173
2.	ASP, Durgapur	(—) 5.2	(—) 3.5	(+) 15.5

1	2	3	4	5
3.	V. I. S. L.	(-) 21.1	(+) 4.6	(+) 5.2
4.	Salem Steel Plant	(+) 3.54	(+) 0.18	(+) 10.20
		(-) 109.76	(+) 106.28	(-) 142.1

Based on average prices the value of the increase or decrease in production in terms of the rupees to the public sector plants is given in the following table :...

Sl. No.	Category	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) over the previous year — (Rs. in lakhs)		
		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85 (Prov.)
1.	ASB, Durgapur	(-) 699.09	(-) 426.75	(+) 1790.87
2.	V I.S.L.	(-) 2571.25	(+) 520.00	(+) 543.00
3.	Salem Steel Plant	(+) 1864.83	(+) 79.52	(+) 4247.62
		(-) 1405.51	(+) 172.77	(+) 6581.56

So far as the E. A. F. units are concerned, their production in terms of rupees is not reported and such figures are not available.

(f) It is proposed to increase the production of alloy and special in public sector units through modernisation, technological upgradation and better capacity utilisation.

Increase in Silk Export

6012. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a steady increase in the export of silk in recent years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Details indicating total Export earnings from various items of silk goods during last five years are given below :

(Rs. in lakos)

Year	Total Exports
1980-81	5,312.35
1981-82	6,973.21
1982-83	8,284.84
1983-84	11,167.26
1984-85	12,905.73 (Provisional)

Setting up of Coal Handling and Screening Plants

6013. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of additional coal handling and screening plants set up during 1982-83 and 1983-84 for grading and improving the quality of coal supplies to industries;

(b) whether a number of new coal washeries would also be set up;

(c) whether Government are considering various steps for developing new infrastructure for improving coal quality; and

(d) if so, when and at what places and at what cost the new additional coal handling and screening plants have been set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The total number of coal handling and screening plants operating in various coal mines was 141 and 187 at the end of 1982-83 and 1983-84 respectively.

(b) Ten Coal Washeries are proposed to be set up during Seventh Five Year Plan period (1985-1990). Except one, all other washeries are planned for beneficiation of coking coal to be supplied to the steel plants.

(c) Coal washeries are being set up for beneficiation of coking coal to conform to the specifications required by the steel plant. In case of non-coking coal, coal handling plants incorporating facilities like picking, screening, crushing and storage are being set up in each mine.

(d) Over one hundred coal handling and screening plants are proposed to be set up during the 7th Five Year Plan period (1985-86 to 1989-90). Total approximate cost of such plants has been estimated as Rs. 800 crores.

Reduction in Purchase of Iron ore by Mineral and Metals Trading Corporation from Iron ore Mines in Bihar and Orissa

6014. SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-

NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether iron ore mines of Bihar and Orissa are facing crisis as a result of the Mineral and Metals Trading Corporation having reduced quota of purchase of iron ore from these mines;

(b) whether these mines are on the verge of being closed;

(c) whether a large number of Adivasi workers have been rendered unemployed; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to improve the conditions on these mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). Due to reduced off take of iron ore by foreign buyers as well as by indigenous steel plants, there was a reduction in procurement of iron ore from mines in Bihar and Orissa during 1982-83 and 1983-84. MMTC has taken various steps to increase the procurement of iron ore from Bihar and Orissa by exploring new markets for exports through Paradip Port, and through increased utilisation of iron ore from mines of these areas by indigenous steel plants. As a result of these efforts there has been a considerable increase in procurement of iron ore in 1984-85 from mines of these areas. For the Year 1985-86 also, MMTC has secured increased export commitments from foreign buyers.

MMTC has also liberalised the procurement policy in this region from January, 1985. The salient features of this procurement policy are acceptance of supplies of iron ore from mine owners without any ceiling limit; acceptance of monthly quota of 1000 tonnes from new mines owners and supplies of 25% over and above the quantity supplied during the last year from existing mine owners.

Huge Losses Incurred by Steel Authority of India LTD. during 1983-84 and 1984-85

6015. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has incurred huge losses than expected during 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) the plant-wise profit or loss in these years; and

(c) whether Rourkela and Salem Steel Plants are working well ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Steel Authority of India Limited incurred a loss of Rs. 214.53 crores during 1983-84. The accounts for the year 1984-85 are under finalisation, however,

SAIL is expected to make a profit during 1984-85.

(b) The following table indicates the plants-wise profit and loss position for the year 1983-84 :

	(Rs. in crores)	
Bhilai Steel Plants	(—)	2.83
Bokaro Steel Plants	(+)	0.55
Durgapur Steel Plants	(—)	63.72
Rourkela Steel Plants	(—)	100.32
Alloy Steels Plants	(—)	33.75
Salem Steel Plants	(—)	18.08
Others	(+)	3.62
	(—)	214.53

(c) Yes, Sir. The production at both plants showed an improvement in 1984-85 over 1983-84.

(‘000 tonnes)

Plant	Production of saleable steel		% increase in 1984-85 of 1983-84.
	1983-84	1984-85	
Rourkela Steel Plants (RSP)	862	1013	(+) 17.5
Salem Steel Plant (SSP)	6.93	17.13	(+) 147.2

In 1983-84, both the plants had incurred losses; it is expected that for 1984-85, both of them will show profits.

Populnarisation of Post Office Saving Bank Scheme in Rural Areas

6016. PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government so far to popularise the Post Office

Saving Bank Scheme in the rural areas and the results achieved;

(b) whether Government propose to offer incentives to make the scheme more popular and to attract rural deposits; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Among the steps taken by Government so far to popularise the Post Office Savings Bank Scheme in the rural areas are the following :

- (i) regular tours by Field Officers of the National Savings Organisation in rural areas to apprise the people about the benefits of Small Savings Schemes;
- (ii) press advertisements in regional languages;
- (iii) publicity through All India Radio and T.V. net work;
- (iv) utilising the agency of Extra-Departmental Branch Post-Masters to secure investments in rural areas;
- (v) Co-ordination with field organisations of the State Governments to popularise Small Savings Schemes in rural areas through Tehsildars, Block Development Officers, Panchayat Samities, etc.; and
- (vi) appointment of more agents in rural areas.

These steps have contributed to mobilisation of rural savings.

At present many attractive small savings schemes are available to meet the needs of different categories of investors including people in the rural areas.

Modification of Section 45 of the Life Insurance Act

6017. **SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government are con-

templating to modify Section 45 of the Life Insurance Act of 1938 to enable the claimant to get the assured sum after the insured is dead;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some claimants have been denied payment of the assured sum under the particular section of the LIC Act of 1938;

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

(f) the action Government propose to take in those cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Presumably, the reference is to Section 45 of the Insurance Act. The Law Commission has circulated for public comments a Working Paper for revision of Section 45 of the Insurance Act. The Commission has not yet submitted any report on the subject to the Government.

(d) to (f) There is no particular section of LIC Act under which claimant are denied payment against death claims. Liability under policies resulting in death claims is repudiated where it is established that the policies were taken by the lives assured suppressing material facts, which if disclosed would have affected the underwriting decision. Section 45 of the Insurance Act provides protection to claimants by limiting such repudiation.

Out of a total number of 94,858 policies which resulted in death claims, in 1983-84, liability under only 812 death claims was repudiated during the year.

Enquiry into Irregularities in Banks

6018. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS**

MUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether CBI is enquiring into the irregularities of the Punjab National Bank for advancing money to Rajendra Sethia of London who is now in custody;

(b) whether similar investigations are there in the Bank of Baroda in their fraud recently at Calcutta; and

(c) the number of bank officials now being investigated by CBI in the country ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The CBI has reported that 386 bank employees of 28 public sector banks were involved in the cases registered by it during the year 1984.

Benefit of Increase in Ceilings of DCRG to Employees of Nationalised Banks and Public Undertakings

6019. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the benefits of increase in the ceilings of death-cum-retirement gratuity announced recently by the Union Government in case of Central Government employees would also be applicable in case of employees of nationalised banks, LIC, SAIL, Coal India Ltd. and other Central Government undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the contemplation of Government in the matter; and

(d) whether Government have any

proposal to amend section 10 (10) (iii) of the Income-tax Act to increase exemption limit for death-cum-retirement gratuity in case of employees of nationalised banks, LIC, SAIL, Coal India Ltd. and other Central Government undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) to (c) The question of extending the benefit of increased ceiling of death-cum-retirement gratuity as announced by the Government in the case of Central Government employees to the employees of Public Enterprises, who are otherwise not covered by the provisions of Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, is under active consideration of the Government. There is, however, no proposal at present under the consideration of the Government, to extend these benefits to the employees of nationalised banks and LIC.

(d) Steps are being taken by the Government to issue a notification under the third proviso to Section 10 (10) of the Income Tax Act 1961 to raise the exemption limit in respect of death-cum-retirement gratuity to Rs. 50,000.

Requirement and Production of Saleable Steel

6020. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the total likely requirement of saleable steel in the country by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the likely demand of saleable steel in the country during that period;

(c) the achievement made in the

production of saleable steel during the Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

Year	Demand
1985-86	11,354
1986-87	11,929
1987-88	12,535
1988-89	13,172
1989-90	13,856

(d) the efforts made by Government to increase the production of saleable steel to meet the demand during the Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Working Group on Iron and Steel has projected the following likely demand of saleable steel in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan period :

(c) The production of saleable steel during the Sixth Five Year Plan period was as follows :

(Qty. in '000 tonnes)

Year	SAIL (including IISCO)	TISCO	Secondary Producers	Total
1980-81	4767	1537	1330	7634
1981-82	5651	1606	1429.5	8685.5
1982-83	5672	1621	1590	8883
1983-84	4771	1626	1674	8071
1984-85	5283	1714	1099	—

(April-Dec. '84)

(d) Production depends on various factors like the health of the plants, adequate availability of the right quality of inputs and the market needs. Efforts are made to attain high capacity utilization by proper maintenance and inputs of the desired quality. As a long term measure, output of steel in the country will also be increased by technological upgradation of existing plants and setting up of new steel plants.

Number of Income and Wealth Tax Assesseees in Big Cities

6021 : **SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) the total number of income-tax and wealth-tax assesseees in the country and the taxes collected from these assesseees during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 with outstanding arrears as on 1 January, 1985 ;

(b) the income-tax assesseees in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Hyderabad during these three years and the taxes collected and outstanding arrears as on 1 January, 1985 ;

(c) the growth rate of decline seen in the number of assessments and arrears in these cities in relation to both these taxes ; and

(d) the percentage-wise contributions of these cities to both these taxes in the above years ?

1984-85	4470.42 (Provisional)
Demand outstanding :	1880.83

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a). The number of Income-tax assesseees during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 (upto December, 1984) stood at 47.97 lakhs, 49.30 lakhs and 49.15 lakhs respectively. The collections of Income-tax made from such assesseees and the demand outstanding against them as on 1. 1. 85 are as under :

As regards information relating to Wealth-tax, the same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). The requisite information in respect of these cities is not separately available. However, the particulars of income-tax assesseees, the income-tax collections and demands outstanding pertaining to Commissioners' charges of which these cities form part are given in the annexed statement. As regards Wealth-tax, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Collections	(Rs. in crores)
1982-83	3754.23
1983-84	4191.86

Statement

(Figures in Lakhs)

I. No. of assesseees in Commissioners' Charge	No. of assesseees		1984-85 (Upto Dec. 84.	Percentage of increase/decrease in 1984-85 with reference to 1982-83.
	1982-83	1983-84		
Commissioner's Charge				
1. Bombay (all charges)	070	073	792	(—) 9.84
2. West Bengal ,,	390	395	446	(+)14.35
3. Delhi ,,	446	445	367	(—)21.52
4. Mad ras ,,	340	360	339	(—) 0.29
5. Gujarat ,,	252	271	282	(+)11.90
6. Karnatakā ,,	217	229	237	(+) 9.21
7. Hyderabad	127	124	133	(+) 4.72

II. Taxes collected and percentage of contribution to All India collections.

(Rs. in crores)

Commissioners' Charge	Collection during 1984-85	Percentage of contribution to All India collections.
1. Bombay (all charges)	1112.35	24.88
2. West Bengal	463.92	10.38
3. Delhi	405.89	9.05
4. Tamil Nadu	271.67	6.08
5. Gujarat	95.70	2.14
6. Karnaka	179.51	4.02
7. Andhra Pradesh	106.84	2.39

III. Demand outstanding and percentage of increase/decrease.

(Rs. in crores)

Commissioners' Charge	Demand outstanding as on		Percentage of increase/decrease.
	31.12.84	31.12.83	
Bombay (all charges)	581.55	357.53	(+) 62.65
West Bengal	289.77	332.32	(-) 14.68
Delhi	282.44	241.87	(+) 16.77
Tamil Nadu	161.65	129.62	(+) 24.71
Gujarat	84.71	54.00	(+) 56.63
Karnataka	44.25	73.85	(-) 66.89
Andhra Pradesh	27.39	24.05	(+) 13.80

Increase in Export to Singapore

6022. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the import from Singapore is as much as three times that of export to that country ; and

(b) if so, the action taken to increase the export to Singapore at least to balance the import quantum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Trade figures between India and Singapore during

1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 (April to December) have been as under :

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Exports	Imports
1982-83	192.72	357.91
1983-84	195.17 (Provisional)	384.96 (Provisional)
1984-85	138.87	397.25

(April to December)

Imports from Singapore have, therefore, not been three times that of our exports.

(b) Steps to increase our exports to Singapore include our participation in trade fairs and visits of delegations. As the Deputy Minister of Commerce, I visited Singapore during September, 1984 and held trade discussions. Recently, a team from the Trade Development Board of Singapore visited India. It was impressed upon the trade team to increase imports from India and contacts between trade and industry on both sides were facilitated and potential growth items for trade identified.

[Translation]

Opening of Branches of Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks in Almora District, Uttar Pradesh

6023. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches opened by the various commercial banks including the regional rural banks in Almora District of Uttar Pradesh during 1984-85 and the number of these branches proposed to be opened during 1985-86 ;

(b) whether he is aware that 50 per cent of the area and 40 per cent of the population there, are not yet covered by the banking service ; and

(c) if so, the number of bank branches proposed to be opened there every year to improve the situation in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) to (c) : During the year ended 31.3.1985, Nainital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank had opened 7 branches in the District Almora, Uttar Pradesh. The branch licensing policy, for the years 1985-90 is being finalised. Pending finalisation of the above policy, it would not be possible to indicate the number of bank branches that would be allowed to be opened in the District Almora. However, banks are currently holding 12 authorisations for opening branches in the District.

The branch licensing policy of the Reserve Bank of India for the period April 1982 to March 1985 aimed at achieving a coverage of one bank office for every 17000 population in rural and semi-urban areas in each district. Relevant figures for Almora District are set out below :

Population (All rural/ semi-urban)	7,73,000
Number of bank branches functioning as on 31.12.1984	56
Number of authorisations pending	12
with banks for opening branches Average Rural/Semi-urban Population	14,000

per rural/semi-urban branch.
 Estimated Rural/Semi-urban
 Population 12,000
 per rural/Semi-urban branch after
 utilisation of pending authorisations.

Tea Production in Hill Areas of U.P

6024. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of tea estimated to be produced in Uttar Pradesh during this year;

(b) whether his Ministry has formulated any scheme to increase the tea production in hill areas to this State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by his Ministry to improve the present critical condition of tea plantations in these areas

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) While no authoritative assessment is available, the production in 1985 could be comparable to the 1984 production of 430 M. Tons under favourable weather conditions' prices.

(b) to (d). The Tea Board has been exploring possibilities of reviving existing tea estates and opening of new tea plantations in Hill areas of Uttar Pradesh. However, there is a problem of availability of suitable land from State Government as new plantations will involve felling of forest trees. A complex of CSIR has been set up at Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) to look into Research and Development needs of tea plantations in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. The tea growers can also make use of the existing subsidy

and loan schemes of the Tea Board for development of the tea plantations.

Lack of Coordination Between District Level Lead Banks and Commercial Banks for Loan Disbursement to Weaker Sections

6025. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that there is generally lack of coordination between district level lead banks and other commercial bank in the implementation of loan disbursement programmes for poor and weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, whether he is also aware that in the absence of this co-ordination, hurdles are coming in the way of implementing the programmes for the uplift poor people; and

(c) if so, the instructions proposed to be issued to all concerned for bringing necessary coordination for this purpose in all the banks operating at district level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Under the Lead Bank Scheme, District Credit Plans and Annual Action Plans are drawn up by lead bank in which credit outlays are estimated sector-wise and for different activities including provision for finance for weaker/sections. Outlays under Integrated Rural Development Programme are separately shown in the credit plans. Each Bank in a District is allotted its share under the plan targets and performance of the Banks is reviewed and monitored in District Consultative Committee Meetings. Further, a Standing Committee of DCC also reviews the performance of banks in the area of IRDP which is intended for weaker sections. Wherever performance of any bank is found to be lower than the target allotted, such banks are advised to improve their performance.

[English]

Resource Mobilisation by Kerala

6026. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the increase in the percentage of resource mobilisation by Kerala during the last three years with year-wise break-up;

(b) how does it compare with other States;

(c) whether it is the policy of Government to help those State which have done commendable work in mobilisation of additional resources;

(d) if so, whether Kerala has got

any assistance on this score; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Government of India announced in 1983-84 a scheme for giving assistance to States that managed their finances well. The eligibility for this assistance was to depend not only on the previous performance of the States but also on their performance in 1983-84.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Increase in Percentage of Additional Resource Mobilisation by States Over the Previous Year.

S. No.	Name of State	1982-83 (A/C)	1983-84 (A/C)	1984-85 (L.E.)
1	2	2	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	40.41	40.83	59.84
2.	Assam	39.91	67.65	-23.41
3.	Bihar	51.35	42.40	49.97
4.	Gujarat	94.17	45.51	38.67
5.	Haryana	80.92	90.74	13.94
6.	Himachal Pradesh	163.91	24.56	20.58
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	77.00	21.97	33.42
8.	Karnatataka	38.21	22.32	60.56
9.	Kerala	102.46	130.73	35.39
10.	Madhya Pradesh	78.76	77.88	15.61

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Maharashtra	121.00	23.37	10.37
12.	Manipur	126.56	59.31	145.89
13.	Meghalaya	344.63	25.54	4.25
14.	Nagaland	490.91	-24.92	-65.16
15.	Orissa	51.95	45.64	18.16
16.	Punjab	92.46	28.30	1.53
17.	Rajasthan	171.24	29.71	4.02
18.	Sikkim	50.88	11.63	42.71
19.	Tamil Nadu	84.24	26.22	39.02
20.	Tripura	48.94	97.14	0.72
21.	Uttar Pradesh	61.02	52.43	12.02
22.	West Bengal	57.36	50.70	73.67

Reduction in Kerala's Share in Central Excise

6027. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala's share in the Central excise has been reduced;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this will adversely affect the resources position of the State ;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take any special step to help the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b). The percentage share of Kerala in the Central Divisible Pool of Union Excise (40% of the net proceeds excluding those from the duty on generation of electricity) has been fixed at 3.8% by the Eighth Finance Commission as against 4.035% fixed by the Seventh Finance Commission.

(c) Kerala's share in Union excise duty in absolute terms is given below :

	(Rs. crores)
1983-84 (RE)	162.60
1984-85 (RE)	182.15
1985-86 (BE)	185.80

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Directions to LIC and GIC to Help Small Investors

6028. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have directed the Life Insurance Corporation and General Insurance Corporation to help small investors purchase odd lots of securities;

(b) if so, whether the Stock Exchanges have been advised to have small lots of securities for the small investors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Life Insurance Corporation, General Insurance Corporation and the Units Trust of India have agreed to purchase odd lots of securities of dividend paying companies at the ruling market price in order to protect the interests of the investing public. Therefore, Government have decided that the rate of brokerage charged to the investors by the member of the Stock Exchanges be uniformly fixed at 1% of the market price. Which will be borne by the investors. Further, the Stock Exchanges have been directed by the Government to suitably amend the existing regulation relating to brokerage accordingly.

Demand for Import of Second Hand Machinery

6029. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisations has demanded that second hand machinery should be allowed to be imported; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Import and Export Policy, 1985-88, import of second hand machinery not more than 7 years old and having certified residual life of not less than 5 years, is permissible for import.

[Translation]

Smuggling of Heroin

6030. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether heroin addition among youth is spreading;

(b) whether heroin is being smuggled into the country in large quantities;

(c) if so, the quantity of heroin smuggled into the country during the last three years, year-wise:

(d) the quantity and value of the heroin seized by Government during the above period and the particulars of the persons involved in its smuggling;

(e) the action taken against them and the results thereof; and

(f) whether Government propose to take steps to stop the import of heroin and if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare have already initiated action for a fresh survey to assess the extent of drug abuse and addiction. The studies are likely to be completed by 1986.

(b) to (d). Over the last few years, India has been increasingly facing the problem of transit traffic of heroin coming mostly from Near and Middle East region and destined mainly to Western countries.

The total quantity of heroin seized in India by different enforcement agencies and the number of persons arrested during the last three years are given below :—

Year	Quantity seized (in kgs.)	No. of persons arrested
1982	34.122	42
1983	138.695	66
1984	199.393	53

No precise value of heroin seized can be furnished, as the illicit market price varies widely depending upon the time and place of seizure, purity of the drugs, local demand and supply position, etc.

(c) All the traffickers arrested in the cases of smuggling of heroin were proceeded against and prosecuted under the relevant laws.

(f) The import of heroin into the country is prohibited.

[English]

Production and Profits Earned by Rourkela Steel Plant

6031. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the product range of the Rourkela Steel Plant and the sister industries which are fed by this plant;

(b) whether there has been continuous price rise in steel;

(c) if so, how the other products of this plant have fared in this respect during the last three years;

(d) the future plans of expansion of new products in this plant; and

(e) the position of this plant as compared to other steel plants under Steel Authority of India Ltd. in respect of production, prices and profits/losses, etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Rourkela Steel Plant produces Hot Rolled Sheets/Coils, Cold Rolled Sheets/Coils, GP/GC Sheets, Electrical Steel Sheets, Electrolytic Tin-plates, Electrical Resistance Welded and Spiral Welded Steel Tubes. A statement showing the product range of Rourkela Steel Plant is enclosed (Annexure-I). [Placed in Library. See No LT/116/85]. There are a number of steel consuming industries all over the country, which use products manufactured by Rourkela Steel Plant as raw materials. However, there are no sister concerns which are fed by this Plant.

(b) and (c). There have been revisions in prices of common categories of steel as determined and announced by the Joint Plant Committee of the main producers. The prices of major categories of Rourkela Steel Plant, viz. Plates, HR Coils, CR Coils/Sheets, GP and GC Sheets as fixed and announced by JPC are shown in the enclosed statement (Annexure-II). [Placed in Library. See No LT/116/85] The prices of major categories of non-JPC (Joint Plant Committee) steel items are given in Annexure-III [Placed in Library. See No LT/116/85] and the prices of chemicals and fertilizers are given in Annexure-IV. [Placed in Library. See No LT/116/85].

(d) and (e). The output of saleable steel at Rourkela Steel Plant as compared to other integrated steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited during the last three years is indicated as under :—

('000 tonnes)

Plant	Production		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
BSP	1838	1575	1810
DSP	818	602	621
RSP	992	862	1013
BSL	1529	1288	1459
IISCO	500	444	380

The profit and loss of Rourkela Steel Plant and the other steel plants of SAIL during the period 1981-82 to 1983-84 is indicated below :

	Profit (+) / Loss (-) (Rupees in crores)		
	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
Rourkela Steel Plant of which the Fertiliser	21.71	(-) 74.99	(-) 100.32
Plant accounts for	(-) 8.86	(-) 15.99	(-) 15.49
Bhilal Steel Plant	(-) 66.09	(-) 19.25	(-) 2.83
Durgapur Steel Plant	0.70	(-) 44.23	(-) 63.73
Bokaro Steel Plant	6.54	18.09	0.55
Alloy Steels Plant	(-) 6.64	(-) 15.31	(-) 33.75
Salem Steel Plant	(-) 0.13	(-) 14.21	(-) 18.08
Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited	(-) 37.11	(-) 71.05	(-) 24.06

The accounts for the year 1984-85 are still to be finalised but it is expected that for this year the Rourkela Steel Plant will make a profit.

Production and Export of Iron Ore

6032. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA** : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production of iron ore in the country showing the yearly actual production for the last three years and giving reasons for low production, if any;

(b) the countries which have been lifting iron ore regularly during the last three years showing country and quantity exported;

(c) the names of the countries which have not lifted the iron ore as promised giving reasons for the same and loss incurred as a result thereof by India during the last three years;

(d) whether there is excess of iron ore always; and

(e) whether there are any plans for future expansions for more production or taking up new mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The production of iron ore in the country during the years 1982-83 and 1984 is given below :

Year	Production (in thousands tonnes)
1982	42,752
1983	38,089
1984	41,943

The low production in 1983 is ascribed to low exports during the year.

(b) The country-wise and quantity-wise export of iron ore by India in the last three years is given in the statement attached.

(c) Iron ore exports from India during the last 3 years have been around Rs. 400 crores per annum (Rs. 405 crores in 1982, Rs. 388 crores in 1983 and Rs. 425 crores in 1984). During the last 3 years, the major iron ore importing countries like Japan and South Korea have lifted iron ore as promised. However, imports by Romania during 1982 have been less by about Rs. 25 crores on account of insufficient balance in their Rupee payment account, but during 1984, Romania has lifted the quantity as promised. There has been no loss to MMTC in iron ore exports.

(d) The production generally tends to follow the market requirements and stocks increased marginally in 1984 on account of continuing recession in world steel industry.

(e) Production of the order of about 60 million tonnes of iron ore is anticipated at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan to meet the requirements of our steel mills and exports. It is anticipated that this level of production will be met from the existing capacity in the country. The development of 11/C Deposit by NMDC in Bailadila, which is a replacement mine for Bailadila 14, is the only approved project in the Seventh Plan.

Statement**Country-Wise Export of Iron ore by India (Excluding Kudremukh)
(in million tonnes)**

Countries	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1	2	3	4
Japan	15.38	14.50	16.52
S. Korea	2.78	2.88	3.25

1	2	3	4
Rumania	1.92	2.54	2.85
Czechoslovakia	0.11	0.12	0.09
Hungary	0.02	0.03	0.03
G.D.R.	0.61	0.72	0.91
Bulgaria	0.11	0.11	0.10
Italy	0.39	0.35	0.76
Taiwan	0.01	0.12	0.16
Malasiya	0.02	0.04	0.01
North Korea	—	—	0.16
Pakistan	0.15	0.13	0.17
Saudi Arabia	0.05	0.12	0.05
Iraq	0.10	0.13	0.13
Middle East	0.20	0.10	0.10
Turkey	—	0.06	—
China	—	—	0.03
Grand total :	21.85	21.95	25.32

Country-Wise Export of Iron ore by Kudremukh Iron ore Company Ltd.
(in million tonnes)

Countries	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1	2	3	4
Rumania	0.998	1.05	1.06
Czechoslovakia	0.029	0.08	0.11
Bahrin	—	—	0.34
Holland	—	—	0.05
Total :	1.027	1.13	1.56

Revamping of Bullion Policy

6033. SHRI YASHWANRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to revamp the bullion policy with a view to curb smuggling ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Hon'ble Member presumably has in mind and possible changes in the bullion policy by amendments to the Gold (Control) Act, 1968 with a view to curb smuggling. If so, there is no such proposal with the Government at present.

Decline in Production of Darjeeling Tea

6034. SHRI YASHWANTRAO

Year	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
									Provisional
Production Units.	11.34	11.58	11.53	10.81	12.69	12.23	14.13	14.26	13.17

The major constraints faced by Darjeeling tea industry have been low productivity, resulting in high costs coupled with unremunerative prices.

There has been a welcome improvement in Darjeeling prices in 1984 which has improved its prospects. The tea marketing policy for 1985 also favours exports of higher value teas like Darjeeling. Measures taken to improve situation of Darjeeling gardens include reduction of excise duty to a nominal level of 20 paise per kg. and provision of interest subsidy on bank loans for development of the gardens. For this purpose NABARD has also agreed on liberalization of norms relating to moratorium and repayment period and

GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of Darjeeling tea has been steadily declining ;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the comparative decline in the production of Darjeeling tea during the last three years ;

(c) the reasons thereof ; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). Except for yearly fluctuations, mainly on account of weather conditions, the trend of production of Darjeeling tea has shown a marginal increase in the last 9 years as can be seen from the following figures :

also on funding of past liabilities wherever considered necessary.

Export of Non-Traditional Agricultural Commodities to Japan

6035. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) the present position regarding non-rational agricultural commodities export to Japan ;

(b) whether Government have considered the question of increasing the export of non-traditional agricultural commodities to Japan ;

(c) if so, the strategy evolved by Government in this regard ; and

(d) the extent to which the exports to Japan are likely to be increased as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) to (d). The Central Government has been carrying on a regular dialogue with the State Governments for identify-

ing non traditional agricultural commodities which can be exported to other countries including Japan. Certain new agricultural items e.g. mushrooms, oranges, tomatoes, pineapples ginger, bananas and black pepper, have been identified. India has also welcomed the Japanese technology for upgrading our yield and for setting up commercially viable export oriented units for agricultural items. Efforts are being made to achieve full conformity with the Japanese Health and Quarantine Regulations.

Statement

Present exports of some major Indian Agricultural commodities to Japan during 1984-85

S. No.	Item	Quantity* (MTs)	Value* (Rs in lakhs)
1.	Guar Gum	1508	107
2.	Dehydrated Onion and Garlic	469	79
3.	Starch (Tamarind Kernel Powder)	1230	41
4.	Animal Casings (Sheep Casings)	Not available	70
5.	Pickles and Chutneys	173	20
Total			317

*Provisional

Measures Taken by National Banks to Promote Industrial Entrepreneurs

6036. SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE: Will the Minister of Finance be Pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by the nationalised banks to promote 'Industrial Entrepreneurs' in North Eastern region, particularly among the tribals ;

(b) whether there is a cell in his Ministry to monitor prompt and just disposal of loan applications by the tribal entrepreneurs ; and

(c) if not, whether Government proposes to set up such a cell ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a). Public

Sector Banks, particularly State Bank of India, have been conducting Entrepreneurial Development Programmes, in the States/Union Territories in North-Eastern Region to motivate potential entrepreneurs, including the tribals to risk-bearing ventures with a view to facilitating industrialisation of North-Eastern Region. Public Sector Banks have set up consultancy cells in their Head/Regional Offices in the North-Eastern Region manned by technically qualified personnel to assist their operating staff in assessing the technical viability of the projects and also for providing managerial and technical assistance to entrepreneurs. Separate Cells for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes have been set up to assist Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes beneficiaries. The tribals in the North-Eastern Region are given adequate financial and technical assistance to set up their own ventures on the basis of the schemes drawn by the banks. Problems of credit flow to North-Eastern Region particularly with reference to tribal development are also discussed and resolved at the State Level Bankers Committee in all the State/Union Territories in North-Eastern Region.

(b) and (c) : No, Sir.

Steps Taken to Restore Efficiency in Management in Banks

6037. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that management functions of the nationalised banks have suffered erosion during these years if so, the details thereof ;

(b) whether it is proposed to take any steps to restore efficiency of the management of these banks ;

(c) whether Government are considering any change in the mode of appointment of members of the Management Boards and their Chairman ;

(d) whether Government are also considering to relax any control by the Reserve Bank of India over the Boards and their Chairman, if so, details thereof ; and

(e) whether Government have come across the differences and conflicts in between Chairman and the Management Boards, if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) and (b). In the wake of rapid expansion of the banks' operations, their internal management in some areas like data reporting and control and supervision, customer service, house keeping etc. had experienced considerable stress, since the existing systems had not been adequate to fully cope with the increasing demands. Government and the Reserve Bank are seized of the shortcomings and necessary corrective measures, including revamping of top management and toning up of administration in the public sector banks, introduction of mechanisation, computerisation and use of electronic and mechanical aids to cope with the enormous volume of banking transactions, enforcement of discipline etc. are being taken to improve the working of the banks.

(c) and (d). No such proposals are under consideration.

(e) In terms of provisions of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Acts 1970 and 1980, the general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs and business of the nationalised banks vests in their Boards of Directors, each of which, inter alia, includes Chairman and Managing Director also. All questions at the meetings of the Boards are decided by majority of votes as provided for in the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Schemes 1970 and 1980,

**Irregularities in Overseas Investment
by Nationalised Banks**

6038. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount involved in overseas operation by the nationalised banks during the last three years ;

(b) the number of cases of bad overseas investment reported during the last three years ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to check the managerial deficiency and frauds in this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) (a) and (b). In accordance with the provisions contained in the relevant statutes and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among banks, information in relation to the individual constituents of banks cannot be divulged.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India has constituted a Working Group to frame suitable guidelines for effective operations and control systems for the overseas branches of Indian banks. Reserve Bank of India and the Government have also issued guidelines to banks on

matters like deputation of officers to overseas branches, delegation of powers etc.

Production of Coal during 1984-85

6039. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed by Government for the production of coal during 1984-85 ;

(b) the actual achievement made in this regard in that year ;

(c) the target of output fixed by each coal company for the above year ;

(d) the total tonnes of coal produced in each mine under these coal companies in that year ? and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The target for coal production in 1984-85 fixed by the Planning Commission was 152 million tonnes and the actual production during the year was 147.45 million tonnes. The details of company-wise production against target are indicated below :

(Fig. in million tonnes)

Company	Target for coal production in 1984-85	Actual achievement in 1984-85 (Provisional)
1	2	3
ECL	25.10	23.11
BCCL	24.50	21.84
CCL	37.50	39.02
WCL	43.15	46.05

1	2	3
NEC	0.75	0.81
Total CIL	131.00	130.83
SCCL	17.00	12.33
TISCO/IISCO/ D.V.C.	4.00	4.29
All India	152.00	147.45

(d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fresh Criteria for Allocation Proposed by Undevelopment

6040. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UN Development programme has proposed some fresh criteria for resources allocation during 1987-91 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) India's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). As a part of the exercise entitled "Preparations for the Fourth Programming Cycle, 1987-91" UNDP Secretariat placed before the Special Session of the Governing Council of UNDP held in New York in February, 1985 a proposal for allocation of resources to different countries. The criteria proposed differed materially from the one followed at the time of distribution of resources in the third cycle (1982-86); Two of the important elements in these proposals related to :

(i) Population factor ; and

(ii) G.N.P. per capita.

The overall impact of the changes proposed would have been that although the overall UNDP resources are expected to increase in next 5 years, Indias' share of such UNDP resources would have remained static.

2. India and some of the developing countries opposed the criteria that had been proposed. The Special Session decided to have further discussions in two stages before the 32nd Session of the Governing Council in June, 1985. In the first stage, further information would be gathered to determine the anticipated resources level as well as to clarify the issues raised by delegations, and to provide information that had been requested. The second stage would involve preliminary negotiations by UNDP to arrive at alternative scenarios to be presented to the Governing Council at its 32nd Session. The Administration was asked to prepare an analytical and structured over-view of the positions stated by the delegations at the meeting which would be considered during the preliminary negotiations before the Governing Council Session.

Loss of Major Overseas Export Markets

6041. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country has lost many major overseas export markets because of the misuse of the existing

norms for international trade by some Indian companies and exporters;

(b) whether some exporters had not adhered to standard regarding quality and delivery schedules;

(c) if so, the particulars of such exporters; and

(d) the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) About 600 complaints on quality of items both notified for Quality Control and not notified for Quality Control have been received by the Quality complaint Cell of the Export Inspection Council at Bombay against various companies during 1983-84.

(c) and (d). The exports were generally to countries like USA, USSR, Japan, U.K, Hong Kong, Singapore, Republic of Germany, Canada, West Germany, Bulgaria, France, Dubai, Australia etc. etc. The particulars of the exporters which is sought to be obtained is not clear. Several erring exporters have been punished under the Provisions of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 and also under the Customs Act.

Performance of BALCO in 1983-84 and 1984-85

6042. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of STEEL MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. has improved its performance in 1984-85;

(b) if so, the performance of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. in 1983-84, and

(c) the details of cash surplus guaranteed by the company in 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The production of saleable metal produced in 1984-85 was 87,358 tonnes registering an increase of about 42.4% over that of 1983-84.

(b) The quantity of saleable aluminium produced in 1983-84 was 61,338 tonnes.

(c) The cash surplus generated by BALCO on its Korba Operations during 1984-85 is of the order of Rs. 976 lakhs subject to audit. The sick Asansol Unit of the Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd. was takenover and vested in BALCO with effect from 2nd June, 1984. The operation of this Unit during 2nd June, 1984 to 31st March, 1985 contributed a cash loss of approximately Rs. 25.30 lakhs.

Research Work in Silk Production

6043. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of research work in silk production being carried out at present;

(b) to what extent the small producers have been benefited by all this research work and extension facilities; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The Research Institutes established by Central Silk Board are evolving superior and high yielding mulberry varieties, silkworm rears, package of practices for cultivation and maintenance of mulberry and

non-mulberry silkworm food plants, improved technique of silkworm rearing, silk reeling/spinning, control and prevention of disease and pests of silkworms and their food plants, devising/manufacture of equipments and machinery for silk-worm rearing and silk reeling etc.

(b) and (c). The Research achievements have resulted in increased production per unit area of silkworm food plants utilised for conducting rearing and per unit quantity of silkworm seed reared, reduction in mortality due to control of pests and diseases and the consequent increases in earnings.

Some of the important achievements are as under :—

- (i) Introduction of improved M5 variety of mulberry in the field has increased leaf yield per hectare from 4000 to 5000 kg. in case of rainfed mulberry to 8000 to 10000 kg. leaf per annum.
- (ii) Under irrigated conditions the leaf yield per hectare of mulberry has increased from 15000 kg. to 30,000 kg. per annum by following the improved agronomical practices.
- (iii) The improved techniques of silkworm rearing and control prevention of pests and diseases of silkworms, supported by extension activities have improved productivity from the level 18 to 20 kg. of mulberry cocoons per 100 dfls.
- (iv) The technique of raising economic bush plantation nearer the tribal villages have helped in encouraging more number of tribals to practice silkworm

rearing and to increase production of non-mulberry cocoons.

- (v) Technique of organising systematic production of disease free silkworm seed has resulted in eliminating crop failures in non-mulberry sector.
- (vi) The improved silk reeling machinery and the technique of processing cocoons as also silk reeling/spinning has resulted in improved productivity and quality production of silk yarn conferring additional benefits to the silk reelers/spinners.

Replacement of Income Tax by Purchase Tax

6044. PROF P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government had received any proposal regarding replacement of income tax by purchase tax;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the percentage of income tax in total tax revenue of Government;
- (d) whether Government receive more tax revenues from the first two slabs of income tax payers; and
- (e) the total receipt by way of income tax and the number of assesseees under each slab ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) The proposal to replace income-tax by purchase tax has not been accepted.

(c) According to the revised estimates for the financial year 1984-85, the estimated collection of income-tax including corporation tax work out to 19.55 per cent of the gross tax revenue.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The revised estimate of collection of income-tax and corporation tax during the financial year 1984-85 is Rs. 4,634 crores. A table indicating the number of the assesses in the registers of the Income-tax Department on 31st March, 1983 according to slabs of income is given in the Statement attached.

Statement

	Individuals	Hindu Undivided families	Firms	Companies	Others	Total
(i) Below taxable limit	8,71,313	58,298	1,18,088	24,199	53,793	11,25,691
(ii) Above taxable limit but upto Rs. 25,000	17,16,721	1,03,160	2,84,383	10,252	23,146	21,37,662
(iii) Rs. 25,001 to 50,000	6,61,647	47,652	2,17,746	4,595	9,414	9,41,054
(iv) Rs. 50,001 to Rs. 1,00,000	1,37,852	12,692	1,11,430	2,903	3,603	2,68,486
(v) Rs. 1,00,001 to Rs. 5,00,000	23,701	1,578	37,959	3,720	1,580	68,538
(vi) Above Rs. 5,00,000	599	57	1,540	2,928	214	5,338
Total	34,11,883	2,23,437	7,71,146	48,597	91,756*	45,46,769

*Includes private discretionary trusts and public charitable trusts.

Loss of Revenue by Kerala due to Replacement of Sales Tax

6045. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala has lost some amount of revenue as a result of the replacement of sales tax by additional excise levy on certain items;

(b) if so, the amount thus lost by the State;

(c) the extent to which this has affected the budgetary position in Kerala;

(d) whether Government of Kerala have made any request for making good this loss by Union Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

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.

Employment to Persons Rendered Surplus as a Result of Taking Away of Steel Import Canalising Agency from S.A.I.L.

6046. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 2000 employees of the marketing set-up of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) are likely to be rendered surplus as a result of the taking away of the steel import canalisation agency from SAIL and vesting the task on the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation after the announcement of the new Import-Export policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and how Government propose to provide them employment in such a situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Import Department of the Control Marketing Organisation of the Steel Authority of India Limited which dealt with canalised imports of iron and steel has a strength of 57 executives and 171 non-executives (total 228). It has been estimated that about 20 executives and 50 non-executives (total 70) will still be required for residuary work. In addition, the Central Marketing Organisation has a Transport and Shipping Department with a strength of 1352 comprising of 61 executives and 1291 non-executives. This Department looks after not only work relating to imports and exports of iron and steel materials but also of imports of equipment, spare part and raw materials including coking coal for the SAIL steel plants. This Department will continue to handle imports other than canalised imports. It has been estimated that about 11 executives and 261 non-executives (total 272) will now become surplus in this Department. It is expected that surplus manpower may be re-deployed within SAIL.

Largest Single Export from India

6047. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the item which has emerged as the largest single export item from India in 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned by exporting those items in the above years; and

(c) the prospects of exporting those items in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Crude oil has been the largest single item of exports in 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85.

(b) The value of export of crude oil during these years has been as below :

Year	Value (Rs. crores)
1982-83	1063
1983-84	1231
1984-85 (Prov.)	1538

(c) The export of crude oil during the year 1985-86 is expected to be almost negligible in view of the development of domestic refining capacity to process Bombay High Crude.

Foreign Exchange Earned Through Export of Leather Goods

6048. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the country by exporting leather goods during the Sixth Plan;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the export of leather goods;

(c) if so, the programme of Government for launching major export drive in leather goods in the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) the efforts made to increase the export of leather goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Exports of leather and leather products during the

Sixth Plan period are estimated at Rs. 2133 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). An easy access to essential inputs for export production of value-added leather products, publicity, participation in overseas leather fairs, sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams, market surveys etc. are some of the measures envisaged to increase exports of leather products during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

Lockup of Capital in Public Sector Enterprises

6049. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been estimated that the inventory level on the basis of number of days, output in public sector enterprises has come down from 179 days in 1972 to 97 days in 1983-84 but the total value has risen from Rs. 892 crores to Rs. 11,165 crores during the same period; and

(b) the steps being taken to reduce the capital locked up in inventories so that a higher rate of return on investment, besides improved liquidity of the enterprises, can be ensured ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The inventory level of 179 days and the value at Rs. 892 crores, however, relate to the year ending 1969-70 and not 1972. The increased value of inventories is to be considered in the context of total output of the enterprises, which during the period has increased from Rs. 1,814 crores to Rs. 42,051 crores and the level of inventories in terms of number of days output has reduced, indicating significant improvement.

(b) Efforts are being made to bring down the level further. Some of the

steps are : use of scientific tools and techniques of inventory control, training of personnel in this area, periodical review of the inventories, undertaking indeph studies in selected enterprises and suggesting specific action areas of improvement etc. The details are available at "Section—2 : —Management of Inventories in Public Enterprises" at pages 234 to 263 of the Public Enterprises Survey 1983-84 Vol. I placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 15-3-1985.

[*Translation*]

Rise in Price of Yarn in Bihar

6050. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handloom industry in Bihar is facing a crisis due to 40 per cent increase in the price of yarn;

(b) if so, the reasons for the rise in prices of yarn;

(c) the steps taken by Government to help this industry; and

(d) whether Government propose to supply yarn at controlled rates for the handlooms and leg-operated looms ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The prices of yarn upto 40s, which is generally used by handlooms in Bihar, has gone up during the past one year by about 12 to 17%.

(b) The handloom industry in Bihar has to mainly depend on outside sources for supply of yarn and hence the yarn trade is subject to speculated elements.

(c) The National Handloom Development Corporation has started a yarn

depot at Bihar Shariff since March, 1985. The State Government have also opened yarn depots through the agency of State Handloom Development Corporation and State Handloom Weavers Corporative Unions at Gaya, Bhagalpur, Siwan and Aurangabad. Similar yarn depots are expected to start functioning soon at Madhubani and Jahanabad also.

(d) There is no such proposal before the Government.

[*English*]

Rupee Trade Between India and Soviet Union

6051. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rupee trade between India and the Soviet Union will continue over the next five years;

(b) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) the extent to which the trade between the two countries is likely to improve during the current year;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). It has been decided that the rupee trading arrangements between India and the Soviet Union envisaging payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions between the two countries in non-convertible Indian rupee should be continued for a further period of five years from 1st January, 1986 to 31st December, 1990.

(d) The two trading partners are working to expand and diversify the bilateral trade as per the guidelines laid

down by the Prime Ministers of the two countries in the Long-term Economic Programme signed in March, 1979.

Housing Loans by Commercial and Cooperative Banks during the Seventh Plan

6052. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has directed commercial and co-operative banks to extend housing loans during the Seventh Plan on schematic and individual basis in order to meet the country's shortage of 24.7 million houses;

(b) if so, whether the commercial banks have been issued any directive and guidelines in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how many banks have decided to provide the loans under this Scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Increase in Export of Electronic Goods

6053. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of electronic goods has increased over the last five years;

(b) if so, year-wise figures thereof and the names of major hardware and software items that are exported; and

(c) the export outlays planned for the present financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of electronic goods during last five years has been as under :

Year	Electronic goods (in crores Rs.)	Software	Total
1980-81	26.78	7.28	34.06
1981-82	33.32	10.42	43.74
1982-83 (Prov.)	95.00	15.00	110.00
1983-84	120.00	20.00	140.00
1984 (9 months) (April-December) (Prov.)	105.00	16.00	121.00

Major hardware items exported are printers Floppy Disc Drives, Winchester Magnetic heads, and Computer peripherals. Software items exported from India include video tapes etc.

(c) For 1985-86, export target of Rs. 130 crores for electronic goods and Rs. 60 crores for software has been tentatively fixed.

Setting up of Mini Steel Plants

6054. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) The progress made in respect of setting up of mini steel plants in different parts of the country;

(b) whether the necessary infrastructure facilities required for these plants have been built up;

(c) the time by which these mini projects will be completed and ready for production;

(d) whether any projects have already been completed; and

(e) if so, State-wise list of these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). 189 industrial licences/Letters of Intent with a total capacity of 547 million tonnes per annum have been issued for the setting up of mini steel plants in different parts of the country. Out of these, 150 units with a capacity of 3.94 million tonnes per annum have commenced commercial production. The remaining units are in various stages of implementation. The Letters of Intent are initially valid for a period of one year, the units are expected to implement them within that period. Requests for extension of validity of Letters of Intent from the units are considered on merits. It is, however, not possible to indicate when these

projects will be completed and ready for production.

The infrastructural facilities like power, land, building, raw material etc. have to be arranged by licencees themselves. However, Letters of Intent are issued only after obtaining categorical assurance regarding availability of power from State Government/State Electricity Board.

(e) A State-wise list of mini steel plants, which have been issued industrial licences, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1117/85]

Proposal to Establish Alumina Plants during Seventh Five Year Plan

6055. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of alumina plants functioning in the country at present and the annual production of alumina in those plants;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more alumina plants in the country during the next Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the sites selected for the purpose;

(d) the estimated cost thereof;

(e) when the work will be started; and

(f) whether the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation has been given a contract for setting up alumina plant in Hungary, if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a). There are at present five alumina plants in the country. The location and production of these plants during 1984-85 are as under :

Name of producer	Location	Production during 1984-85 (in tonnes)
Public Sector		
BALCO	Korba	166,630
Private Sector		
INDAL	Muri and Belgaum	220,860
HINDALCO	Renukoot	176,489
MALCO	Mettur	26,551
		Total 590,530

(b) to (e). An alumina plant of 800,000 tonnes per annum capacity is under construction by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) at Damanjodi, district Koraput, Orissa. The original estimated cost is Rs. 293 crores, as worked out on the basis of prices prevailing in the first quarter of 1980. The revised cost estimates are under consideration of the Government. The plant is already under construction and the start up is scheduled in September, 1986.

(f) No, Sir.

Survey Conducted to Find Mineral Deposits in Gujarat

6056. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to find mineral deposits in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to explore them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI

K NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following major minerals have been found in Gujarat :

Minerals	Estimated reserves (in lakh tonnes)
Bauxite	903.4
Bentonite	430.8
China clay	674.3
Copper ore	75.7
Dolomite	2,453.1
Fire clay	448.2
Flourite	83.5
Gypsum	72.0
Graphite	20.4
Lignite	1,650.2
Limestone	1,07,920.0
Lead-Zinc ore	74.4
Manganese ore	29.6

(c) Survey work by Central and State Government agencies is continuing.

Commissioning of Salem Steel Plant

6057. SHRI N. DENNIS. Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL pleased to state :

(a) whether the State of Tamil Nadu have approached the Union Government for the commissioning of the Salem Steel Plant during the Sixth Five Year Plan ; and

(b) if so' the present position regarding commissioning of the Salem Steel Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Salem Steel Plant has already been commissioned. Commercial production commenced from 13th March, 1982.

Setting up of Minerals and Metals Based Industries in Koraput District of Orissa

6058. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the mineral and metals so far exploited by Governments of Orissa and his Ministry in Koraput District of Orissa ;

(b) the names of the minerals and metals based industries so far established and proposed for Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(c) the number of the letters of intent issued to Government of Orissa and the private parties and the names of the parties and holder of letter of intent ;

(d) the units which have started the initial works ; and

(e) the steps taken by his Ministry

to exploit the huge minerals deposits of the district during Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

Export Target of Iron Ore by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited

6059. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of iron ore exported during 1984 by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited ;

(b) whether the company has achieved its target of 1984 ;

(c) if not, the reasons for not exporting the required quantity ;

(d) whether the company has got sufficient export orders ; and

(e) whether the company has earned a profit during 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Against the target of 1.65 million tonnes, the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company exported 1.57 million tonnes of iron ore concentrate during 1984-85. The marginal shortfall in fulfilling the target was due to the failure of one of the buyer countries to lift the contracted quantity of concentrate due to some difficulties in their plant.

(d) No, Sir. The company is, however, making all efforts to locate overseas export markets for the sale of concentrate.

(e) No, Sir.

Export of Charge Chrome and Other Licensed Product Through M/s. Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Ltd.

6060. SHRI D B. SHINGDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether 100 per cent Export oriented Unit situated at Therubali, Orissa of M/s. Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys Limited has started commercial production on 20th February, 1983.

(b) quantity of charge-chrome and other licensed product so far manufactured and quantities thereof exported since start of plant ;

(c) quantity of raw-materials, consumables etc. like chrome-ore, metallurgical coke, carbon paste etc. imported by this firm for their 100 per cent export-oriented Unit under OGL and import value of respective items ;

(d) whether the firm had illegally and

unauthorisedly diverted substantial quantities of these items to other Unit engaged in catering to domestic market and thereby violated the Import Trade Control Act, 1947 and Rules issued thereunder ; and

(e) if so; action Government propose to take against the firm ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Statement 'A' is annexed.

(d) and (e). The firm has diverted certain quantity of the goods imported under the 100% Export Oriented Unit Scheme for their indigenous industry and action has been taken against them by the Department of Revenue. Details of the items diverted and action taken thereon is given in statement 'B' annexed.

Statement 'A'

(b) and (c) :

(i) The quantity of products manufactured by the firm since 20.2.83.

Charge Chrome 3783 tonnes

Ferro silicon 3652.560 tonnes

(ii) the quantity of exports made by the firm, since 20.2.83.

Charge Chrome 3,600.500 tonnes

Which includes a quantity of the one tonne found short on stock taking which is under adjudication.

Ferro silicon 2,235.820 tonnes.

(iii) the quantity of raw materials imported and warehoused.

Item	Quantity in tonnes.	C.I.F. value in Rs.
Chrome Ore	13,209	1,12,72,399
LAM Coke	10,794.13	1,15,91,922
Carbon Electrode paste.	1,027 239	34,33,760.75

(d) and (e).

The party has diverted certain quantity of the goods imported under the 100% Export Oriented Unit for their indigenous industry. The quantity diverted is as under :—

Item	Quantity in tonnes.	C.I.F. value in Rs.
Chrom Ore	600	5,12,024.91
LAM coke	1,000	11,13,085.58
Carbon elec- trade paste.	53,757	1,83,561

Action has been taken by the Department of Revenue (CBEC) against the importer. Consequently customs duty of Rs. 3,32,860 and Rs. 1,49,602 has been realised on chrome ore and electrode paste respectively. A demand of Rs. 7,23,505 has been raised towards the customs duty on LAM coke which has since been confirmed in appeal also and demand notice of Rs. 7,23,505 has been enforced.

In addition at the time of stock taking shortage of 1,019.573 tonnes of chrome ore and 343.46 tonnes of LAM

coke was noticed. One case has been adjudicated and a duty demand of Rs. 13,01,136 has been confirmed and a penalty of Rs. 1 lakh imposed on the party.

Expansion Programme of Durgapur Steel Plant

6061. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production of Durgapur Steel Plant during the Fifth Five Year Plan period and Sixth Five Year Plan upto 31st March, 1985 year-wise ;

(b) the anticipated production in the proposed expansion programme ; and

(c) the man-power now engaged in Durgapur Steel Plant and the expected strength after the expansion is completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) The production of saleable steel at Durgapur Steel Plant during the Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plan periods has been as under :—

(1000 tones)

Vth Plan Period		Vth Plan Period	
Year	Output of Saleable Steel	Year	Out put of Saleable Steel
1975-76	752	1980-81	598
1976-77	901	1981-82	782
1977-78	865	1982-83	813
1978-79	778	1983-84	602
1979-80	605	1984-85	621

(b) There is no proposal for expansion of the Durgapur Steel Plant. However a Scheme for technological upgradation and modernisation has been formulated ; this envisages restoration of the crude steel rated capacity of 1.658 Million tonnes of the Plant.

(c) As on 31st March, 1985, there were 32698, employees working in Durgapur Steel Plant (excluding mines). However, manpower requirement after modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant would depend upon the stage and scope of modernisation that is approved by Government.

Export of Drugs

6062. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL:

	(Rs. in Crores)	
	1983-84	1984-85 (Estimated)
(1) Medicinal Castor Oil	80.90	88.74
(2) Finished Formulations	50.52	65.52
(3) Basic drugs	18.46	25.48
(4) Quinine Salts	1.90	0.44
Total	150.88	180.18

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A target of Rs. 215 crores has been fixed for 1985-86 for a exports of these items. Steps which are taken to increase the exports are locating new markets, laying greater emphasis on the exports of basic drugs, sending out Study-cum-Sales Teams, and by providing Cash Compensatory Support on additional bulk drug items.

Limestone Mines in Orissa

6063. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and value of drugs exported to other countries for the past two years ;

(b) whether there is any plan before Government to increase the export of drugs during the current year ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) The export figures of the drugs, groupwise, for the past two years is indicated below:

(a) the number of limestone mines located in different parts of Orissa ;

(b) the total quantity of limestone deposits in these mines ; and

(c) the steps taken for proper utilisation of limestone deposits in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a). Limestone mines in Orissa have been located in the districts of Sambalpur and Sundergarh. There is one reporting mine each in these two districts. There was one

mine in Koraput district also which is closed at present.

(b) As per mineral inventory as on 1.1.1980 prepared by Indian Bureau of Mines, the total limestone reserves estimated in these areas are as under :

District	Total reserves of all grades (in million tonnes)
1. Sambalpur	13.96
2. Sundergarh	570.60
3. Koraput	255.82
<hr/>	
Total Orissa State	840.68

(c) Limestone is utilised in the Steel Plants at Jamshedpur, Burnpur, Durgapur and Rourkela ; Cement plants of I.D.C. Orissa at Bargarh and Orissa Cement Limited at Rajgangpur. Small quantities are also used in Fertilizer Plant at Talchir and Kalinga Iron Works at Barbil and different foundries in eastern region.

Export of Sugares during 1985-86 and 1986-87

6064. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the targets for exports of sugar during 1985-86 and 1986-87 ;

(b) the quota fixed for the private/Co-operative Sector to enter into this field ;

(c) the new markets, if any, that we have been able to locate in this regard ; and

(d) the rate of profitability of sugar export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Barring exports of small quantities of sugar to some neighbouring countries and under preferential pricing/quota entitlements, sugar exports are held in abeyance. As such, there are no export targets for sugar for 1985-86. The question of fixing targets for 1986-87 would be considered after assessing the next crop and production levels.

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

[Translation]

More Prices for Agricultural Implements from Small and Marginal Farmers in Bihar Against Loans by Banks

6065. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleasee to state :

(a) whether certain M.P.s. in a letter dated 27th March, 1985 had alleged that the price of pump-sets, boring pipes, strainer and other agricultural implements is charged many times more than that in the markets from small and marginal farmers in Bihar against the loans and grants provided by banks;

(b) whether the Department of Rural Development had enquired into this matter and if so, the extent of the correctness of the allegations and those found true;

(c) the recommendations of the Department of Rural Development in this regard; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officers, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. A letter dated 27th March, 1985 making such allegations has been received from Shri Hukmdeo Narayan, Yadab Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha.

(b) to (d). The Bihar State Government has been advised by the Department of Rural Development to taken action against the concerned erring officials of the State Government. Reserve Bank of India has also been asked to depute some senior officer to Patna for fixing responsibility on delinquent bank officials and directing the concerned banks to take appropriate disciplinary action against those found guilty.

Opening of Special Cell for Loan to Scheduled Castes/Tribes

6066. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the directions issued by the Reserve Bank to provide loans in a right manner to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes;

(b) whether these directions are complied with;

(c) the number of banks which have opened special cells for the purpose;

(d) the time by which the remaining banks are likely to open such cells;

(e) whether each bank has been directed to prepare an annual estimate of the loans to be provided to the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes as per the directions of Reserve Bank; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY : (a) to (b). In order to increase the flow of production credit to SC/ST borrowers, Reserve Bank have, from time to time, issued guidelines to the public sector bank for implementation of measures like formulation of credit schemes suited to the requirements of SC/ST persons, weighting of District Credit Plans in favour of SC/ST communities, close

liaison with corporations/agencies implementing schemes for development of SC/ST communities, adoption of Harijan bastis or villages having sizeable population belonging to SC/ST communities, ensuring sympathetic evaluation of proposals of SC/ST applicants and rejection of their applications only at a level higher than the branch level, creation of Special Cells to monitor flow of credit to SC/ST borrowers and submission of periodical reviews to the Boards of Directors detailing not only the progress made but also outlining further measures contemplated to expand the coverage of SC/ST borrowers.

As a result of all these measures credit flow SC/ST beneficiaries by public sector banks has shown significant improvement in recent years. The number of borrowal accounts of SC/ST entrepreneurs under priority sector in public sector banks increased from 11.78 lakhs in June 1979 to 43.65 lakhs in June, 1984 and advances to them increased from Rs. 170.53 crores to Rs. 832.45 crores in the corresponding period. Sometimes specific complaints about non-implementation of guidelines by field-level functionaries are received by the Government./RBI. These are followed up with banks for corrective action.

(c) and (d). With a view to achieve the objective of increasing the flow of credit to SC/ST borrowers, all the public sector banks have evolved specific mechanism for overseeing the implementation of credit programmes directed towards these communities. Precise information about the constitution of special cells is, however, being ascertained from the banks and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) and (f). Banks have been advised to make programme for credit assistance to SC/ST borrowers, an integral part of their performance budget so that attainment of given objectives could be monitored effectively.

[English]

Guidelines Laid Down to Allocate Aluminium of Different Grades

6067. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has recently laid down guidelines to allocate aluminium of the different grades to the genuine users of the aluminium for the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued and the names of the units which are genuine users of aluminium;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that several units which are getting aluminium of different grades from Government are misusing the prescribed quota and thus diverting it at high premium; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take against the units which are misusing the quota ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). In order to encourage better utilisation of capacity and to boost production of new and revived units, certain guidelines for distribution of EC grade aluminium were framed for the year 1984-85. The same guidelines have been repeated for year 1985-86. Important features of these guidelines are :—

- (i) Allocations are made to the units based on 75% of their highest past annual off take and 25% of their capacity.
- (ii) Allocations to new and revived units are made on the basis of 75% of their capacity.
- (iii) A clear one month's notice is required to be given to the

allottees to make financial arrangement for lifting the metal in order to help units especially in the small scale sector.

- (iv) Under the guidelines a loanee, who should be a regular allottee of EC metal is permitted to get loan from another allottee with the consent of Controller of Aluminium and that loan taken during the one allocation period is to be returned latest before the last date of the next allocation period.

The names of the cables and conductor manufacturers and manufacturers of winding wires etc., who have been allocated EC grade metal are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No LT 1118/85].

Indigenously produced CG aluminium is not under distribution control. However, the imported CG aluminium ingots are distributed by MMTC in accordance with the guidelines framed by the Government and are incorporated in the trade notice issued by MMTC from year to year. The main features of the guidelines in respect of distribution of imported CG grade ingots is that actual users are eligible to get CG ingots from MMTC to the extent of 1/3rd of their highest past annual offtake.

(c) and (d). The availability position of aluminium has considerably improved from last year. Domestic production, which has gone up substantially, has been supplemented further by imports. There is no shortage of aluminium either EC or CG. In fact, due to easy availability of aluminium, distribution control was relaxed from the later part of last year. There is no complaint of misuse or diversion of aluminium on high premium.

[Translation]

Land Under Opium Cultivation

6068. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the area of land in hectares under opium cultivation in the country and the area, out of it in Barabanki District of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to open a factory for its processing to ensure production of good quality opium;

(c) if so, the time by which it would be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) The area under opium cultivation in the country and in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh during the crop year 1984-85 was about 25, 154 and 2,833 hectares, respectively.

(b) to (d). There is no such proposal as there are already two Government Opium Factories—one at Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh and the other at Neemuch Madhya Pradesh—with an adequate capacity for processing opium.

[English]

Pending Adjudication Cases Relating to Goods Seized by Customs

6069. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of adjudication cases relating to seizure of goods by the Customs pending in the different Customs Collectorates, have increased during the past five years;

(b) if so, the details of cases pending adjudication in the different Customs

Collectorates as on 31st day of March, 1980, 1982, 1984 and 1985; and

(c) the steps taken to expedited disposal of such cases to prevent accumulation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The number of Customs seizure cases, pending adjudication in different customs Collectorates all over the country, as on 31st March, 1980, 1982, 1984 and 1985, is furnished below :—

Year	Number of adjudication cases pending as on 31st March
1980	5463
1982	5926
1984	8072
1985*	5839
*(Provisional)	

The adjudication proceedings following seizure of cases, investigations, issue of show-cause notice, personal hearing, examination and cross-examination of witnesses, etc. culminating in passing of an order of adjudication, are quasi-judicial in character and necessarily involve time which varies depending on the promptness of the response of the charged party. Sometimes, such proceedings are held up for reasons beyond the control of the department when the parties involved obtain stay from Courts or deliberately delay the proceedings.

The machinery for adjudication has been further galvanised as part of a general drive. As a result, the pendency has considerably come down from 8072 as on 31st March, 1984 to 5839 as on 31st March, 1985 which amounts to only a little over two months' average receipt of fresh cases for adjudication in 1984.

Disposal of Confiscated Goods

6070. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rate of disposal of confiscated goods by the Customs authorities has declined during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the value of goods confiscated or seized during the last three years;

(d) the value of seized or confiscated goods disposed of during the last three years;

(e) the value of total stocks of confiscated goods lying in the Customs godowns as on the 31st day of March, 1985, 1984 and 1983; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to expedite disposal of confiscated goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) The total value of goods seized and goods confiscated during the years 1982, 1983 and 1984 is furnished below :—

Year	Value of goods seized	(Value : Rs. in crores) Value of goods confiscated
1982	66.39	27.15
1983	89.92	59.11
1984	100.55*	67.22*

*(provisional)

(d) The total value of the seized/ confiscated goods disposed of during the years 1982, 1983 and 1984 is furnished below :—

Year	Total value of confiscated goods disposed of (Value : Rs. in crores)
1982	24.90
1983	41.14
1984	57.39 (provisional)

(e) The total value of the confiscated goods lying in the Customs godowns as on 31-3-1983, 31-3-1984, 31-3-1985 is furnished below :—

Period as on	Value of goods (Rs. in crores)
31-3-1984	46.14
31-3-1984	57.82
31-3-1985	61.47 (provisional)

(f) The channels of disposal of confiscated goods were widened in 1983 to expedite disposal of confiscated goods. Appropriate discounts are allowed on the sale prices fixed by Collectorates/Custom Houses to National Consumers' Co-operative Federation of India Ltd., Co-operative Societies, State Co-operative Federations, etc.

[Translation]

Handicrafts Board in Bikaner

6071. SHRI MOHAR SINGH RATHORE : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Handicrafts Board or the regional office for the development of handicrafts in Bikaner with a view to

promote and encourage handicrafts in this area;

(b) whether Bikaner is the biggest market for handicrafts; and

(c) whether there are tremendous potentials for developing carpet weaving centres, dyeing and weaving and other connected handicrafts there and what efforts have been made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, sir. However, Bikaner is generally known for Camel Handicrafts, wood carving carpet weaving and other wool products.

(c) Bikaner being a wool producing area, there is scope for developing wool based products. State Government agencies are running a carpet weaving training centre as well as a programme for woollen shawl weaving.

[English]

Adverse Effect of Rise in Prices of Steel on Small Scale Industries and Housing

6072. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of steel have been shooting up for the past five years in general and the last three years in particular;

(b) if so, the rise in each year;

(c) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect of the rise in prices on small scale industries and housing for low/middle income group; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to mitigate the hardship on this scope ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K.

NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). During the last five years steel prices have been revised on 14 different occasions by the Joint Plant Committee of the main producers. These price revisions were necessitated on account of various reasons including increases in the costs of production, excise duty, contribution to Steel Development Fund, contribution to Engineering Goods Export Assistance Fund, J. P. C. Cess and increase in equalised railway freight element on account of increase in railway freight or reclassification of items by Railways. Additional realisations to the main steel producers accrued only on 7 occasions out of these 14 when the consumer prices for steel were revised. Yearwise details regarding the increase in prices during the last 5 years are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1119/85]

(c) and (d). The interests of the steel consumers, including the small scale industries and house builders, and producers were kept in view while revising the prices.

Amount Collected from Duties on Tea

6073 **SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of money received by Government by way of Central Excise duty from tea during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 ;

(b) the amount collected by way of export duty on tea, during 1982-83 to 1984-85 ;

(c) the amount collected by way of agricultural Income Tax on tea, during 1982-83 to 1984-85 ; and

(d) the amount collected by way of corporation tax from tea industry and the amount lying in arrear during the period from 1982-83 to 1984-85 ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) A Statement showing the amount of Central Excise duty realised from Tea during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 is annexed ;

(b) No Export duty on tea was realised during 1982-83 to 1984-85, as the same is exempt.

(c) As per Section 10 (1) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 agricultural income is not included while computing

the total income a previous year. Further, agricultural income tax, is a State subject and hence the required information is not available with the Central Government.

(d) The requisite information is not separately maintained. The collection of information would involve considerable time and labour. However, if the hon'ble Member wants to know the details of any particular tea company, the same should be collected and furnished.

Statement

Statement Showing Amount of Central Excise Duties Realised on Tea during the Financial Years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85.

	Basic duty	Special excise duty	Cess	Total
1982-83	4900	492	454	5845
1983-84	4917	492	464	5873
1984-85 (RBE)	5900	590	505	5995

Counting of Military Service for Promotion

6074. SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6775 on the 8th April, 1984 regarding promotion of ex-servicemen employed in public sector banks and state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision for counting of military service for promotion from one cadre to another for the ex-servicemen, re-employed in public sector banks on the basis of their guidelines issued in January, 1983 ;

(b) if so, the criterion fixed for counting of service ; and

(c) whether the banks have implemented the decision of Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The question of evolving a suitable formula for giving weightage to Army service to the ex-servicemen re-employed in banks, in fixation of their seniority in banks for the purposes of promotion from one cadre to another is already under consideration of the Government in consultation with the Indian Banks' Association (IBA) and suitable action as appropriate would be taken.

Company- Wise Break-Up of I.T. Amount

6075. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2857 on the 12th April, 1985 regarding amount of income-tax outstanding against companies and state the company-wise break-up of the outstanding amount

of income-tax (Rs. 113.49 crores) as on the 30 September, 1984 ?

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The requisite information is given in the annexed statement.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

Statement

Sl. No	Name of the Assessee	Outstanding demand as on 30-9-1984 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Milkfood Ltd.	20.19
2.	Century Enka Ltd.	19.51
3.	E-Marck (India) (P) Ltd.	04.11
4.	Echjay Industries (P) Ltd.	105.15
5.	Bombay Dyeing and Mfg. Co. Ltd.	12.13
6.	Rollatainers Ltd.	36.05
7.	Prakash Tubes Ltd.	25.03
8.	Jagatjit Industries Ltd.	103.43
9.	Curewel (India) Ltd.	15.77
10.	Continental Device India Ltd.	18.87
11.	L and T Meenail Ltd.	78.00
12.	Larson and Toubro Ltd.	468.75
13.	Toshiba Anand Batteries Ltd.	62.23
14.	Amar Dyechem Ltd.	24.18
15.	Reliable Extraction Industries.	20.20
16.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd.	10.53
17.	Continental Construction Ltd.	6789.42
18.	Nirlon Synthetic Fibres and Chemicals Ltd.	156.93
19.	Pratap Steel Rolling Mills (P) Ltd.	18.55

1	2	3
20.	Paper Products Ltd.	88.46
21.	J. K. Synthetics Ltd.	563.61
22.	Shree Synthetics Ltd.	137.90
23.	Indian Explosives Ltd.	731.33
24.	Jain Shahu Vanaspati Co. Ltd.	30.10
25.	Narula Udyog and another	17.16
26.	Sharpedge Ltd.	11.32
27.	Special Steels Ltd.	10.38
28.	Zuari Agro Chemicals Ltd.	409.56
29.	Hindusthan Gas Industries Ltd.	16.64
30.	Modi Rubber Ltd.	700.85
31.	Sylvania Laxman.	53.34
32.	Ahamedabad Advance Mills Ltd.	36.35
33.	I. T. C. Ltd. (Tribeni Tissue)	103.10
34.	Trivenisheet Glass Works Ltd.	22.63
35.	I. D. L. Chemicals Ltd.	52.52
36.	Andhra Pradesh Paper Mills Ltd.	95.28
37.	Lakhenpal National Ltd.	22.81
38.	Kesoram Industry and Cotton Mills Ltd.	107.86
39.	Sriniwas Steel Ltd.	10.71
40.	Ferro Alloys Corpn. Ltd.	87.37

The Effect of Taking out Electronic Photo Composing and Ancillary Equipment from O.G.L. on the Newspaper Industry

6076. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether by taking out electronic Photo composing and ancillary equipment from Open General Licence (O.G.L.) the newspaper paper industry will be affected and industry will suffer from growth ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE SHRI P.A. SANGMA (a) No; Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Special Cell for Income Tax Cases

6077. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have established a special cell for dealing with income tax cases ;

(b) when it was established and the number of cases referred to the special cell till date ;

(c) the particulars of the persons whose cases have been transferred to the special cell ; and

(d) the functions of the special cell and the number of cases dealt with by the special cell so far ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Special Cell was established in August, 1972. It was

re-constituted as a separate and an independent unit and was redesignated as the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) with effect from the 13th February, 1981. Cases are not transferred to the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) for making assessments. It oversees investigations and assessments in some selected cases of the groups of large industrial houses assigned to it from time to time. Some cases of multi-nationals, foreign companies etc., are also sometimes assigned to the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation).

The information regarding the groups of cases assigned to the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) during the year 1984-85 is annexed at statement 'A'. Assessments in the selected cases of these groups, as also in the cases of multi-nationals and foreign companies etc, assigned to it, were overseen by the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) from time to time. The information regarding the functions of the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) is annexed at statement 'B'.

Statement 'A'

Groups of large Industrial Houses and other cases assigned to the Directorate of Inspection (Special Investigation) during the year 1984-85.

GROUPS OF LARGE INDUSTRIAL HOUSES

1. Birla
2. Sarabhai
3. Modi
4. Sriram
5. Mafatlal
6. Chidambaram
7. Chowgule

8. Indian Tobacco Company
9. Mahindra & Mahindra
10. Kothari
11. Thapar
12. Bajaj
13. Kirloskar

OTHER CASES

1. I.B.M.
2. I.C.L. (UK)
3. I.C.I.M. Ltd.
4. John Weyth and Brothers Ltd.,
Bombay
5. Smith Kline and French (India)
Ltd., Bangalore
6. European Asian Bank, Bombay
7. Emirates Commercial Bank Ltd.,
Bombay
8. Meteor (P) Ltd.
9. Nichimen
10. M/s. Indo Nippon Chemical
Corporation Ltd.
11. M/s. India Galatine and Chemicals
Ltd.
12. M/s. Eastern Ceramic Ltd.
13. M/s. Dwarka Industries Develop-
ment Pvt. Ltd.
14. M/s. Indu Nissan-Oxo-Chemicals
Industries Ltd,

Statement 'B'

*Functions of Directorate of Inspection
(Special Investigation)*

(a) Collection and supply of information to the Board regarding assessments

completed, concealment detected, penalties levied, prosecutions launched, tax recovered, tax in arrears, progress of appeals and reference applications, etc., in respect of cases belonging to big Industrial Houses.

(b) Research into the techniques employed by the big Industrial Houses for minimising tax liability in the case of companies, individuals and trusts belonging to the groups.

(c) Expediting the completion of assessments, hearing of appeals and collection of dues.

(d) Ascertaining deficiencies and shortcomings of the Department in dealing with such groups.

(e) Suggesting measures for adding to the effectiveness of the Department in dealing with cases of big business groups more expeditiously and adequately ; and

(f) Providing guidance and assistance as to the mode of investigations and to take coordinated action on priority basis in the cases of groups assigned to the Cell.

**Share of Banking Sector in
Rural Credit**

6078. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the share of the banking sector in rural credit ;

(b) whether the nationalised banks have been able to eliminate money-lenders in rural areas ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to cover 15 million families of the economically weaker section in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Rural credit involves credit extended in the rural sector by amongst others the Central and State Government agencies, the Co-operative institutions, public sector banks, private sector banks, traditional money lenders and credit extended through barter trade. The present data reporting system only gives information regarding institutional credit made available in the rural areas. There is no regular reporting system which gives information relating to rural credit extended by the traditional money-lenders and through barter trade. Thus, no meaningful percentages can be worked out of the share of banking sector vis-a-vis total rural credit.

(b) Government have made a determined bid to expand bank branches in rural areas. The total number of rural branches in the post nationalisation period has increased from 1832 in June, 1969 to 25929 as at the end of September, 1984. As proportion the rural branches accounted for 56.2% of the total number of branches in September, 1984. In June, 1969, the proportion was only 22.2%. Over 60% of the incremental branch expansion during the above period has been at rural centres. This is expected to shift sufficiently the attention of the poor rural masses towards bank finance, thus diminishing to that extent the money lenders in rural areas.

(c) For covering 15 million families during the Sixth Plan period a target of 600 families per block per year was required to be achieved under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. As per available information received through monthly progress reports it has been seen that 15.7 million families have already been covered till February, 1985.

Central Government Policy for Sick Industries

6079. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the role assigned to nationalised banks under the Central Government's policy for sick industries ;

(b) the details of the assistance rendered to sick industries in different States by the nationalised banks during the period between July, 1982 to December, 1984 ;

(c) the State-wise break-up thereof ;

(d) the number of sick units identified by the nationalised banks during the period mentioned above ;

(e) the aggregate outstandings of banks credit of such sick units as on 31st December, 1984 ;

(f) the number of identified units for which viability studies were undertaken by the banks during this period and the number of such units considered to be potentially viable ;

(g) the number of sick units put under nursing programmes by the banks during the period between July, 1982 to December, 1984 ; and

(h) the number of sick units which have been rehabilitated so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) In terms of the policy for sick industries formulated by the Government of India, banks are required to strengthen the monitoring system so that it is possible to take timely corrective action to prevent sickness in industrial units. It is also required that as soon as the banks become aware of definite signs of sickness, necessary corrective action should be initiated by them on the basis of diagnostic studies undertaken by them. In cases where the need assistance at Government level, such cases are required to be brought by them to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). The data collecting system does not yield State-wise information of assistance extended to sick industrial units over particular periods of time. As the banks sanction credit limits to industrial units who maintain a running account within the sanctioned limits, it would not be feasible to segregate details of assistance extended during any particular period of time.

(d) and (e). As at the end of June, 1982, there were 23,315 sick industrial units in the assistance portfolio of nationalised banks. According to information readily available, as at the end

of December, 1983, there were 34,821 sick industrial units in the assistance portfolio of nationalised banks with aggregate outstandings of Rs. 1814.10 crores.

(f) to (h). Details of the number of sick units in respect of which viability studies have been undertaken, the number of potentially viable units, the number of sick units put under nursing programmes and the number of units deleted from the list of sick units, as available, for the period June, 1982 to December, 1983, are given below :

Period	No. of units in respect of which viability studies were undertaken	No. of potentially viable units	No. of sick units put under nursing programme	No. of sick units deleted from the list of sick units
June, 1982	21,171	6100	2605	Not available
December, 1982	52,662	6246	2577	5100
June, 1983	57,834	6741	2848	Not available
December, 1983	70,544	7409	2919	8753

Import of Coking Coal during Seventh Five Year Plan

6080. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import three million tonnes coking coal during the entire Seventh Five Year Plan period as against the earlier stipulation of 105 million tonnes ;

(b) if so, the main reasons for restricting import to three million tonnes during the entire plan period ; and

(c) whether the steel plants had earlier insisted on a much lower ash content ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Public Sector Steel Plants have always been insisting on coking coal of 17% ash content as their blast furnances have been designed to operate with this level of ash in coking coal blend.

Increase in Coal Prices and Soft Coke due to Hike in Railway Freights

6081. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the hike in the railway freights has also resulted in considerable increase in the prices of coal and soft coke because of high share of transport cost in its end price ; and

(b) if so, to what extent and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL : (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The prices charged by coal companies for supply of coal and coke are on F. O. R. Colliery siding basis as per the price fixed by the Government. This does not include rail freight which is paid by the consignee. With effect from 15. 4. 1985 a supplementary charge of 10% on the total freight on all goods traffic including coal/soft coke is leviable for distances beyond 500 kms. Goods traffic moving for distances upto and inclusive of 500 kms. has, however, been exempted from the levy of this supplementary charge.

Modernisation of Steel Plants

6082. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign country has offered help for modernisation of the steel plants ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the estimated quantity of production after modernisation ; and

(d) when the work is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K.

NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Governments of U. K. and USSR have offered to assist in the modernisation proposals of Durgapur Steel Plant and IISCO respectively.

The Government of U. K. have suggested that out of bilateral aid offered by it to the Indian Government, £20 million per year for a five year period could be utilised for modernisation of the steel plant at Durgapur.

USSR has offered to supply equipment on credit for modernisation of IISCO and has also offered assistance in the preparation of engineering drawing erection, supervision, etc.

(c) These modernisation schemes envisage restoration of the crude steel rated capacities of 1.658 million tonnes at Durgapur and 1 million tonnes at IISCO.

(d) The schemes will be taken up for investment decisions and implementation after the VII Plan allocations of the steel sector are finalised shortly in consultation with the Planning Commission. The time frame and completion schedules will be known after Government approvals are accorded,

Purchase of Equipments for Coal Mines under Coal India Limited

6083. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the equipments which have been imported for coal mines under the Coal India Limited alongwith the names of the foreign countries, during last three years ;

(b) the amount paid or to be paid for each item and to each country and the names of the coal mines in which these are to be used ; and

(c) the names of firms which have supplied these equipments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The required details are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 11120/85]

Availability of Precious Stones and Diamonds in Nandigama Taluk, Krishna District (Andhra Pradesh)

6084. SHRI V. SODHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that precious stones and diamonds are available in the lands of some villages in Nandigama Taluk, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether Government have any scheme to collect the soil containing the precious stones/diamonds and separate them from soil ; and

(c) if so, the details of the scheme, cost of the project and the details of future projections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A special project was started in 1980 to assess the potentiality of diamondiferous gravel in Krishna district. So far nearly 3,000 cu. m. of gravels have been treated in a specially designed plant and some diamonds have been recovered. Further work is in progress and therefore the total cost of the project cannot be given at this stage.

Sale of Tea Companies and Tea Gardens Owned by Foreigners

6085. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the number of tea companies and gardens which are owned by foreigners, partly or wholly and have been purchased by Indians or non-resident Indians during the last ten years ;

(b) the total plantation area and the number of workers involved in the above transfer of ownership ; and

(c) the details regarding the price at which the above companies and gardens have been sold ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1121/85]

(b) The total plantation area involved was of the order of 1.20 lakh hectares. The number of workers involved would be of the order of 3 lakhs.

Interim Relief to Public Sector Undertakings Employees

6086. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of public sector undertakings where interim relief has not been paid so far;

(b) the justification of non-payment of interim-relief to employees of those public sector undertakings whose wages are not more than those of Government employees; and

(c) the reaction of Government to the various representations of Unions/Associations in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) : (a) to (c). There are about 70 public enter-

prices who are/were following the Central Government DA pattern in respect of their executives, as per Annexure I [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 1122/85]. 41 of these public enterprises also pay DA at the Central Government rates to their workmen and other junior employees (Annexure II) [Placed in Library. See No. LT 1122/85]. Interim relief was sanctioned by the Government to the Central Government employees pending receipt of the 4th Pay Commission Report. Government had advised these public enterprises not to pay similar interim relief to their employees because employees of these public enterprises are not under the purview of the 4th Pay Commission and the question of grant of interim relief to their employees merely on the basis of the orders issued for payment of interim relief to the Government servants does not arise. Moreover, the employees of these public enterprises receive some allowances like House Rent Allowance at higher rates. Government policy is that all public enterprises should switch over to the industrial DA pattern. The enterprises following the Central Government DA pattern are expected to submit their proposals for revision of scales of pay along with adoption of the industrial DA formula. Government is also prepared to consider fairly and objectively any proposal for interim relief payments pending revision of scales of pay for switching over to the industrial DA on a time bound basis on the merits of each case. Such interim payments have already been authorised by the Government in respect of the non-executives cadres of some of the public enterprises like Central Warehousing Corporation and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation. The executives in Hindustan Latex, Hindustan Prefab, Hindustan Paper Corporation and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Co. Limited have also agreed to switch over to the industrial DA pattern.

Although various Unions/Associations and Joint Action Committee of the Public Sector Enterprises have repre-

sented to the Government for payment of the interim relief to the employees of the public enterprises following the Central Government DA pattern, Government is of the view that it would not be possible to concede these benefits to the employees in view of what has been stated above.

Customs Duty on Import of Drugs and Drug Intermediates

6087. SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of drugs where the customs duty is lower than the customs duty imposed on its intermediates;

(b) the prevailing rates of customs duties that are applicable on import of drug and drug intermediates separately; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Drugs fall within Chapter 29 or 30 of the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and drug intermediates generally fall within Chapter 29 of the said First Schedule. While the general statutory basic duty on items covered by these Chapters is 100% advalorem, drugs generally carry an effective basic duty of 60% advalorem and drug intermediates, 70% advalorem. Auxiliary duty at the rate of 40% advalorem and additional (countervailing) duty equal to Central Excise duty are leviable in addition. However, duty on various specified drugs and drug intermediates has been reduced in consultation with the administrative Ministry concerned and notifications issued in this respect from time to time have been laid on the Table of the House with Explanatory Memoranda.

Purchase and Export of Onion

6088. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity (with value of foreign exchange) of onions exported during 1984-85 and how does it compare with the exports during 1983-84;

(b) the pricing policy with regard to the purchase and export of onions

and the incentives, if any, given to the onion-growers to raise its productions; and

(c) how does the export of onions reflect on the domestic prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The quantity and value of onion exported during 1983-84 and 1984-85 are as under:

	Qty. M. Tonnes	Value : Rs. in lakhs	
	*1983-84	*1984-85	Increase/Decrease in 1984-85 over 1983-84
Qty.	183,883	258,977	+ 75,094
Value	3,587	5,145	+ 1,558

*Estimated.

(b) Onions are not covered under terms of reference of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. However, in order to encourage onion-growing, a fair price to the onion growers is ensured and for that purpose, a scheme of market intervention has been evolved and is being implemented in the State of Maharashtra at present through National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) and the State Marketing Federation. The market intervention price is Rs. 60/-per quintal for fair average quality onions. In order to ensure a fair return on exports of onions, a Minimum Export Price is fixed by NAFED on a regular basis from time to time.

(c) The export of onion is canalised through NAFED and exports are permitted within a ceiling determined after taking into consideration the domestic requirements and prices.

Over Stay of Income-Tax Officers in Delhi

6089. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Income-Tax Officers who have stayed in the capital for the last more than five years;

(b) what is the normal prescribed period of stay at one station;

(c) the number of Income Tax Officers in Delhi who have stayed longer than the period prescribed; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). In all, there are 22 Income Tax Officers Group-A, who have stayed in the capital for more than five years. As per the guidelines laid down for transfer of ITOs, a promotee Income-tax Officer, Group-A, is liable for transfer to another charge after he has rendered 5 years' service as regular ITO Group-A in a particular charge. A directly recruited Income-tax Officer, Group-A is liable to be shifted to another charge after 6 years' stay in a charge.

Income-tax Officers (Group-B) are not transferred from one charge to another charge except on grounds of extreme compassion or for administrative reasons. They may, however, be shifted to another ward/circle in a city charge like Delhi after a period of 3 years.

On the basis of the above guidelines at present there are only 5 ITOs Group-A due for transfer out of Delhi. The question of transfer of these officers out of Delhi would be considered at the time of annual general transfers.

Extension for Taken-Over of Swadeshi Textile Mills

6090. DR. C.S. VERMA :

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3040 dated 10th August, 1984 regarding Nationalisation of Swadeshi Textile Mills and state :

(a) the circumstances under which the take-over of Swadeshi Textile Mills was extended each time for six times—ranging from 3 months to 6 months during the last two years; and

(b) when the final decision is expected as indecision and drift is affecting workmen and economy ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILE (SHRI CHANDRA SHE-

KHAR SINGH) (a). The validity of the order of take-over of the six textile undertakings belonging to M/s. Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. has been extended from time to time in the Public interest.

(b) It is not possible to indicate any specific date in this regard.

Rules Regulations Under Which TVs were Assessed for Excise Duty

6091. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2866 on 12 April, 1985 regarding evasion of excise duty on TV sets by assesses and state :

(a) the rules/regulations/notifications under which different types of black and white and colour TVs were assessed for excise duty prior to 17 March, 1985 ;

(b) the names of manufactures against whom action has been initiated after issue of notices by MRTP Commission ;

(c) the name of manufacturers against whom action has been initiated before issue of notices by MRTP Commission ; and

(d) the details of method used by six companies listed in above question for excise evasion along with details of service charges not included in excise evaluation along with brand names ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Prior to 17.3.1985, all TV sets having a screen size not exceeding 51 cms were chargeable to basic excise duty which was as follows :—

- (i) Monochrome receiver 50% advance sets of screen size *lorem* not exceeding 36 cms.

(ii) others 15% advalorem
 In respect of sets
 having screen size above
 51 cms the rate of duty
 was 30% advalorem

(b) and (c). Enquiry by Central Excise field formations are not connected with the action initiated by MRTP Commission. Independently action is taken against the manufacturers who, on collection of intelligence, are found to evade duty of excise as action was initiated in respect of 6 firms mentioned in answer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2866 on 12 April, 1985. If information in respect of any particular unit is required, the same will be collected from the field formations.

(d) The method adopted by the six companies was generally the non-inclusion of certain charges in the assessable value for purposes of charging it to excise duty.

National Pension Fund for Pensioners

6092. SHRI M. SUBBA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a National Pension Fund has been sought by the retired pensioners as also a national pension policy and a separate Ministry for pensioners ;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto ; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce a scheme for payment of pension to all classes of employees, Government or non-Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Some pensioners' organisations have represented to Government for setting up of a pension fund to be financed by contributions from Government. The organisations have also suggested appointment of a pension commission and

creation of a separate Ministry of pensions to deal with problems of pensioners.

A separate Department of Pensions and Pensioners Welfare has already been notified under the Ministry of Personnel and Training, Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Pension. However, Government have not agreed to the demand for setting up of a Pension Commission.

(c) Government is already having a scheme for payment of pension to Central Government employees. Non-Government employees in organised sectors are by and large covered under pension schemes or equivalent retirement benefits.

Contempt Cases Pending Against Collectors of Customs

6093. SHRI DEBI GHOSHAL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some contempt cases are pending against some Collectors of Customs in different High Courts in the country ;

(b) if so, the details of such cases ;

(c) the number of cases in which the Collector of customs, Calcutta is involved as compared to the number of cases in which other Collectors of Customs are involved ; and

(d) the position in regards to parts (a) and (b) above as on 31st March of 1985 31st March, 1982 and 31st March, 1980 ?

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 the Table of the House.

Facilities Concessions to Small Scale Industrial Units

6094. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the various facilities/concessions etc. given to small scale industrial units in production, reservations in areas of production, marketing Government purchases, import policies exchange control and income-tax policies of Government ;

(b) whether the exports by small scale industrial units are encouraged by Government and if so, details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government have abandoned the policy of assisting the small scale sector in export production as the same is missing from the Press Note of the Ministry of Commerce issued on 12th April, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) While the primary responsibility for developing and promoting small scale industries in a State rest with the State Government, the Central Government have been extending various facilities and concessions for their speedy and balanced growth. These facilities include ; Central Investment subsidy for backward areas ; transport subsidy ; concessional finance through all-India term lending institutions ; tax concessions, hire purchase of machinery ; special facilities for import of raw materials, etc. In addition, the Central Government have also set up a net work of various Small Industries Service Institutes, Branch Institutes, Extension Centres, Regional Testing Centres, Product and Process Development Centres, Footwear Training Centres, Tool Rooms and Training Centres, Field Testing Stations, etc., which provide a comprehensive range of consultancy services and technical, managerial economic and marketing assistance for promotion of small

scale industries in various parts of the country.

More than 800 items have been reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector. In addition, more than 400 items are reserved for purchase from this sector. For the rest of items price preference upto 15% is given under stores purchase Programme.

The current Import and Export Policy for 1985-88 provides the following facilities ;

- (i) The limit on capital investment on plant and machinery in respect of small scale industrial units has been increased from Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 35 lakhs.
- (ii) The category of automatic licences has been abolished and most of the items which appeared in the automatic permissible list have been shifted to Open General Licence. This would particularly benefit the small scale sector.
- (iii) Facilities continue to be available for :
 - (a) Import of proto-type upto Rs. 1 lakh in value, not exceeding two in number, automatically ;
 - (b) import of capital goods through NSIC and State Small Industries Corporation ;
 - (c) Grant of import licence for import of items in the restricted list and limited permissible list to new proposed small scale units in backward area or by professionals or by ex-servicemen or by persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

In order to encourage the export by SSI units, the following facilities are available in the Import Policy 1985-88 :—

1. A lower prescribed minimum limit has been laid down in the case of SSI units for the purposes of grant of Export House Certificate. This is Rs. 75 lakhs in the case of Select products and Rs. 3 crores in case of Non-Select products for small scale units as compared to Rs. 3 crores, and 7 crores respectively for large scale units.
2. For the purposes of determining the eligibility of an applicant, other than a SSI manufacturer, the value of exports of the products made by SSI units is reckoned at twice the actual FOB value of such exports.
3. For the purposes of grant of Additional Licences also to Export Houses/Trading Houses, extra weightage is given to the FOB value of the export of Select Products manufactured by small Scale and Cottage Industries.
4. A new scheme known as the Entrepreneurs Merchant Exporters (EME's) was introduced during 1984-85 to encourage the export of low value select products manufactured by SSI/Cottage Sector Units. Under this Scheme it was provided that the EME's having the minimum export performance laid down, would be eligible to the grant of additional licences at the prescribed rate for meeting the requirements of their exporting manufacturers. The scheme has been made more liberal in the Import Policy, 1985-88.

The M.D.A. grant is 60% for representatives from Small Scale Units inclu-

ded in Trade Delegations, Study/Sales Teams and for Export Houses of Small Scale Industries (having minimum exports of Rs. 10 lakhs for selected products.)

(c) No, Sir.

Stock Market Speculation

6095. SHRI P. APPALA NARSIMHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is wide spread, excessive uncontrolled and uncalled for stock market speculation in the country ;

(b) whether Government are aware that large share of speculative stock market business is with black money ; and

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : (a) It is not correct to say that there is widespread and uncontrolled stock market speculation in the country. However, stock prices have increased and the market has been generally buoyant because of the upward trend in the industrial sector of the economy as also because of the increased confidence of investors. Suitable steps have been taken for the orderly functioning of the stock market.

(b) and (c). The transactions of the members of Stock Exchanges are required to be reported to the Stock Exchange authorities. The settlements of the members of Stock Exchanges are also done under the rules and bye-laws of the Stock Exchanges. Government is not aware of black money transactions in share market.

Contingency Paid Staff in Income Tax Office, Agra

6096. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI:

SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of contingency paid staff employed by T.R.O. I and I.T.O. A ward Circle-I in the Income Tax Office, Agra during the year 1983-84 ;

(b) the number of such employees at present in the Income Tax Offices Agra ;

(c) the number of such staff employed through the agency of employment Exchange and without the agency of Employment Exchange ; and

(d) the reasons for employing persons directly and the action taken against the concerned officers responsible for recruiting persons directly ignoring the agency of employment Exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The number of contingent paid staff employed by T.R.O.I Agra and I.T.O. A Ward, Circle-I Agra is 'Nil' and 'ONE' respectively ;

(b) There are 102 Contingent paid staff working in the various offices of the Income Tax Department at Agra.

(c) and (d). Keeping in view the pressing needs of the offices and also having in view that the engagement of the Contingent paid staff was initially for a short period, the Employment Exchange was not approached.

Study on Percentage of Revenue Spent by States on Various Development Programmes

6097. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made study regarding the percentage of revenue spent on various development programmes by States in their respective States ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof each State for the last three years ?

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

(b) A statement is laid on Table of the House.

Statement*Plan Expenditure as percentage of Total Receipts*

States		1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19.66	29.37	22.56
2.	Assam	24.70	21.53	27.85
3.	Bihar	20.79	17.64	19.86
4.	Gujarat	41.61	37.97	38.86

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Haryana	27.26	24.54	29.23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	24.42	35.31	31.17
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	27.44	31.27	33.43
8.	Karnataka	25.15	24.66	20.28
9.	Kerala	27.59	33.32	32.65
10.	Madhya Pradesh	31.74	36.31	31.89
11.	Maharashtra	29.88	28.06	29.52
12.	Mainpur	25.66	31.25	28.85
12.	Magh alaya	37.10	40.06	34.78
14.	Nagaland	18.90	19.52	26.44
15.	Orissa	22.18	17.03	26.63
16.	Punjab	23.89	20.96	15.20
17.	Rajasthan	16.85	23.21	19.11
18.	Sikkim	44.08	47.98	50.79
19.	Tamil Nadu	30.20	24.14	34.13
20.	Tripura	30.09	37.38	33.42
21.	Uttar Pradesh	29.97	26.04	26.10
22.	West Bengal	13.67	14.86	12.68

**Income Tax and Wealth Tax Collection
From Kerala**

6098. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISNAN :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of income-tax and
wealth-tax assesses in Kerala and the
taxes collected during 1982-83, and
1983-84 and 1984-85, with outstanding
arrears as on first January, 1985 ;

(b) the growth rate or rate of
decline seen in the number of assess-
ments and arrears in Kerala in relation
to both these taxes ; and

(c) the percentage-wise contribution
of Kerala to both these taxes during
above three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c).

The information relating to income-tax is given in the annexed statement. As regards Wealth-tax information, the

same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No of income-tax assesses in Kerala	1982-83 <u>1,11,254</u>	1983-84 <u>1,23,342</u>	1984-85 (Upto 31.12.84) <u>1,33,109</u>
Income-tax collections made from such assesses and its percentage to all India collections	Collections 64.52 <u>Percentage</u> 1.72	60.95 1.45	(Rs. in crores) 70.06 (Provisional) 1.57
Income-tax demand outstanding as on 1.1.85 :	32.87 crores		
Income-tax demand outstanding as on 1.1.84 :	26.80 crores		
Percentage of increase in Income-tax demand outstanding.	23.02		

Complaints Against M/s. Indian Metals and Ferro Alloy, Orissa

6099. SHRI D.B. SHINGDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the replies given to the Unstarred question No.4255 for 19th August, 1983 and Unstarred Question No. 9111 dated 27th April, 1984 regarding investigations into complaints M/s. Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys, Orissa and state :

(a) whether detailed examination of the complaints received against M/s Indian Metals and Ferro Alloys, Orissa alleging gross violations of Government scheme for 100 per cent export oriented units, has since been completed ;

(b) is so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against the said firm for such violations of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Additional information is being collected and final result of examination will be laid on the Table of the House.

Inquiry Against Garment Exporters for Filling Fraudulent Documents

6100. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.

3769 on 19 April, 1985 regarding re-instatement of garment exporters and state :

(a) whether it is proposed to take action against the 28 garments exporters who submitted fraudulent documents with their applications for export quota on 1 January, 1985 under the Export Control Orders by debarring them for submitting forged documents and by handing over these cases to CBI;

(b) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take against the non-official members of the Executive Committee who decided to withdraw the cases in the meeting held on 26 February, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Apparel Export Promotion Council has already initiated action against the 28 garment exporters. Action to suspend/de-registration has been taken against five parties. Proceedings in other cases are continuing.

(c) The Executive Committee of the Apparel Export Promotion Council decided that proceedings in these cases should continue after giving Show Cause Notice and after consideration of representation in writing or in person. In view of this, no action appears called for.

Ban on Creation of Posts in Government Departments

6101. SHRI ANAND SINGH :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR
YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the ban imposed on creation of new posts and filling of vacancies in Government

Departments, a number of incumbents awaiting their turn have become over-age-barred;

(b) if so, whether Government have increased the recruitment age for various categories;

(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). Exemptions from the ban orders have been allowed in a few selective cases like appointments of dependents of deceased employees on compassionate grounds and handicapped persons; re-deployment of personnel surplus to one organisation in another, regularisation of casual labourers against Group 'D' vacancies, filling up of vacancies purely by promotion etc. Proposals for creation of posts/filling up of vacancies are considered on merits and relaxations are given in the most exceptional circumstances.

Having regard to the eligibility span of upto 7 years for various posts under the Government, the persons who may be over-aged during the period of ban would normally have had ample opportunities of being considered for different relevant posts.

In view of the above no change in the upper age limit for recruitments to various posts/services is contemplated for the present.

Government's Policy to Sick Textile Mills

6102. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Government's policy in regard to the sick textile mills;

(b) whether there is any proposal to sell such units to private parties;

(c) if, so, the methodology proposed to be adopted to determine the sale price of the assets of the sick textile units so that there is no financial loss to the exchequer in these transactions; and

(d) if there is no such proposal, how the sick textile units are proposed to be made healthy so that the losses of NTC and its subsidiaries are avoided/curtailed ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Government have devised programmes of assistance for modernisation and rehabilitation for textile units. But units which have no expectation of becoming viable may have to face closure. However, in such cases, Government would like the interests of the workers to be protected.

(b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to sell any NTC units to private parties.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The performance of National Textile Corporation is being reviewed by the Government from time to time and steps taken to improve its performance. Some of the important steps taken/are being taken, to improve the performance of the mills are as under :—

- (i) arrangements are being made for timely procurements of cotton from different available channels;
- (ii) working capital has been replenished to make up for cash losses;
- (iii) to overcome the power shortage, self-generating capacity, has been increased;
- (iv) selective modernisation programme strategies have been

adopted for result-oriented gains;

(v) cost control methods have been introduced for reduction in cost at all levels;

(vi) efforts are being made for reducing the non-operational administrative expenses; and

(vii) workers' participation scheme in the management of the mills is being encouraged.

[*Translation*]

Personal Loans Advanced by Nationalised Banks

6103. **SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of personal loans advanced by various nationalised banks after their nationalisation;

(b) the amount of such loans recovered and the amount still to be recovered;

(c) whether various banks, instead of advancing loans to priority sectors have advanced such huge personal loans against the instruction of the Reserve Bank of India; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The amount of personal loans (including consumer durables) granted by all scheduled commercial banks stood at Rs. 859 crores as on the last Friday of June, 1981.

(b) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India does not yield the information, for the sector banks public in the manner asked for.

(c) No, Sir. The personal loans granted by the commercial banks account for a very small portion (i. e. 3.5% of the total credit at the end of June 1981) whereas the priority sector advances of the public sector bank as a whole has exceeded the target of 40% of total bank credit as on December, 1984.

(d) Does not arise.

Repayment of Debts by Mackinon and Mackenzie Company to LIC and UTI

6104. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mackinon and Mackenzie Company Ltd., Bombay has so far failed to repay its debts to the Life Insurance Corporation of India and Unit Trust of India as per the repayment schedule;

(b) whether the Company has regularly repatriated profits to its overseas shareholders while incurring the designed book losses in operation in India; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and action being proposed for recovery of advances made to it by the LIC, UTI and other financial institutions along with details of such advances outstanding till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) LIC, UTI and other leading financial institutions, viz. IDBI, TFCL, ICICI, IRBI (IRCI) and Exim Bank did not sanction any loan to Mackinon and Mackenzie Company Ltd., Bombay. The question of taking action for recovery of advances made by the financial institutions including LIC and UTI, therefore, does not arise. It is reported that the company has been incurring losses since 1977.

Loans to India by A. D. B.

6105. SHRIMATI INDUMATI

BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are interested in taking loans from the Asian Development Bank (ADB);

(b) if so, the amount of loans which Government have asked for and/or are likely to seek from the Asian Development Bank and the projects on which the loans from ADB are likely to be utilised;

(c) the decision of the Asian Development Bank in regard to the scale of lending to India and the interest rates for such loans; and

(d) the terms and conditions on which loans are usually sanctioned by ADB to member-countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The Government of India has indicated to the management of the Asian Development Bank its intention to commence borrowing from the Bank during the period of Third General Capital Increase (ending 1987). The exact amount of loans to be extended to India during this period and the projects to be financed are still under discussion.

(d) The terms and conditions on which loans are usually sanctioned by ADB are as under :

(i) On loans made from the Ordinary Capital Resources : (a) Bank levies a commitment charge; (b) they have a maturity period varying from 10 to 30 years, with a grace period from 2 to 7 years. However, for higher income Developing Member Countries the maturity period does not exceed 15 years inclusive of a grace period of 3 years; (c) all Programme Loans are amortised over 15 years including 3 years period; (d) for sector loans the terms are determined generally with regard to the nature of the project and Bank's lending

and relending policies. At present the rate of interest is 10.25 per cent.

(ii) On loans from special Funds, the Bank charges 1 per cent in the form of service charge with repayment over 40 years including 10 year grace period.

Report of National Institute of Public Finance and Policy

6106. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy has completed the study entrusted to it by Government pertaining to the extent of black money in the country ;

(b) whether a report has been submitted by the Institute to Government ; and

(c) if so, when and its recommendations ?

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

(b) and (c). The report was received on 29.3.1985. It is under consideration of Government.

Insurance Claims of Pure Drinks Group of Companies

6107. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

The total insurance claims that have been put up by Pure Drinks (New-Delhi) Limited, Mohan Machines, Kool Crowns and Cee Jay Crowns and the written down value of assets of each of the companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI

JANARDHANA POOJARI) : The total amount of insurance claims /gross assessed loss in respect of M/s Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Limited, Mohan Machines Limited, Kool Crown Corks (P) Ltd. and Cee Jay Crown Corks Mfg. (P) Ltd. for damages caused during riots on and after 31.10.1984, added upto Rs. 2.47 crores. As per the established practice in the general insurance industry, the licensed surveyors and loss assessors follow the method of replacement value of the affected assests after deducting reasonable depreciation thereof for purposes of determining the extent of the indemnity. The Insurance Companies do not take into account the written down value for settlement of claims.

Illegal Mining in South Delhi Quarries

6108. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI :
Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES
AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Illegal Mining Again in South Delhi Quarries' appeared in the 'Financial Express' of 12th April, 1985 ;

(b) if so, the details as to how the mines has been restarted when it had banned in the past ;

(c) the action taken by Government to stop the working in these mines ;

(d) whether the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of South Delhi conducted raids in these quarries to check the illegal mining ; and

(e) whether Government propose to take immediate steps to streamline the working of these quarries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K.
NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (e). Mining without proper mining leases continues to be illegal. Regular raids are being conducted by the authorities of Delhi Administration to check illegal mining. Since 1.1.1983, 155 cases of illegal mining were detected by the Delhi Administration. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, New Delhi and Collector (Mines and Quarries) have been conducting raids to check illegal mining. The raids are being further intensified. Penalties have been imposed in several cases.

Evasion of Excise Duty by TV Manufacturers

6109. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 2866 dated 12 April, 1985 regarding evasion of excise duty on TV sets by assesseees and state :

(a) whether in examination of case RTP No. 138 of 1984 before MRTP Commission it has been found that several TV manufacturers have evaded excise duty, if so, the details thereof ;

(b) particulars of TV manufacturers whose cases have been examined and their brand names and modus operandi followed to evade excise ;

(c) particulars and brand names of each of the TV manufacturers whose cases have not been examined so far giving reasons therefor ;

(d) the brand name of TVs, number of each type of TV sets cleared during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 of manufacturers charge sheeted by MRTP Commission, indicating number of 20" CTV sets produced from components imported at the time of ASIAD 1982 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) and (b). In the examination of case RTP No. 138 of 1984, the MRTP Commission has no jurisdiction to enquire into and

give its finding on the evasion of excise duty by TV manufacturers.

(c) M.R.T.P. Commission has yet to take up investigation in respect of 23 T.V. manufacturers/dealers. The brand name of each TV manufacturer/dealer would be known when the cases are taken up for investigation.

(d) For this purpose of investigation M.R.T.P. Commission had not collected such information. If information in respect of a particular type of T.V. set is required, the same would be collected.

Raising of Capital by Companies

6110. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of the companies allowed to raise capital in the last three months ; and

(b) the details of their equity share and working capital so raised.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) and (b). During the period February-April, 1985, 197 companies were allowed to raise capital of the value of Rs. 475.23 crores for project finance/working capital etc. The names of companies and the amount of issues approved are regularly published in the form of Press Release which appear in the newspapers.

News Item Captioned Foreign Commercial Borrowing

6111. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to go in for foreign commercial borrowing of Rs. 1500 crores in 1985-86 as reported in the 'Economic Times' of March 30, 1985 ;

(b) if so, the specific areas of application of these loans ; and

(c) the impact of this loan on the foreign debt of the country and its servicing cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Level of external commercial borrowings is determined keeping in view various factors such as requirements of projects, availability of credits from bilateral and multilateral sources to meet these requirements, the balance of payment position and the need to keep the debt service liability within prudent limits. The quantum of ECB in 1985-86 and the sectoral sub-allocations thereof is in the process of being determined.

Visit by Delegation of EEC for South Asia

6112. SHRI B.D. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of the European Economic Commission for South Asia visited India in February, 1985 ;

(b) if so, whether the Head of the delegation suggested at Cochin on 20 February, 1985 that European Economic Commission will offer assistance for development in the field of agriculture, rural development and fisheries ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Mr. Machioti who is the resident Head of the delegation of European Economic Commission for South Asia in New Delhi, visited Cochin in February, 1985. No other delegation of the European Economic Commission for South Asia visited India in February, 1985.

(b) Yes, Sir The EEC delegation have confirmed that Mr. Machioti referred to these matters in his speech at Cochin.

(c) EEC is already offering development assistance to India in the field of agriculture, rural development and fisheries. A number of project relating to these and other allied sectors posed to the EEC have been implemented with EEC assistance.

'C' Class Cities Elevated to Class 'B'

6113. PROF. P.J. KUREIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have identified 'C' class cities which are required to be elevated to 'B' class ;

(b) if so, the number of cities so identified, State-wise break-up thereof ; and

(c) if not, the time by which the identification will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Cities are classified on the basis of population as revealed in decennial census. The last such classification was done in February 1983 on the basis of the 1981 census. Since the census of 1981, certain areas are added to the municipal limits of a few cities and in their cases, reclassification has been done according to the prescribed population criteria. The question of a general reclassification of 'C' class cities to 'B' class cities does not arise.

Sick Cotten Mills in the Country

6114. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cotton mills have become sick ;

(b) if so, the number and the names of cotton mills become sick in the country ;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to revive the sick cotton mills ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complete authentic information in this regard is not available.

(c) to (d). Government have devised programmes of assistance for modernisation and rehabilitation for textile mills. But uni's which have no expectation of becoming viable may have to face closure. However, in such cases, Government would like the interests of the workers to be protected.

Introduction of Standard Costing and Value Analysis in the Public Sector Undertakings

6115. **SHRI VISHNU MODI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has already advised the Public Sector Undertaking on the basis of the recommendation of the Committee on the Public Undertakings of Parliament to introduce Standard Costing and Value Analysis ;

(b) if so, the names of Public Sector Undertakings which have so far introduced standard costing and value analysis; and

(c) whether Government contemplate to make Cost Accounting and Cost Audit Compulsory for Public Sector Undertakings particularly those which are engaged in production, processing manufacturing or mining activities, and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Based on the observations of the Committee on Public Undertakings, the Bureau of Public Enterprises has advised the Administrative Ministries/Departments to introduce Standard Costing and Value Analysis in the Public Sector Undertakings under their control.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Cost Accounting Record Rules are prescribed by the Department of Company Affairs in respect of a class of companies manufacturing a particular product under the provisions of the Companies Act. Cost Audit is ordered on a company engaged in the manufacture of a product for which Cost Accounting Record Rules have been prescribed. There is no proposal at present to make Cost Accounting and Cost Audit compulsory for all the public sector undertakings engaged in the production, processing, manufacturing and mining activities, other than those manufacturing products for which Cost Accounting Record Rules have been prescribed. This is because these rules as and when notified are equally applicable to companies in the private sector as well as in the public sector.

I.D.A. Assistance to States

6116. **SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which obtained I.D.A. credit in 1984-85 for agricultural projects ;

(b) whether Government of Gujarat has obtained I.D.A. credit for any foreign project in that years ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) I.D.A. Credits are received by the Government of India for implementation of projects by the Government of India and the State Governments. During 1984-85, IDA credits have been obtained in the Agriculture Sector for Social Forestry in Kerala, National Agricultural Extension Project in the States of Orissa, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh and National Co-operative Development Corporation-III Project in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnatka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) and (c). During 1984-85, IDA Credit of \$172 million (SDR 164.3 million) on IDA standard terms has been obtained for implementation of the Gujarat Medium Irrigation Project-II by the Government of Gujarat. The Credit closing date of the project is December 31, 1989. The project is follow-on to the Gujarat Irrigation Project (Credit No. 808-IN of July 17, 1978). It would (i) complete construction of 27 out of 29 subprojects begun under the first time slice and bring the remaining 2 to an advanced stage, including a lined canal system to the 8-ha subchak level and field channels to individual fields ; (ii) introduce efficient, reliable, and equitable water management systems in each subproject based on the village service area ; (iii) established an appropriate institutional framework for extending improved water management activities in the state ; (iv) strengthen the project organization for quality control, monitoring and the design of minor networks ; (v) provide mechanical skill training for about 30 artisans ; (vi) provide training for about 200 professional, 400 sub-professional Irrigation Department Staff and 8,800 progressive farmers ; and (vii) provide vehicles, plant, and communications equipment for the construction, maintenance and operation of the subprojects. The project would create about 241,000 ha of additional irrigated area and provide a more

reliable water supply for 133,000 ha of existing irrigation.

Sanctioning of Loans by Nationalised Banks Without Security

6118. SHRI P. PENCHALAI AH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks are sanctioning the loans without security to the weaker sections ;

(b) if so, the purposes for which the loans are sanctioned ;

(c) the maximum amount that can be sanctioned ; and

(d) in case the loans are not sanctioned without security, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Banks have been advised not to ask for any security (except for hypothecation of the asset acquired through bank loan) for small loans upto Rs. 5,000.

(b) Such loans are sanctioned for productive and economically viable activities such as crop loans and investment loans for creating moveable assets.

(c) Maximum amount of the loan that can be sanctioned is the cost of economic unit (wherever applicable) or Rs.5,000 whichever is lower.

(d) Loans are not sanctioned for those activities which are not found to be economically viable or for those borrowers who are not eligible for the loan.

Visit of Central Government Officers Abroad

6119. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE

be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government officers going abroad have to seek clearance from Government ;

(b) if so, the different agencies that are involved in this ;

(c) the agency which exercises the check that foreign visits are undertaken only when it is a must ;

(d) the total number of Central Government officers who went abroad during 1982, 1983 and 1984, year-wise and Ministry-wise break-up ; and

(e) the steps taken to keep it under and restricted to necessity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). Government officers have to seek clearance from Government before they can go abroad. In respect of deputation abroad of officials sponsored by Government, the proposals made by the administrative Ministries/Departments are scrutinised by their Financial Advisers and are submitted to the Screening Committee of Secretaries headed by the Cabinet Secretary for approval. In other cases of deputation abroad, e.g., for training organised in pursuance of a contract which has the approval of Government, training under financially aided schemes like Colombo Plan, participation in conferences, meetings, etc. held under approved programmes of international organisations like the United Nations and its agencies, approval of the Secretary of the administrative Ministry/Department in consultation with the Financial Adviser is obtained to deputation of particular persons. Sponsoring Ministries/Departments, Financial Advisers and the Screening Committee of Secretaries exercise necessary checks in order to ensure that deputation abroad is resorted to only when it serves the national

interest. Government have issued necessary instructions from time to time for exercising control on deputation abroad of officers.

(d) The information is not readily available and will have to be collected from all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. Collection of this information will involve considerable time and the result to be achieved will not be commensurate with the time and labour involved in collecting the information.

Group of 24 Ministers Meeting Held in Washington

6120. SHRIMATI KISHORE SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he attended the meeting of Group of 24 Ministers at Washington on April 16, 1985.

(b) whether the Group put forth several demands to the developed countries on the eve of the meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Interim and Development Committee ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the reaction of the developed countries to the demands ?

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

(b) and (c). The Group urged the developed countries to follow the policy of expanded recovery and called for a roll back of protectionist measures hampering the export development prospects of developing countries. It also urged the developed world to take urgent steps to achieve the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of GNP as their contribution to Official Development Assistance. The Group

emphasised the need to stabilise interest and exchange rates and the need for strengthening multilateral institutions as well as their resources. It was also urged that a policy of multi year rescheduling of debts of debtor countries should be followed. On matters of trade the Group urgent the implementation of the GATT work programme, and trade negotiations should focus on enlarging the access of developing countries to markets of developed countries.

(d) The G-24 meeting was held prior to the Interim and Development Committee meetings to evolve a consensus among the developing countries for pursuing a coordinated approach in the Interim and Development Committee meetings. The recommendations of G-24 were considered by the Interim and Development Committees in arriving at their conclusions. Some of the Developed countries who are members of these committees, accepted the need to make a forward movement in these directions.

Visit of Artists to South Africa

6121. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some artists, like singers etc. made trips to South Africa;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India gave clearance and allowed foreign exchange for the visit;

(c) if so, how these visit reconcile with country's declared policy of boycott of the racist regime; and

(d) whether any amount of money these singers have brought from that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a). Yes Sir. We learn that some artists went to South Africa without endorsement of the country on their Passports.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India have not released any foreign exchange to artists like singers etc., to visit South Africa.

(c) Government have restricted visits of Indian nationals to South Africa by not endorsing Indian passports for travel to South Africa except where the visits were necessary for the maintenance of cultural, education, religious and family links of the large Indian communities in that country. In such cases, an assurance, however, is obtained that the visits would be strictly cultural and no commercial/monetary benefits accrue to the artists. As a deterrent to any future violation of the above policy, Government of India have banned certain artists who have performed in South Africa for commercial benefits from broadcasting/performing on All India Radio/Doordarshan or for giving any further performance under Government of India auspices.

(d) Under the current Exchange Control Regulations, remitters of amounts below Rs. 10,000 or its equivalent are not required to furnish the country, nationality and purposewise details. Details of inward remittances of Rs. 10,000 and above are reported for statistical purposes only. Further, on return, an Indian from abroad is required to surrender foreign exchange brought by him to the Authorised Dealers in India within a period of seven days from the date of arrival in the country and the Authorised Dealers are not required to report to the Reserve Bank of India the purpose, details of such purchases. As such, it is not possible to indicate the amount if any, brought in by these singers from South Africa.

Reorganisation of Regions of SBI in Hill Areas

6122. SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reorganisation of regions of the State Bank of India in

the hill areas of the North East has been most irrational and designed of subserve the service need of a group of bank employees;

(b) the justification for grouping the whole of Khasi and Jaintia Hills where the capital of Meghalaya is situated with Manipur at the other end of the physical spectrum; and

(c) the jettisoning of geographical contiguity by which Nagaland should have been naturally grouped with Manipur and Tripura with Mizoram ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) State Bank of India (SBI) has 55 branches in Meghalaya. Normally, these would be controlled by one Regional Manager, who is usually in charge of 150 to 200 branches. However, because of the difficult terrain in this area and inaccessibility of branches for visits by the Regional Manager, two Regional Managers have been given the responsibility to look after these branches. However, as each could have only 27 branches of Meghalaya to manage, SBI thought it advisable to add 12 branches in Manipur to one Regional Manager and 15 branches in Mizoram to another Regional Manager. This arrangement in no way hinders their attention to branches in Meghalaya.

(c) The regrouping has been done for better control by placing a manageable number of branches under a Regional Manager. Care has been taken to ensure that the needs and aspirations of the people are adequately met.

Export of Rice

6124. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken

a decision to allow export of wheat by any individual or agency and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have taken a similar decision about export of rice; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) In view of the excessive stocks of wheat with public agencies and its easy availability in the country, it has been decided to allow export of wheat and wheat products viz. maida, suji and whole meal atta ie. wheat flour of no less than 95% extraction within limited ceilings and subject to minimum export prices determined for each of these items. Further export of wheat on Government to Government basis is being handled by the Food Corporation of India.

(b) and (c). Export of basmati rice is allowed under OGL subject to a minimum export price of Rs. 6500 PMT f.o.b. considering the domestic requirement and the availability position as at present, export of non-basmati rice is not permitted.

Availability of Mineral Deposits in Gujarat

6125. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the names and quantum of mineral deposits available in Gujarat and the full details thereof;

(b) the area in which mining work is in progress and whether this work is being carried out by Government or private agencies;

(c) the area of plot allotted to a person who undertakes mining work for himself; and

(d) the area of land allotted to weaker sections of society for undertaking mining work and the reasons for not increasing this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a). The following important minerals, with their estimated reserves, occur in Gujarat :

Mineral	Estimated Reserves (in lakh tonnes)	Districts
Bauxite	903.4	Amseli, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kaira and Kutch.
Bentonite	430.8	Bhavnagar, Kutch and Broach
China-clay	674.3	Junagarh, Kutch, Mehsena and Sabarkantha
Copper ore	75.7	Banaskantha
Dolomite	2,453.1	Baroda and Bhavnagar
Fire clay	448.2	Surendranagar, Rajkot and Bulsar
Fluorite	83.5	Baroda
Gypsum	72.0	Bhavnagar, Jamnagar Junagarh, Kutch and Surendranagar
Graphite	20.4	Panchmahal
Lignite	1,650.2	Kutch and Broach
Limestone	1,07,920.0	Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kaira and Kutch
Lead-zinc-ore	74.4	Banaskantha and Vadodara
Manganese ore	29.6	Panchmahal and Baroda

(b) The details of mines, which are being worked by Public/Private Sectors in the areas, are furnished below :

Name of Mineral	District	No. of Working Mines	
		in Private Sector	in Public Sector
Bauxite	Jamnagar	33	1
	Kaira	8	—
	Kutch	4	4
Dolomite	Baroda	28	—
	Bhuj	1	—
Fire clay	Mehsena	1	—
	Rajkot	15	—
	Sabarkantha	1	—
	Surendra Nagar	60	—
Gypsum	Kutch	4	—
	Amroli	1	—
Limestone	Banaskantha	1	—
	Jamnagar	12	—
	Junagarh	58	—
China clay	Banaskantha	1	—
	Mehsena	3	—
	Sabarkantha	6	—

In addition to above, the minerals like Fluorite, Graphite and Chalk are being worked in Gujarat.

(c) and (d). The area of the mining lease allotted to an individual depends on the minerals to be extracted, the scale of operations the individual desires to undertake and the intended use of the mineral.

Investigation into Over Invoicing by Pure Drinks

6126. SHRI V. KISHORE
CHANDRA S. DEO :

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pure Drinks got a licence for Rs. 2.4 crores;

(b) whether the total value of impor-

ted and local machines of Pure Drinks is less than 1.5 crores;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to investigate about the over-invoicing which has taken place; and

(d) the total insurance claim that has been put up by the company and how much has been disbursed ?

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

(b) and (c). Some consignment imported by this firm is reported to have arrived at Bombay. Since no

Bill of Entry has been filed by the party with Customs for clearance of their goods, no information is available as to the contents or value of this consignment.

(d) Total insurance claim made by M/s Pure Drinks on account of losses suffered during the riots in November, 1984 was Rs. 57,76,377/- and the total amount paid by the National Insurance Company Ltd., was Rs. 46,64,500/-.

Excise Duty on Products Manufactured by ITC Ltd.

6127. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the products of M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. sold during the last one year are just double than its sanctioned capacity as their brands are manufactured in different units and brought to market without payment of excise duty; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the action proposed to be taken by Government in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a). In respect of five units of I.T.C. manufacturing cigarette, the Government has endorsed a capacity of 52,000 million pieces per annum where as their clearnacs from individual factories are much below their sanctioned capacity. Further, certain brands of cigarette of M/s. I.T.C. are manufactured on a work contract basis by other units. No case of removal of cigarette without payment of duty has come to notice.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

International Economic Cooperation

6128. SHRI N. VENKATARATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the multilateral financial agencies striving for international economic cooperation and how far they have succeeded;

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

(c) the steps taken to overcome the difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Multilateral financial institutions include the IMF, the World Bank group and the regional development banks, such as the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. These institutions have been operating within their charters and trying to promote international economic cooperation to the extent feasible in the present global environment. However, a great deal more remains to be achieved which is possible only when a fundamental reform of the international monetary and financial system is carried out on the basis of universal participation with a view to making these institutions more representative and responsive to the needs and aspirations of the majority of the membership.

(c) The Seventh Summit of the NAM held in 1983 had given a call for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development with universal participation. A high level Group of Experts appointed by the late Prime Minister in her capacity as Chairperson of the NAM has since examined the substantive and procedural issues of the proposed conference and recommended measures to overcome the deficiencies and omissions in the existing international monetary and financial system. Copies of the report of the Expert Group were sent by the late Prime Minister to the heads of State or Government of all developed and developing countries. Efforts are being made to enlist wide support in

favour of the proposed conference in various international fora.

Labour Participation in Textile Mills Under N. T. C

6129. SHRI M. ARUNACHALM : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILE be pleased to state :

(a) whether labour participation introduced in mills under National Textiles Corporation is successful;

(b) if so, in how many mills this system has been introduced;

(c) whether it will be introduced in all the mills under National Textile Corporation;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the textile mills under National Textile Corporation in Tamil Nadu which follow this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILE (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Management Committees, involving labour participation in management, have been introduced in forty textile units of N. T. C.

(c) and (d). Labour Participation Scheme are being introduced in a phased manner. By the end of 1985 this scheme is likely to be introduced in 60% of N. T. C. mills.

(e) In Tamil Nadu, five mills under N. T. C. are following this scheme :

- (i) Om Parasakthi Mills, Coimbatore.
- (ii) Kaleswarar 'B' Mills, Kalayarkoit.
- (iii) Pioneers Spinners, Kamudakudi.
- (iv) Balaramavarma Textile Mills, Shencottah.

(v) Cambodia Mills, Coimbatore.

RBI's Instruction for Agricultural Loans

6130. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has recently instructed nationalised banks to revise agricultural loans to small farmers;

(b) if so, the details of the instructions issued by R. B. I. and

(c) to what extent the new scheme is more effective and how the small and medium farmers in the country will get benefit from this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). Public Sector Banks have been advised to ensure that 25% of their priority sector lendings go to weaker sections which, *inter alia*, include small and marginal farmers. Loan application forms have been simplified to require the borrowers to give minimum necessary information. Banks have also been advised to make loan application forms for agriculture and allied activities available in regional languages. In respect of loans up to Rs. 5,000/—for creation of moveable assets in the agricultural sector, banks have been advised not to ask for any collateral security except for hypothecation of the asset. Banks have also been advised to delegate adequate powers to branch managers so as to ensure that 80% of the applications are disposed of at the branch level. Concessional treatment is also being accorded to smaller borrowers in the matter of interest rates. Short term loans to small farmers up to Rs. 5000/—are provided at an interest rate of 11.5% per annum. The rate of interest on term loans to farmers for minor irrigation and land development and to small and marginal farmers for allied activities has been stipulated at 10% per annum.

Report of Commonwealth Consultative Group "CHOGM"

6131. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main features of the report of the Commonwealth Consultative Group 'CHOGM' submitted to the Members of Commonwealth Finance Ministers at Toronto in September, 1984;

(b) whether they were accepted and implemented, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) steps taken by India to overcome the obstructions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI (JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The main feature of the report was that it suggested that the Commonwealth Finance Ministers should collectively propose a two or three days meeting of the Development Committee (a Joint Ministerial Committee of the Governors of the World Bank and the IMF) to be convened not later than the first quarter of 1985 to discuss the issues identified by the Group. These issues mainly cover (1) Balance of Payments position of developing countries and the role of IMF, (2) role and resource position of multilateral financing institutions like the World Bank, (3) capital flows (including Official Development Assistance, (4) trade liberalisation, protectionism and structural adjustment and (5) linkage between money and finance, trade and economic development.

(b) and (c). The Toronto meeting of finance Ministers accepted the recommendations and authorised the Minister of Finance of Canada, who chaired the Meeting to draw the attention of the September, 1984 meetings of Development Committee to this recommendation of the Group. Accordingly Finance Minister of Canada speaking on behalf of the Commonwealth countries in the Development Committee meeting held on 23rd September, 1984 in Washington

presented the suggestion for a special meeting of the Development Committee in early 1985 to discuss comprehensive range of monetary, development, finance, debt and related trade issues. In April, 1985, the meeting was held to discuss, among other issues, the issues proposed by the Commonwealth Finance Ministers, also.

Modernisation of Seafood Industry

6132. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the modernisation of the seafood industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Government has sanctioned various schemes for modernisation of the seafood industry and incentives are available for various activities such as

- (i) Joint ventures for new products ;
- (ii) up-grading efficiency of freezing units,
- (iii) installation of refrigeration units for transportation of marine products,
- (iv) automatic flake/chip ice making plants, and
- (v) setting up of mini-laboratories and up-grading of peeling sheds for quality control.

[English]
12.00 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Adjournment must get the priority, Sir. I want to make a submission about the Adjournment Motion that I have tabled. Let me make a submission and then you decide, Sir.

Yesterday the PTI correspondent has been arrested (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have received your Adjournment Motion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Let me complete the submission and then you give a ruling, Sir. I have given an Adjournment Motion (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I did not allow it

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : PTI correspondent has been arrested in Colombo (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I can find out . . .

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : First, the Cabinet had taken a decision for the so-called deliberate distortion of the version of President Jayewardene's speech. He was subjected to legal action. He was arrested (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out . .

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He said, "Take me to the Indian High Commission". He was told, "We will take you to the Indian High Commission", but he was taken to the CBI headquarters and subjected to torture, subjected to interrogation. The Government of India must intervene and must do the needful. Allow an Adjournment Motion on this subject (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I would like to get the facts ascertained from the Minister and then decide on it

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : These are the facts which you have allowed us to say. After listening to the facts, why don't you respond to our Adjournment Motion ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Yesterday . . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have listened to you, now you listen to me also, Sir . . .

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I only want to know whether a single submission that I have made is incorrect.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know. I cannot verify your submissions like that. Yesterday Mr. Ramamurthy also raised this very question. I have already asked for the facts and if the facts corroborate what you say, then I will allow a discussion on this subject. I also share your views and I also

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : On Monday itself, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I think we shall have to . . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Monday will be what ? . . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Listen please . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know what are you doing Mr. Maken . . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you listen when I am saying something ? I do not know what are you doing. Don't you have decency to listen to me ? Why don't you have that decency ? What is this ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Look here. What this man is doing ?.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Maken, will you listen ? I am asking you to listen to me. I am saying the same thing about this matter. Are you much more eager ? I am also seized of the same situation. I know certain facts which you don't. The Foreign Minister is going to Bhutan. I have to see that when he comes back, the first thing is I will get it done...

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He should make a statement, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask him. That is right.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The only difficulty is that after the House adjourns for the recess what is the use of admitting the Adjournment Motion ?

MR. SPEAKER : No question of that, Professor. That is not the way

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : On Monday he should make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : I will immediately take up this thing, I assure you. I know that you are agitated, Sir. I am equally concerned as you are. We will do it

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask him.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : In the absence of the Foreign Minister, the Prime Minister can make a statement ..

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY BUXAR) : Sir, we are all concerned with this mad action of Sri Lankan authorities and we condemn it in strongest terms. There

must be some discussion ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have already done, Sir.

PROF. K.K. TEWARI : Along with this, I would like to draw your attention to the killings of innocent people in Punjab. Today also we have received a report that an important ex-Member of the House has been murdered. Our party men have also been murdered

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I read an obituary this morning..... *(Interruptions)*

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : And now, Sir, the Akali Party has been taken over by the extremists...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is up to the Home Ministry and the Government. What can I do about it ?.....

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : I would like to know what is being done about this

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Home Ministry is there. It is the Home Minister who...

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : And I would like Mr. Dandavate also to express his strong resentment on this.....

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He was a member of my party. He was the Chairman of the Janata Party. He was a Member of Parliament on behalf of the Janata Party. I have already communicated my anger to the hon. Speaker and I have demand a discussion on this...

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : It is a very serious matter and the Opposition should also feel concerned and we should all condemn this. We want to know what is happening in Punjab.....

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Why don't you pull him up, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : We are all very much concerned.....

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : They should also condemn I think

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Why he is being allowed to speak, Sir ? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know what wrong he has done.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have condemned, you were not attentive (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Are not you concerned ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Even in the moment of sorrow why does he want to bring in party matters ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : One minute please. When I am on my legs, at least have that decency to sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please Mr. Samant, sit down.

I think we should not interpret wrongly. Whatever the anguish we have it is shared by all. There is no problem of that. But, I think, he only wanted to emphasise more. So, it is just the collective sharing of the anguish by the House.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : I did not accuse him. I did not accuse anybody of anything. I merely said that such killings are taking place.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now the views have been expressed.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, you should call him to your room and ask him to behave properly.

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. Mr. Choubey please do not speak like that.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Sir. Calcutta High Court has admitted a writ for banning. The Quran... (Interruptions) trying to whip up communal tensions.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : It is a very serious matter.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The House should take note of this and the Law Minister must take some action on it. The legal history of the country is being tainted.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : This is a very serious matter and the House should be concerned about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KUARUP (Korittayan) : Sir, the Calcutta High Court has admitted a writ petition...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let me listen also Mr. Kurien. I will listen to you also. It was you whom I asked first, but you did not speak.

SHRI SURESH KUARUP : Calcutta High Court has admitted a writ petition asking to ban The Quran. The West Bengal Government has resented on it. Will you please ask the Home Minister to make a statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : The West Bengal Government has ..

SHRI SURESH KUARUP : The West Bengal Government has expressed its resentment .

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : The Court has sent notices to the Central Government and the State Government asking them why it should not be banned ..(Interruptions)... trying to whip up communal tensions...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now , take your seat. When I am on my legs, you are supposed to sit. At least have this decorum.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is a very serious thing. I do not know how to express myself. The whole House, I think, is of the same opinion. Already we are having enough troubles...(Interruptions)... to create more trouble . . .

God has given us brains to use. There is something called "Common-sense "

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Law is there to protect and not to cut at ones throat.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Our common sense is not there nationalised yet, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Law is to protect the country and not to set fire to it.

[English]

Let us have some restraint on everything and we must not do something which might conflagrate and might go against the nation. Good sense should prevail all around. I do not want this thing to happen in India.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Law Minister is here. Let him say something.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO. (Vijaywada) : Sir, I demand a discussion on the drought situation in Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER : We have already discussed drought in this very house. This discussion on drinking water is also due to the drought. Let us hear discussion on drinking water and then we will see. Drinking water is much more essential than even drought. So, we should see this first.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I know the gravity of the situation. I will see to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Raghuma Ready, now please sit down. It is my job to do and I know it fully well.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : My name is not included.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not matter. I cannot assure that. It is neither in your power nor in my power.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : I am raising this point for the last three days. You have not considered it.

MR. SPEAKER : You must learn the rules. It is not my job. It is the ballot which decides the names. That is what I say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister is on his legs. Take your seat.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARADWAJ) : I beg to inform the House that when this matter regarding the Quran came in the Press, we took cognizance of this and our Cabinet Minister, Shri Asoke Sen issued a press statement that we are deputing the Attorney General of India to intervene in the matter and have the writ petition dismissed straight away.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a small request to make. The request is that time is not regulated for the items on the daily Gorden Pap hon. Members who speak first are given half an hour and sometimes 40 minutes, but those who speak in the end are given two or three minutes, whereas the rules are very clear about it. The rules should be observed.

MR. SPEAKER . Yesterday, I allowed extra time, more than what was allotted.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The question is not that. What I want to point out is that the Hon. Members who speak first are given 40 minutes to

one hour, whereas those coming at the end are given only 2 to 3 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : It always happens.

(Interruptions)...

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : There should be no discrimination between one Member and the other. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. There is no point of order. Now, papers to be laid.

12.13 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Customs Act under National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, and Reports of C.A.R. of India for 1983-84

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act 1962 :
 - (i) G.S.R. 388(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 295—Customs dated the 1st November, 1983 upto the 30th April, 1987.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 391(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification

No. 210/82—Customs dated the 10th September, 1982 so as to extend the benefit of exemption to supplies made to Gas Authority of India Limited.

(iii) G.S.R. 392(E) and 393(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to silk worm seeds when imported into India from the whole of basic and auxiliary duties of customs leviable thereon.

(iv) G.S.R. 395(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 97—Customs dated the 2nd May, 1979 so as to enhance the period for re-export to six months from the existing two months.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—895/85]

(2) A copy of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Additional) General Regulations, 1984 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 740 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 1985, under sub-section (5) of section 60 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—896/85]

(3) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution :

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84

—Union Government (Civil) Revenue Receipts—Volume I—Indirect Taxes and Volume II—Direct Taxes.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—897/85]

(ii) Advance Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84—Union Government (Railways).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—898/85]

Annual Report of and Review on Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta for 1983-84 and National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Ltd. Calcutta for 1983-84 and a statement re-delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Jute Manufactures Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—899/85]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—900/85]

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Sir, the Prime Minister has made a statement that after the 17th meeting of the Akali Dal, he will take a decision....

MR. SPEAKER: It is nothing like that. This is not the way. Overruled. It is irrelevant. Sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the way to raise the issue. This is not a point of order. I cannot allow it. You must learn first.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: I have already given a calling-attention notice.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of calling-attention. I will take a decision on the calling-attention notice. I cannot allow it here like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

12.15 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

(i) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 30th April, 1985, adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Accounts:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha to agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 1986 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:

1. Shrimati Amarjit Kaur
2. Shri Nirmal Chatterjee
3. Miss Jayalalitha
4. Shri Gulam Rasool Kar
5. Shri Chaturanan Mishra
6. Shri K.L.N. Prashad
7. Shri Ramanand Yadav.'

(ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha

at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 30th April, 1985, adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Public Undertaking :

“That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 1986, and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee.”

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee :

1. Shri Syed Rahmat Ali
2. Shri Ashwani Kumar
3. Shri Nand Kishor Bhatt
4. Miss Saroj Khaparde
5. Dr. Shanti G. Patel
6. Shri Santosh Kumar Sahu
7. Shri Gulam Mohi-ud-din Shawl.

(iii) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday the 30th April, 1985, adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :

“That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for

the term ending on the 30th April, 1986, and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, ten members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee.”

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee :

1. Shri Aladi Aruna alias V.-
Arunachalam
2. Shri Dharanidhar Basumatri
3. Chowdhary Ram Sewak
4. Shri Shantimoy Ghosh
5. Prof. N.M. Kamble
6. Shri Ram Naresh Kushawaha
7. Shri Ramkrishna Mazumdar
8. Shri V.C. Kesava Rao
9. Shri Roshan Lal
10. Shri Scato Swu.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri V. C. Jain.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : rose

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order ? Have you got any point of order ?

SHRI RAMSWROOP RAM
(Gaya) : Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

I have discussed with you in your office and drawn your attention through Calling Attention Notice as well as Under Rule 377 that Rohtas Industry in which 50 thousand workers are

working, is lying closed for the last two years.....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is irrelevant. Nothing to be done here. It is irrelevant. It is out of order.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down now. Nothing goes on record. I am not allowing.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way. If you do not sit down, I will name you, Mr. Ramswoop Ram.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down now. I am going to name you now. Please sit down. Take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Where is the Parliamentary Affairs Minister ?

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down. This is not the way. What you are speaking is irrelevant. This is not proper. Please sit down. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Take your seat now. I am asking you to take your seat. I implore you to take your seat.

[Translation]

I request you to take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, I am going to name him. He does not behave.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not a single word goes on record.

Now, Calling Attention.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

[Translation]

Situation arising out of acute shortage of drinking water in various parts of the Country.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of hon. Minister of Works and Housing to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

“Situation arising out of acute shortage of drinking water in various parts of the country and the action taken by Government in this regard.”

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Due to scanty rainfall and the erratic behaviour of monsoon during 1984, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh reported drought conditions and submitted to the Government of India Memoranda seeking Central assistance for drought relief. My colleague, Shri Buta Singh, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development made a statement in

the Lok Sabha on 2nd April, 1985 in response to a Calling Attention Motion moved by Shri Narain Chand Prashar and others, outlining the drought relief assistance given to these States and the short term and long-term measures proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation. On the basis of the reports of the Central teams which visited the drought affected areas and on the recommendation of the High Level Committee on Relief, a total ceiling of Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 200.66 crores was sanctioned. This included assistance for making arrangements for drinking water in drought affected areas to the tune of Rs. 39.31 crores during 84-85 and Rs. 14.71 crores during 85-86. The Government of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka submitted supplementary Memoranda for Central assistance during 1985-86 which are under consideration of the Ministry of Agriculture. A Central team has visited the drought affected areas in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka and their reports have been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture. Government would take suitable decisions for further assistance including assistance for drinking water supply in these states on the basis of the recommendations of the High Level Committee. Haryana Government have recently submitted a memorandum for assistance under drought relief.

2. Prior to the onset of the summer, a meeting was held with the drought affected States to review the nature and extent of the problem expected to arise in the current summer, the measures required to meet the crisis, the adequacy of the machinery and technical assistance required from the Government of India. The States indicated that they were gearing up their machinery to meet the crisis and they were taking action on the following lines :—

- (a) digging of borewells in the affected villages and installation of handpumps;

- (b) adequate arrangements for operation and maintenance of hand-pumps ;
- (c) repairs/recommissioning of hand-pumps which had broken down;
- (d) replacement of inferior quality handpumps by Superior India Mark II handpumps ;

3. At the instance of the Govt. of India, the UNICEF is making arrangements to provide additional rigs, special attachments to existing rigs, quality India Mark II handpumps and maintenance vehicles to the affected States. The Central Ground Water Board has also expressed its readiness to render assistance to the State Governments for construction of water supply wells by deploying its fleet of rigs if the State Governments are able to prepare a firm programme and forward the same to the Board.

4. Apart from the drought relief provided by the Government of India and the special measures being taken to meet the crisis, the Government of India has given a very high priority to drinking water. Out of 230784 problem villages, about 1.92 lakh villages are reported to have been covered by March 1985. Keeping in view the importance of rural water supply, it has been included in the Minimum Needs Programme of the States and the States were expected to incur an expenditure of Rs. 1511 crores during the Sixth Plan. During 1984-85 the anticipated expenditure under M.N.P. was Rs. 372.17 crores.

5. Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the Centre provided grants to the States to the tune of about Rs. 919.71 crores during the Sixth Five Year Plan. During 1984-85 Central grants totalling of about Rs. 287 crores were provided to the States for covering problem villages. During the current year, a provision of about Rs. 298 crores has been made under ARP for allocation among the States.

The amount will be allocated to the States and the first instalment released after the Budget is passed by Parliament.

6. As a result of the measures taken by the Centre and the States, the coverage of population in respect of rural drinking water has gone up from 31.0% at the beginning of the Sixth Five Year Plan to 53.0% at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan.

7. So far as urban water supply is concerned, States have to make provision in the State budget. This Ministry however, endeavours to secure World Bank assistance for urban water supply if viable schemes are forthcoming. So far World Bank credit has been made available for 9 urban water supply schemes in the states of Maharashtra, U.P., Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The projects cover urban water supply in about 145 towns.

12.20 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

12.22 hrs.

SRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the statement of the hon. Minister, it is clear that the drinking water crisis has arisen due to the drought conditions prevailing in different parts of the country and this crisis has arisen in Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. When drought conditions arise, the State Government seek assistance from the Central Government by submitting a representation to the Central Government to provide timely assistance. The question arises that it is now nearly 38 years since we attained Independence, but we have not been able to find a lasting and

proper solution to this drinking water problem. This is a big challenge before us and in order to face this challenge, we have to think by what time we shall be able to solve this drinking water problem permanently and in a proper manner and by what time we shall be able to make arrangement for drinking water in all villages and cities. In the Sixth Five Year Plan, we had decided that we shall be able to provide drinking water to each and every village and as per the information given by the Home Minister just now, out of 2.31 lakh problem villages, the drinking water problem of 1.92 lakh villages has been solved. I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that he may have the satisfaction of providing drinking water to 1.92 lakh villages, but I want humbly to submit to him that even in the villages where he has commissioned the drinking water supply schemes the condition of those schemes is very unsatisfactory water does not reach several of the villages covered under these schemes. They are the villages where drinking water schemes have been commissioned, and this is the condition with regard to water there. Then, what is the advantage of there being a "Commissioned village"?

This is the condition of those villages. In the event of drought, the problem becomes all the more severe. Therefore, my submission is that we should seriously think over it as to what type of schemes should be formulated and how they should be implemented.

When the State Government seek assistance for those "Commissioned villages" what comes the reply that since they are "Commissioned villages" no assistance can be given to them. No arrangement to provide them with assistance is made, whereas the population is increasing. You have prepared this scheme on the basis of the 1971 census. This scheme should be revised on the basis of the 1981 census and be made an augmentation scheme.

When we exerted pressure for our district and our desert areas, the scheme was sanctioned. If you do not revise your schemes and if their augmentation is not done, water will never reach the villages which you have commissioned. Neither the Central Government nor the State Government provide assistance for such villages. My submission is that a committee may be constituted for the villages where drinking water schemes have been commissioned. The committee so constituted should go and make an on the spot enquiry whether the benefit is reaching the commissioned villages or not. This is most essential.

The schemes which were prepared for our desert areas were prepared on the basis of 40 litre per head. These schemes had a provision of drinking water for the human beings. We had submitted that you were making a provision for 40 litres on the basis of the human population only and that the livestock population was not included in it the livestock population in that area out numbers the human population. You should also make provision for them.

When this question was taken up with the Central Government, they paid some attention to it and their officers made on the spot studies on the basis of the studies made, the basis which was earlier fixed at 40 litres per head was re-fixed at 70 litres per head so as to make water available to the cattle also.

But the question is that the cattle population is quite high in the Jaisalmer and Barmer districts. Keeping in view the cattle population in those desert areas, water to the humans and cattle will be available only if you revise the scheme from 40 litres per head to 100 litres per head. It needs to be given an urgent consideration.

The second question pertaining to our area is regarding the decision which you took in the Sixth Five Year Plan under

which you issued directives that water be supplied to a village at one point only. We have in our area villages which are spread in an area ranging for 25 square kilometres to even 100 square kilometers. If you provide water only at one point in a village, the villages will have to walk as much as 10 to 15 kilometres to fetch water. Therefore, we have given this suggestion and you have accepted it in principle that a drinking water point should be provided for a population of 250 to 300. The drinking water problem can be solved only when a population of 250 to 300—which constitutes a cluster of hamlets (Dhanis)—is taken as the basis for providing drinking water.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please be brief. Others have also to participate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Since the problem is very important these details will have to be given. However, I am trying to be very brief. The guidelines which you have adopted that nobody need walk more than 1.6 kilometers to fetch water, and schemes based thereon are also being formulated, does not hold good in Rajasthan, because the people there have to cover a distance of 10 to 15 kilometers for fetching water. As the villages in our desert areas are scattered over a large area provision of water should, therefore, be made for each block of population of 250-300 which should be treated as a unit. Therefore, a provision for this should be made in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The State Government have also sent suggestions to the effect that the provision of drinking water should be made by treating a cluster of hamlets Dhani as a unit.

Now the question arises that some tubewells have also been installed in the desert areas which have proved a success.

But at many places, in spite of their success, the water in tubewells is brackish or the quantity of water is very small, which can not be helpful for drinking up schemes. Even if the scheme is drawn up, it can serve only one village and not 4, 5 or 6 villages. Such is the situation. Now when under ground water is not available, a lasting and prominent solution can only be the Rajasthan canal which is now known as Indra Gandhi canal. As the cabinet has taken a decision in this regard, it is necessary for the implementation of such a decision that a Master Plan be prepared for the rural areas for a lasting solution to the drinking water problem in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The Master Plan prepared by the Government of Rajasthan should be implemented as early as possible and a provision for this purpose made in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The chief Minister of our State had drawn attention to this recently at a meeting in the Planning Commission. Therefore, what I mean to say is that all drinking water schemes should be solved by drawing water from the Rajasthan canal and through the lift canals. The lasting solution to this problem lies in the drawing up of schemes based on the lift canals. There can not be any other permanent solution. Therefore, provision for this should be made in the Seventh Five Year Plan and Government should pay attention to it.

One thing more, which I want to say in particular is that the average age of tubewell dug by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation which is a Ground Water Organisation of the Central Government is 20 years, whereas the tubewells being sunk in our States, for which we are providing assistance under various schemes, is only 2 years. An amount of Rs. 2.5 lakhs is spent on a tubewell under the A. R. P. schemes and its life is only two years. Therefore, my request is that an inquiry should be conducted into the working of tubewell organisations working under the Government of Rajasthan. I had also raised this question before the government of

Rajasthan that we could not tolerate it. When the average age of a tubewell dug by the Exploratory Tubewell Organisation which is a Central Government Organisation is 20 years and the tubewell dug to this working wells dry up within one and a half or two year, which is an unbearable situation. Therefore it is necessary to inquire into its working. If they need training, arrangement for that should be made. If they are not equipped with the exploratory techniques. They should be given extensive training in this field.

Besides, so long as water from the Rajasthan Canal does not reach the rural areas, emphasis should be laid on wells. Apart from this, the people in the rural areas in our State have constructed tanks which need cement. The farmers who are financially well off, have constructed tanks, but others cannot afford it. A provision should be made for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, the small farmers and the weaker sections to enable them to get fifty per cent subsidy for constructing tanks. By collecting brackish water and rain water and then by mixing them together, it would be possible to use it as potable water. There is a Defence Laboratory in Jodhpur which is working on the project of converting brackish water into potable water. This work should be augmented so that brackish water is converted into potable water. In this regard we are taking the help of ear-rigs. The Rajasthan Government have also made a request in this matter. In this connection there is need to extend all possible assistance. I would like to inform the hon. Minister that his officers have provided assistance to our desert area. He should also visit those areas and provide the needed help. I would also like to draw attention towards the drinking water problem in Delhi. The people are feeling distressed on account of this problem. In spite of the water scheme for the Urban areas, the people are not getting water. A revised scheme should be formulated for providing

water so that the water reaches the villages also. The shortage of electricity in the rural areas is also a cause of the water crisis there. I want that arrangement for diesel sets should be made. If no alternative arrangement is made, the scheme for drinking water will not succeed. In the absence of electricity, neither can water be supplied nor can it be pumped out. So, provision for diesel sets should be made. Provision for diesel sets of three to four megawatts should be made in the district and the divisional headquarters. Supply of Electricity and water for consumers should receive priority over industry and agriculture. With these words I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : In the Calling Attention Motion regarding drinking water, Bihar should also be clubbed because one and a half crores of people of Bihar are facing water problem.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no point of order. You can give it in writing and after it is allowed, you can mention about it. Now how can he mention about it ?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Under rule 377, he can mention this point.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : The hon. Minister himself belongs to Bihar,

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR : I have replied to all the points raised by Shri Jain through this Calling Attention Notice. You know that if this type of situation arises in any State in the country—he has mentioned about a number of states—the Centre gives assistance to the State Government immediately and whatever is possible is done. Sometimes natural calamity befalls and causes distress to the people. Efforts are made to provide relief to the people affected by the calamity. You have mentioned all the points in that regard. We have sent our officers to every state. They are looking into it. I have mentioned in my reply that UNICEF has also stated that they are prepared to give assistance to India to meet the crisis there. Besides this, we are ready to supply whatever rigs are required. The Central Water Board has asked the states to chalk out programmes according to their needs and they will despatch rigs to the States to carry out the work. Apart from this, some of the States have intimated us about the work they are doing. It is a matter for happiness. So, whatever points you have raised, work on them is already going on and some more work will be undertaken after the receipt of the report.

So far as the problem of drinking water is concerned, whatever you have mentioned about it, is correct. You might be remembering that when our Speaker Sahib was in the Chair the other day, he told me that he would give me an award if I could solve this problem in Rajasthan. In U.P., Bengal and in my State, a village with a population of 200 or 300 or 500 or upto 1,000 persons or a little more is treated as a unit, but in Rajasthan, the definition of village is different. Although I have not seen that area but when I was reading the statement regarding the problem villages, I thought that your villages would also be covered under it. I was under the impression that your villages might be like the villages in my State, in U.P., in Bengal and in other

States. But the villages of your State are different from the villages of other States. I agree with the points raised by you. How can a village with a population of 300 to 400 persons scattered over an area of 15 miles be treated as a unit village? I cannot understand it. If such a thing is there then all those villages, where even 150 persons are living, will come under the category of problem villages. We are engaged in removing the difficulty of the problem villages of the country. Moreover, you should be grateful to us for providing assistance in spite of the fact that the responsibility to solve the problem of drinking water rests on the State Governments. Not only this, they are given incentives which are in proportion to the work done by a State.

Besides this, I have mentioned earlier that according to the figures we have received, there are about 2.31 lakh problem villages, out of which about 1.91 lakh villages have been covered and a few are left. We shall try to cover them in the Seventh Five Year Plan. Our intention is to solve the problem at the earliest so that there is no problem of drinking water in the country. While drawing attention to some important points, you admitted that when some officers from the Centre visited your place, the quantum of water per unit was increased to 70 litres from 40 litres. It means that their visit was helpful. As regards your suggestion that a cluster of hamlets be treated as villages, we are seriously thinking of including it in the Seventh Five Year Plan. You have mentioned a new point which was not in my mind earlier. May be, it is in the knowledge of other persons. I once visited Rajasthan, but my visit was confined to a few cities and may be to one or two villages. But at that time I did not notice it. I thought that the condition was the same in your State as it was in other States. But as revealed by you, I agree that your problem is more complicated than that on other States.

Some of our States have taken assistance from the World Bank and some have taken from Germany. They are prepared to give assistance. Your States should also utilise this assistance. I think the people of your State are making efforts in this direction. Taking into account all these requirements, I assure you that the problem of Rajasthan falls in a special category in comparison with other States. There water is not easily available to human beings and cattle. Moreover, keeping in mind the distance factor, I agree that the condition prevailing there is not found in U.P., Bihar and in other States.

On our side we are not putting you in a special category. We shall recommend the tax of your State. You know our hon. Finance Minister is sitting here. He controls the purse strings not only in regard to water but in regard to everything. He is listening to all these things. You have mentioned about some regions which will receive special attention.

I have referred to Rajasthan because you will be surprised to know that there the people with buckets on their heads cover a distance of 7 to 8 miles from their homes to fetch water. This type of situation is not prevalent in Bihar, U.P....(Interruptions)...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : No, no, this type of situation is prevalent in U.P. It may not be in Bihar.

SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN (Damoh) : This type of situation is prevalent in Madhya Pradesh also.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : In our hill areas also people cover a distance of as much as 5 kilometres to fetch water to their homes by negotiating steep ascents.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Other States are also concerned.

SHRI H.A. DORA (Srikakulam) : As far as drinking water is concerned. All the States should be treated equally. That problem is there in Andhra Pradesh also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I am saying about all the States. I mentioned about Rajasthan particularly because the Hon. Speaker had made a reference to it.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not there only in one state there may be a greater problem in Rajasthan. But the problem may be there in other States also. Therefore, every Member is agitated when the Minister speaks about Rajasthan alone. I have suggested to the Minister that he should consider other States also.

SHRI H. A. DORA : There are villages in Andhra Pradesh, where there is mass migration, just for drinking water, i.e., migration for upto Kms. or 40 Kms. They are leaving their homes. It is there in Andhra Pradesh also.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I have dealt with the problem of Rajasthan at greater length because at the time of discussion on the water scarcity in Delhi Hon. Speaker had raised this problem about Rajasthan. He is not in the Chair but I am mentioning about his constituency because there is acute water scarcity in his constituency. So I mentioned about his State, Rajasthan. As far as other States are concerned, we shall attend to their problems also.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : In the constituency of the hon. Finance Minister, people have to traverse a distance of as much as 4 to 5 kilometers to fetch drinking water.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Mention has been made about the drought conditions prevailing in other States and I have given information about them in detail and also said that a Central team has to go to that State. It is taking stock of the whole situation and its report is awaited. But if the situation worsens further then the Central Government will provide assistance to the drought affected States as much as they can.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Mr. Jai Parkash Agarwal. You can include other States also in your speech. Do not restrict yourself to Delhi. You can speak on behalf of other Members also.

SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, one feels sorry that even after 38 years of independence, we are discussing in the capital of India the problems of supplying drinking water to the public and that too in a country where the rivers overflow and inundate thousands of villages. It clearly shows that somewhere there is a big fault in our planning because of which we are neither able to provide water for irrigation nor provide water for drinking.

I want to draw your attention towards Delhi where there are places where the people have to discuss from the fourth or the sixth floor and then walk for a mile to fetch water and then ascend all those floors again to bring water to their houses. At certain places people have to pay as much Rs. 5 per bucket of drinking water. It is a very sad state of affairs. If you go around Delhi and listen to the woes of the people, you will come to know the difficulties being faced by them to get drinking water.

If you go to the walled city, you will find that the pipes which were laid some 50 to 60 years back for supply of water are now in damaged condition but are

still in use and the sewer water enters up them. The mixed up water is supplied for toilet as well as for drinking purposes and it has a such a foul smell that one cannot even bring it close to the mouth.

In the resettlement colonies, people have to walk for miles for bringing water because there is no arrangement in these colonies. One third population of the trans-Yamuna Delhi resides in an area where the streets are full of dirty water and mosquitoes but they do not have drinking water.

In many parts of Delhi, pipeline for water supply has not been laid as a result of which the people have to face much inconvenience. The reason is that we did not keep an eye on the increasing population of Delhi or we can say that we did not check the increasing population of Delhi although we were not in a position to provide water and power to them.

Whenever water is supplied for a while, may be for an hour or two, the electricity goes off and the people are again put to inconvenience. Water is supplied between 4 to 6 o' clock in the morning. People have to wake up from their sleep to store water. If at that time electricity goes off, they cannot get that water also.

Should we take it that in Delhi, the capital of India, people will always have to face the problem of drinking water and they will have to engage people on wages to fetch water ?

If an application is made to the Delhi Municipal Corporation for water connection, it is not sanctioned for months together. One has to make 10 to 20 rounds to the authorities before the water meter is sanctioned and for that too, people have to kneel before the officers.

I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the condition prevailing in Delhi. The people are experiencing difficulty in getting water. There are slums and katras in Delhi where 300 to 500 people live in one place and there are only 2 hydrants for these 500 people. The people there have to wait in a queue for hours, which leads to frayed tempers and scuffles.

When it is our policy that we shall supply water to the slums and 'Katras', it is not proper that people should stand in a queue for as long as hours for a bucket of water, which leads to scuffles and police cases and harassment to the people.

After all, why is it that we have not bothered to know about the problems of the citizens of Delhi and how we can provide water to them ?

You go round the Jhuggi-Jhoupri colonies, resettlement colonies and katras, you will find that the entire family has only one bucket of drinking water at its disposal and that too by paying Rs. 2 or Rs. 5 for the bucket.

In the trans Yamuna area, there are places where the Ganga water is being supplied. You go and see there the condition of the pipelines which is damaged and disjointed. The water which leaks out of these pipes as collects into small pools and becomes a breeding place for mosquitoes which leads to spread of diseases. The people living in those places lead a miserable life but there is no one to pay heed to their problems.

We do want to provide water in case it is available but the pipes should be laid in such a way that those may not cause inconvenience to the people. If we cannot supply drinking water to the people, we should at least ensure that water does not collect in pools.

I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the increasing

population of Delhi. Presently the population of Delhi is 71 lakhs and we require 472 million gallon water daily but our present capacity is only 344 mg/d. In 1990, the population of Delhi will be 87 lakhs and our requirement of water would be 574 million gallons per day. In 1995, the population will be 104 lakhs and the requirement of water would be 692 mg/d. In 2001, for a population of 128 lakhs the requirement of water would be 1024 mg/d but now no source has been left untapped for supplying water to Delhi. You have utilised the Yamuna water, you have already brought here the Ganga water. Which source has now been left untapped for supplying water to Delhi? The only outcome would be that the people of Delhi will die of thirst, the taps will go dry and the people will wait for drops of water from the taps.

M.P.s too are waiting for water.

I want to ask two questions of the hon. Minister. First, what has happened to the proposed scheme for constructing dams on the rivers surrounding Delhi for supplying water to Delhi? Why has that scheme not been completed?

Secondly, what is the number of persons who have applied for water connections but have not been provided with water connections. As per my information, their number is 50,000.

Thirdly, what has happened to your talks with Haryana for providing raw water to Delhi? When will this scheme start functioning?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOR : In every point he has raised, he has said that so many years have passed since India got Independence. When we got freedom, we also used to study geography and we had learnt that India's population was 35 crores. With the passage of time, the population of India has increased and so also its problems.

When we were slaves, minor incidents as well as major disasters used to occur

but no one bothered about them. When we were in jail, many people died in Bengal. I saw a photograph in which people were throwing food from above and children and dogs used to eat that food together. That is why the aspirations and demands of the people have increased after Independence. But you should compare your present position with the position when we were slaves, and we remained slaves for thousand of years, Kindly think over it.

(Interruptions)

Your problem will be solved from some other source.... *(Interruptions)*

While presenting any grievance or problem we should take into consideration the progress we have made, the extent of work done by us.

Today Delhi is getting 344 mg/d as against the requirement of 472 mg/d. You have mentioned two or three things. Our efforts are to find out the requirement of water for Delhi by the end of this century so that we may be in a position to meet it. When the population touches the one crore mark, wherefrom shall we get water? We are seized of this problem. If the need arose, we shall take water from Bhakra. Talks are being held with Haryana, and U. P. These days Haryana itself has become a victim of drought.

So far as the problem of drinking water is concerned, the Central Government as well as the concerned State Governments are ready to help.

Now, look at Delhi. What happened in South Avenue and North Avenue? I was not present here on that day. I had gone outside Delhi with the permission of Hon. Speaker and had asked my colleague to reply on my behalf. When I returned to Delhi, I thought that there being a Calling Attention motion on that day, Delhi would be referred to specifically, and if the problem

persisted, what our answer would be the Officers were called and the matter was discussed as to how water stopped from 7 to 8 O clock all of sudden. You will be surprised to know that we could not find the reasons for the stoppage of water. After a while, again the matter was enquired into. I do not know how after some time water started coming. It was just like the tantrik story or a story of some ghost which we used to hear of in our childhood. The same thing happened in this case also. Thereafter there was uninterrupted supply of water . . . (Interruptions) I asked my officers to remain alert for the next 24 hours lest some ghost should appear again! When water does not come in taps at other places, nobody comes forward to raise the issue, but if you feel slight difficulty in getting water here, you start raising a hue and cry . . . (Interruptions) . . . Hence, we have asked our officers to keep vigilance over South Avenue, North Avenue and other places where M Ps' flats are located and attend to any complaint received from there . . . (Interruptions).

(English)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Did we ask only for ourselves? He should not have said this. This is really a great aspersion on us.

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : You have said a very serious thing in a light manner. . . .

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR: . . . and the Madam has felt it a little. But if there is a delay of two minutes in the supply of water in her flat and there is great delay in supply of water in her state, she would not raise the matter so vehemently for the people of her state as for herself . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : What the Minister has said connotes that we are

concerned about ourselves and not about the people. I am sorry the Minister should not have said this.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : I am more sorry than yourself.

[Translation]

All right, if you have felt hurt, I may reply to the other points . . . (Interruptions) . . . That is why I have asked the people of my department and the Delhi Administration, under whose jurisdiction the work of water supply falls, that in order to ensure that such a problem does not occur again, a separate telephone number may be earmarked where the Members can register their complaints and the same would be attended to immediately. If the problems of M. P. s. living in North Avenue, South Avenue, etc. are solved, then the problems of people living in the adjacent areas would automatically be solved. So, we have asked our officers to remain vigilant so that such things may not happen again in Delhi.

Shri Agarwal raised two or three questions. He might be aware that renovation work in Chandani Chowk is going on. The problem of Chandani Chowk is a peculiar one because of the innumerable narrow lanes there. According to the details received from our department, it may take to three years to complete this work. We can undertake this work very easily in other areas like Ashoka Road, Curzon Road, Race Course Road etc. But the Chandani Chowk problem is a different one. The work is in progress and has been completed to some extent. The work relating to its modernisation and the laying of water pipes there is going on. You are yourself aware of it . . . (Interruptions) You are well aware of the things.

You have raised a question about Yamuna river. There are Ranny wells also. But you will be surprised to know that the horizontal and vertical resources of water have depleted . . . (Interruptions)

...Yes, the entire stock of water has been taken away by ghosts. When snow melts in the mountains, our problem of drinking water or irrigation water is solved to some extent. It appears that this year ghosts have reached there also? We are doing all those things which are under the control of Government. We are trying to solve this problem in every possible way . . .

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai) : There is no water supply in M. P.'s flats . . .

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Water is being supplied in abundance in your area. Please go and see for yourself.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Why don't you accompany us and see for yourself ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Special arrangement are being made for you . . . (Interruptions) . . . that when you face any problem, you can dial a telephone number specially meant for this purpose and these people will attend to your problem.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sometimes the phone itself is a problem. For that you may have to bring another Call Attention Motion or something.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Talks are going on with the Governments of Haryana and U. P. and other authorities also. I would not like to refer to these talks, otherwise you may start asking about the result of these talks. We are making all efforts to solve your problem.

[English]

SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL : Excuse me, Sir, my question was that there are about 50,000 applications for water connection

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : You are yourself the Chairman of the Committee. You know D. D. A. and Delhi Municipal Corporation etc. are also involved. Every thing is being done by you. So far as this question is concerned, I have no information with me at present. I will furnish the information later on.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many of my friends have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister towards this problem. Shri Nihal Singh, and the hon. Member from Agra and Shrimati Krishna Sahi along with many other friends have written notes just now while sitting in the House detailing problems of their respective areas and handed them over to me with the hope that I would draw that attention of the hon. Minister towards these problems. Irrespective of the claims being made by us, the reality is that we have not been able to provide drinking water to half of the population in the country. The hon. Minister has himself accepted this fact in his reply that 54 per cent problem villages, which were identified on the basis of the survey conducted in 1972, have been covered. I would like to know from the hon. Minister by what time Government will be able to provide potable water to the rest of the population. Every State had its reservation about the survey of 1972. But now the situation has changed. The sources of drinking water available at the time of the survey of 1972, have dried up and if they have not dried up the scheme itself has become very old. Under that scheme, drinking water cannot be supplied. I would, therefore, like to ask whether a fresh survey is proposed to be conducted, in order to identify the problem-villages throughout the country and to devise measures to provide drinking water to them ?

Now, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister towards that area in Uttar Pradesh, in respect of which my hon. colleague had said that

water is fetched from a distance of 1 km. The hon. Minister has said that snow has stopped melting in the Himalayas. In the prevailing weather, snow will melt in abundance. But the question is how you will supply the water, released by the melting of snow in the Himalayas to those who are in dire need of it? You should not doubt the capacity of the Himalayas for providing water. You will have to increase your own capacity so that the people can get drinking water. You must prepare a plan for this. I would like to request that you should prepare a National Crash Programme to provide drinking water to the people. We have, however, made a declaration that we shall be able to provide drinking water to people during this decade, but as per the reply given by you and under the circumstances prevailing in the entire country particularly in some States of Northern India, it appears that during this decade you will not be able to provide drinking water to even half of our villages. I would like to say one thing more. The situation is very serious in the area from which I come. There are 103 villages in my area, which have either been deserted or are likely to be deserted by the people. There are about 200 villages whose residents have to cover a distance of 10 kms to 20 kms to fetch water from the river valley below. When I went to one of the villages of my constituency, the women there showed me their heads. There were no hairs on their heads. Such is the grave situation there. The hon. Minister has mentioned many steps in this connections and I know he has his own limitations because he has to depend on the States as he has no implementation machinery of his Ministry. He has, of course, told us about the steps he has taken but he has not informed us the benefit of these steps to the people. This problem has not arisen overnight. I have been drawing attention to this problem for the last two months, and many other hon. Members have also drawn attention to wards this before. My submission to the hon Minister is that just as the

Agriculture Ministry sends its team to study drought affected areas, your Ministry should also send a team to study the problem so that the intensity of the problem in each State could be known and you may formulate your plan accordingly.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that an allocation of Rs. 1511 crores was made in this connection in the Sixth Five Year Plan. This amount was to be spent jointly by you and the State Governments but according to a report of the UNICEF, only Rs. 1100 crores have been spent on this account. Which are those States where the full amount has not been spent? The hon. Minister should give this information so that the Members of Parliament of all the States may put pressures on their respective State Governments and if there is any deficiency at their level, that may be removed and they may take action at their level.

I also want to point out that last year the amount provided for this item was about Rs. 40 crores, whereas this year i.e., 1985-86 when the problem has become more acute, you have allocated Rs. 14.71 crores. I would like to know from you whether, keeping in view the seriousness of the problem, you will provide more money for this item?

Some time back I had raised problem Under Rule 377. I had intimated that in U.P. two agencies had been entrusted this work. One agency formulates schemes for drinking water and the other agency does the maintenance work for those schemes. One is called 'Jal Nigam' which formulates schemes and the other is known as 'Jal Sansthan.' These two agencies are the parts of the same parent body but their engineers at lower level collude to sabotage the schemes. The hon. Finance Minister has been the Chief Minister of U. P. and has visited the

hill areas more than once. The people there have told him that what is happening is that 'Jal Nigam' leaves a scheme incomplete and hands it over to 'Jal Sansthan'. Water is supplied for a month and then the scheme is handed over to 'Jal Sansthan' and the supply of water stops. When we raise this problem and tell the 'Jal Nigam' authorities that water is not coming and that the scheme is faulty, their reply is that the scheme is under 'Jal Sansthan'. When we go to the 'Jal Sansthan' authorities, they say the scheme has been formulated by 'Jal Nigam'. The tax is recovered from the villagers but water is not supplied to them. I can say this with authority and of my assertion is not proved right, I am ready to resign. Out of all the schemes formulated by Jal Nigam for my constituency in U. P., 75 per cent are laying closed. Under some of the schemes water has not been supplied for more than one month and there are schemes under which water was never supplied. The schemes were completed and handed over to Jal Sansthan and it was shown that water being supplied to the villages. But the fact is that the people are not getting water. You should talk to the U.P. officials and kindly ask the Government of U.P. to amalgamate Jal Nigam and Jal Sansthan into one. Their excuse is that due to certain conditions imposed by the World Bank, they cannot do this. If it is so, then you may discuss the matter with World Bank officials so that water can be supplied to the people.

One thing more. Some time back Rs. 124 crores were allocated to U.P. as grant for the water supply schemes under the Minimum Needs Programme. U.P. is a big State and even to date hundreds of U.P. villages have been shown as problem-villages and those have not yet been covered. Half of your problem villages are in U.P. You have allocated only Rs. 298 crores for U.P. This needs to be increased. Will you increase this amount ?

In addition, the water being supplied, particularly in Agra which is a famous tourist Centre of the Country is dirty and unhygienic. This has been reported in a newspaper which I am reading out :

"Due to their utter inaction loss of the people's faith in them, the Jal-Kal Sansthan has prepared itself to witness lakhs of people dying inch by inch of Agra dying a slow death because it is supplying dirty water to them."

The newspaper further reports that :
"According to one estimate, in one litre of water, 100 millilitres of moss can be seen."

This filthy water is being supplied by Jal Sansthan, particularly in Agra, Varanasi and in my area also. What steps are you taking to stop the supply of dirty and filthy water and start the supply of clean water ?

In your State, of Bihar also, there is one problem which has been raised by Shrimati Krishna Sahi. In 1967 during the famine, hand pumps were installed there but as soon as the famine condition were over, the handpumps which had not been fully installed were left incomplete and the hand-pumps which had been completed but required repair were not required. In this connection my submission is that you may not reply to this point immediately but you can call for a copy of my speech later on and discuss the matter with the Bihar Government so as to reassure Shrimati Krishna Sahi.

What steps are you going to take in connection with the problems I have raised ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : I am sorry to say that we cannot do anything about the points raised by you. You have raised several matters on which the Centre cannot do anything.

Drinking water is not a Union subject, it is a State subject. You should take the help of your Chief Minister about the points you have raised.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : You can at least talk to the Chief Minister of our State when he comes here.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : Let me inform you that this is a matter which relates to the States. It is the responsibility of every State to identify their problem-villages. You have stated that we should send our officers all over India to identify the problem villages. In this connection we write to every State and we ask them to let us know the correct position. Some States send information very late and some send it in time. On that basis I am giving the figure of 2.31 lakh problem-villages.

Then Shri Jain has told a new thing. He is right and we have come to a new thing. But so far as U.P., Bihar and other States are concerned, when these States are unable to give information about their problem villages, then how do they expect our officers to go all over India to identify the problem-villages ?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : It is an acute problem. The problem of drinking water has become very acute. Whenever an area is affected by drought, the officers from the Centre are sent to talk to the State Government. Similarly, for drinking water also, officers should be sent from here and they should talk to the State Government.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : That I have already answered. Whenever the country faces some calamity like drought which is beyond the capacity of the States to cope with due to resource constraint, we come forward to help.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHIR : Do you not consider the problem of drinking water a calamity ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : I have already said this thing in the beginning. I knew that this Calling Attention Motion is about the drought condition in all the States. On these lines I gave my reply in the Statement. The mistake I made was that I did not talk to Shri Jain in private. People everywhere thought that this problem existed in every State. But it is not that the officers have not visited the affected areas to know about the problems and their magnitude.

I have not said that I have also received intimation from UNICEF that they are ready to help and that they would provide relief. In case of any such calamity, the Central Ground Water Board offers its rigs if the State Government prepare a programme and send it to them. Thereafter the officers go there and discuss the problem with the Chief Minister, Minister Incharge and the concerned officers. They also collect the report submitted by the collector. A draft report is prepared and submitted to us and then the Centre decides about the quantum of assistance. Action is being taken on all the points raised in the Calling Attention Motion but now the problem of drinking water has been included in it. Now if there is drought of such a dimension that the earth starts cracking, it is a different problem and if there is a crisis of natural water, drinking water, that problem is quite different. When we were children and India was a slave country, there was not a single tubewell in our village. We used to go to the well and draw water with bucket or 'lota' and used it for drinking purposes as well as for cattle. Once a year, people used to clean the well collectively, which was called 'Uran' in Bhojpuri which meant that after taking out the entire filth from the well, the water used to become potable. I think, you too who are living somewhere near that area might be knowing about it. But with the progress we have made, no one takes water from the well. There are pumps in every house. The hon. Member mentioned about the problem of Bihar. This

problem is not confined to Bihar, it afflicts many areas. I have information that the Government sent money for sinking a tubewell at a depth of 110 ft. but when water started coming at a depth of 35 ft. they sunk the well only upto that depth but charged for 110 ft. digging. Similarly, there are cases where a washer worth 8 annas became faulty, but the pump was not started till the Government Enquiry Officer went there to enquire, thereby spending Rs. 200. This is the tendency now which has to be changed. It has become a habit of all of us, be it the Panchayat, an MLA, M.P. or Minister, i.e. from the Centre to the lowest-level; we consider it the duty of Government only to do things. A washer may be costing 8 annas or Rs. 1.50 but people will go to the collector to rectify the value or get that washer replaced. What is required is a change in our approach. This tendency is prevalent all over India. Leave aside the problem of drought. Take the case of drinking water and problem-villages. Earlier we did not even know the term 'problem-villages'. Earlier we were not even aware of the drinking water problem of the hill areas; it is now that we are hearing about it. All these things have come to light after Independence. As the needs increase, our experts make on the spot study and try to find out a solution. This is the position. We are thinking even if what will be needed in the 21st century and what the position will be and what the requirements will be at the end of the 20th century. Now, these things cannot be completed in a day. We have to make gradual progress. You may have noticed that calamities sometimes befall even the developed countries but they face them bravely. I think last time the hon. Minister in charge of Doordarshan informed us that 42 million people were killed in the First World War. Had it happened with us, we would not have been able to bear the shock. But the Germans made their country still better than what it was earlier within a period of four years. It is called national character. We shall have to develop our national character. There is a

couplet in Persian. I won't read it but will give you its meaning and that is—Maubir Sahib advised the people that one should not beg for something which one can accomplish oneself. Begging will mean losing one's self-respect. There is need to build national character. Do you think that the parties like CPM in Bengal, Telugu Desam in Andhra Pradesh and Janata Party in other States have been able to solve their problems? If they had a magic wand they might have succeeded. Funds have been given to them but still they are not implementing the projects. At many places they have surrendered the funds. Some of the States have done so much of work that they are left with a few crores of rupees and they approach us again for more funds. When I was a student in Aligarh, there was a student who belonged to the Frontier Province. He was good in mimicry. Whenever there were ten to twenty people around him, addressing me Ghafoor Bhai he would ask me, whether I knew the conditions prevailing in the country then. As if the Frontier Mail was running, he used to imitate the hawkers at the midway stations between Peshawar and Calcutta; at Peshawar station, he used to call in a serious tone *Paratha-kabab* at Delhi station *mutton-chapati* in low tone; "Groundnut" at Patna station and "*Rasagulla*" at Calcutta. He used to describe how much vigour the people of every State between '*Kabab-Paratha*' and '*Rasgulla*', had and in this exercise the people of Bihar and U.P. were laughed at most, because they did not stand anywhere . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has now forgotten about water.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I mean that the States too have to contribute their mite. If we declare that the supply of water would hence forth be our responsibility, a great hue and cry

would be raised that the Centre is interfering. . . . (Interruptions). We can intervene in the Congress-ruled States. The hon. member is sitting there, kindly pay attention to her also. In spite of the funds being sanctioned, they are not able to utilise them. They flare up at the slightest provocation. If we tell Telugu Desam something they take offence. This is the reason why the State Governments have been made responsible for all these things, especially the problem of drinking water. The Centre has declared incentives to those States which are taking steps to improve the drinking water problem. We have provided incentives also.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Has it been given to Rajasthan ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Many States are simply doing nothing on this account. If funds are given, they are surrendered. Members who have spoken have referred to many things from Frontier Mail to Howrah station. So, I would request them who are going to speak to bear this aspect also in mind.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : Mr Deputy Speaker. Sir, we really enjoyed the hon. Minister's witty remarks just now. But in the same breath we should not forget those people who are crying for water. The hon. Minister has said that there is no need for the Centre's intervention as no calamity has befallen, such as drought or famine. What can be more important than water ? One can live for days together without food but one can not live even for a day without water. Ghafoor Sahib might be observing fast and might do so during this summer. He can very well realise its importance. Is there anything more important than water for life ? We have crores of people in this country to day who are pining for water. Therefore, this matter should not be taken lightly. It is a matter of grave concern. Reports are pouring in from Orissa that many people are dying due to scarcity of drinking

water. Similar reports are coming from Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh that people are migrating from their villages to other areas due to scarcity of water. My friend, Shri Rath, who belongs to Orissa, is sitting here and so are our friends from Andhra Pradesh. They did not get an opportunity to participate in the Calling Attention and so they have not been able to project the problems of their areas. But I would like to express their feelings before you. Shri Jain spoke at length about Rajasthan. It being a desert, the people there are used to thirst and some provision is being made for them. In Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and many other States the scarcity of drinking water is posing a grave threat, and continues to do so. Never before has so large an area been affected by water crisis as during this year. This crisis can be termed as a national crisis and the Central Government should provide relief as it does during famine, drought and floods. In no uncertain terms one can say that this crisis is not only of the same nature but rather more grave. If people do not get food for say 4, 5 or even 6 days, they can do without and wait or manage somehow, but it is difficult to survive for even one day without water. Half of the country's population is presently affected by the crisis of water, of course in varying degrees. At many places the people have to go as far away as 7 to 8 kilometres to fetch water while at other places two to four kilometres. But this problem of drinking water is there and it cannot be denied that everyone is affected by it. The hon. Minister must also be in the know of it, as he is an able Minister and knows a lot about his department. He has been the Chief Minister of a State like Bihar and has earned a good name. We have high hopes from him. I feel sorry that no Union Minister has visited Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar and other places where the drinking water crisis is posing a grave threat. He must be more well-informed than I. I am only speaking on the basis of news paper reports wherein we come across

such things. Many hon. Members have been drawing the attention of Government and the House to the grave drinking water crisis in the country, through special mention Under Rule 377 every day since the current session of the Lok Sabha began. All of them have mentioned about the problem of drinking water in their respective states. I have done it myself. I have been told—I cannot say about other areas because I do not know what is happening in other states—that in spite of the special mention, no special efforts have been made anywhere to solve this problem. I have asked many people in this connection, but no definite reply has been forthcoming. Not only this, we have not been informed till today about the action taken on the matters raised by us Under Rule 377. How can it then be believed that your Ministry is taking the matter very seriously. Are you waiting for the famine to strike before you will do something about it? Can there be a more deadly famine than that of water scarcity?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one more point. A list was made in 1972 in which villages were identified as 'Problem Villages'. On the basis of this list they are still treated as 'Problem Villages'. But 13 years have elapsed since 1972 and no enquiry has ever been made as to the number of villages that have been added to the list of 'Problem Villages' or the number of villages where water is no longer available. Besides, drinking water has not reached all those 'Problem Villages' that were identified in 1972. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to forget the past as also the bygone days when you used to clean the wells, because those wells must have dried up by now. Previously also, the scarcity of drinking water used to be there in a few villages but the present water crisis is due to the way the underground water is being utilised, and tube wells are being installed for irrigation and the speed with which underground water is being

drained. And it would affect more village in future also. In U. P., Allahabad and Varanasi to which our hon. Finance Minister belongs—had always been areas with problem-villages the where the problem of drinking water had been there for long. Mirzapur and some of the hill areas had also been affected by this problem. But today the whole of Uttar Pradesh is facing a grave crisis of drinking water. Similar is the situation in other parts of the country like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Now all the states have been engulfed by this crisis. With regard to the problem-villages, as mentioned in the 1972 list, a circular of your Department States that necessary steps should be taken to provide drinking water only in those villages but they do not attend to those villages which are not mentioned in the list. Even hand-pumps are not installed in these villages and no drinking water schemes drawn up. They make an excuse by saying that you get the funds sanctioned by the district authorities and only then it will be implemented, as these villages are not covered by their scheme. How long will this 1972 list last? Why don't you make a new list and identify new problem villages? It is said that new villages will not be identified till the backlog is cleared; then why is there a delay in completing the schemes in hand? You have been trying to complete these schemes for the last eleven years but you have not been able to do so till now. The schemes have been introduced in about 1.92 lakh villages and about 60 to 65 per cent villages have been covered but still many villages have been left which may take a lot of time. I would, therefore, request that a new list should be drawn and drinking water should be made available to the villages that are not included in the 1972 list.

13.37 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASVARAJESWARI *In the Chair*]

It has been decided by you that the population of the village shall be the

basis for installation of hand-pumps. Just now Jain Sahib pointed out, to the astonishment of the hon. Minister, that a village in Rajasthan may be spread over an area which may vary from five kilometres to two hundred kilometres. But our villages are not scattered over such a large area. In the case of our village, there are hamlets of the same village at a distance of 5 to 7 miles. Those hamlets may be at a distance of 20 yards to 4 kilometres from one another. Water is not available in those hamlets. Hand-pumps are installed in the main village, but in the near about hamlets where about 50 families of Harijans or Adivasis or people of weaker sections stay, no arrangements have been made for drinking water. The people are told that as the population is less than 1200, they should feel obliged if a hand-pump is installed in the area. As a matter of fact the population of 1,200 is spread over an area of two to five kilometres and, therefore, there is need to pay attention to these hamlets and provide them with drinking water.

Madam Chairman, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to another point. All these different States have different types of problems. In some States, the drinking water schemes have not been successful and in others the hand-pumps have not been successful. In our State the hand pumps are not successful while the drinking water schemes are. It seems that your department has taken a policy decision not to formulate drinking water schemes but instead instal only handpumps. In this connection I would like to ask you the number of seasons they are likely to last and their depth? As the level of the water table is fast going down, these hand pumps dry up in three months or six month or with in a span of a year or two and there is no one to instal them again. These schemes are implemented some-how but there after there is no one to look after their maintenance work. Who would look after them after all, whose baby is this? No one knows.

Wherever relief works have been undertaken, whether it is construction of roads or provision of drinking water, nobody knows which authority would look after the maintenance work. You are not at fault for this. The State Governments are at fault. Nobody there knows whether the District council, or the Water Corporation or Block Administration or Village Panchayat will look after it. Just now, an hon. Member pointed out that if one of its screws is broken, it becomes out of order. It lies idle for want of an expenditure of Re. 1 or Rs. 1.50 and children break it and render it useless.

I am not aware of the position prevailing in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, but I can say in respect of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar that drinking water schemes can prove a success there. Please try to provide drinking water under this scheme. You can provide immediate relief through hand-pumps but it is for a short duration only. Hand-pump cannot meet the permanent requirements of people. You will have to depend on drinking water schemes for its permanent solution, I would urge the hon. Minister to reconsider seriously the decision of the Technical Committee that drinking water schemes will not be taken up but instead hand-pumps will be set up throughout the country. A scheme for a particular area should be formulated keeping in view the situation prevailing there.

Mr. Chairman, steps should be taken to provide immediate relief because this problem is for two months i.e., May and June. After that the rainy season would set in. If the hon. Minister is waiting for rains, it is a different thing. After rains, there will be no problem. Members will leave Delhi on 17th May. They will not be seen here after that. If the hon. Minister is waiting for that, it is a different matter. Now, we are going to our respective constituencies. The issue pertaining to water will be raised before us. The hon. Minister is not going to visit the affec-

ted areas. It is we who shall have to go there. So, immediate arrangements should be made during these two months. The arrangements should be made on war-footing.

In Orissa, people are dying for want of water. In Madhya Pradesh people are migrating from their villages as there is no water there. The same is position in Andhra Pradesh. People are migrating to other places. But in our State such a situation has not yet developed where people here to migrate. The river Ganga flows through our State. People trudge a distance of 5 to 7 kms in night in order to fetch water. Small children and women have to fetch water from very long distances.

The drinking water problem is a national problem and many hon. Members have not been able to express their views on it. I could not say anything specifically about my constituency. All the wells in my constituency have dried up. Wells have dried up in the adjacent area of Buxar. But the river Ganga has not yet dried up. It is a very fortunate thing. But the water of the Ganga has also been polluted. It is very dangerous to drink its water now. You can understand it very well. But we are feeling compelled to drink that water. People have to fetch water at night from the river.

I am very much pained to point out that our State Governments, irrespective of the fact whether it is the Government of West Bengal or the Government of Andhra Pradesh or the Government of any other State, are not discharging their duty properly. People are crying for water. Government can at least provide funds for this. I request the hon. Minister to accept our suggestion for sending a study team to the States immediately, as has been suggested by Shri Rawat, which should submit a report to you so that you may be able to make arrangements on a war-footing to provide water there.

According to the suggestions given, you are making arrangements on a war-footing to provide water, but immediate arrangements will have to be made by you for providing drinking water during these two months. If more funds are needed for this purpose, I think the hon. Finance Minister will happily provide the necessary funds and I hope the entire House would support me.

[English]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Kurmool Madam, we were the first to give Calling Attention notice on this subject, but we were not lucky in the ballot. Unfortunately, water scarcity in Andhra Pradesh is so acute that the State Government has to distribute Rs. 6 crores for the purpose of meeting the acute shortage of water. The hon. Member from UP, Shri Zainul Basher, in th his speech was referring to Andhra Pradesh and I think he was also asking the hon. Minister to go and see the acute water scarcity faced in Andhra Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN : (Shrimati Basava Rajeswari) : I would request hon. Minister to take Andhra Pradesh also into account while replying to the points raised by Shri Zainul Basher.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : The situation is so acute in Orissa also. It should be considered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The motion regarding acute shortage of drinking water covers various parts of the country and therefore the hon. Minister would take into consideration all parts of the country while replying to the points raised in this House.

[Translation]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : All the hon. members have expressed their learned views on the Calling Attention

Motion. The number of Ministers present today is the highest ever present in the House.

(Interruptions)

I was very much impressed by the scholarly speech made by my friend Shri Zainul Basher. I will try my best to implement his suggestions. So far as the problem for these two months is concerned, if it rains during this period, it will be very good. I pray to God that rains may fall tomorrow itself so that your problems and my problems may be solved. This will give relief to both of us.

(Interruptions)

He has referred to problem villages. We are not concerned with the fact whether these were identified in 1971 or in 1980. We are also of the view that every State has its own problems. They should know what has been done and what is yet to be done, how far they can go and what their capacity is. It should not be left to the Centre to visit every place and identify the various problems there such as drinking water supply problem, education problem, defence problem, irrigation problem, agriculture problem etc. If you expect the Centre to take up the cultivation work themselves, and when you need lectures for universities, to provide them also, then this is not possible.

My friends Shri Zainul Basher has tried to put words in my mouth. He said that the present problem was more serious in the drought affected States. In reply to various questions raised here, I had said at the outset that in the event of any complaint from a state about the occurrence of floods or drought is there sometimes floods and drought occur simultaneously at many places—the Centre provides assistance for tackling both types of problems. I had stated that a Central team visits all the places and after holding talks with the state

Government concerned submits its report. On the basis of that report, the Central Government provides assistance to the maximum possible extent. I had also stated that certain funds have already been sanctioned. Our other agencies are also ready to help; only the State Governments have to submit their demand. UNICEF is also prepared to provide rigs.

In such circumstances, we are ready to provide help to States. The Centre has sanctioned funds to States and has despatched certain equipments also. But sometimes at the time of sowing paddy, the rains fail and a hue and cry is made. An S.O.S. call is given. Paddy will be sown in a particular month and after a period of 4 months it will be harvested. It is understandable if they give an S.O.S. call in the event of failure of crop. It has become a psychology. We should cry after 4 months only when the crops have failed.....

(Interruptions)

“Whether they cry or you cry is unparliamentary”....

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : “Cry” is not unparliamentary.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : You are not to decide it. It is for the Hon. speaker to decide it. If we say that they are telling a lie, then it becomes unparliamentary. But if they say we are not saying the truth, then it is not unparliamentary. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker may simply ask one member to sit down and to another one he may say: “Hon Member may refuse his seat.” There are different ways to express different things.

I am referring to all these things because some work has been entrusted to States and after receiving report from

them, we shall do our part of the work. The States should discharge their duties and we shall discharge our duties. The hon. Member should also discharge his duties. Every body discharges his duty in his own way. But sometimes it so happens... (*Interruptions*) Perhaps you have come just now. Had you come earlier, you would have enjoyed much. You had deprived yourself of the enjoyment by remaining about.

[*English*]

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : (Visakhapatnam) This is not the way to reply on such a grave matter. You are laughing here while people are weeping for water.

[*English*]

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Perhaps you thought that I was not speaking seriously. My contention is this, that some hon. Members from this side and that side have spoken such things, which will go against you; and I am defending you indirectly. Because you were absent... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : What is the Minister speaking? I am rising on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Here is a point of order. Let me hear it. What is your point of order, Mr. Bhattam?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : His name is not in the list.

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : I am rising on a point of order. How does it go against us? What is he going to attribute to us? Is this the way in which a Minister should behave while giving a reply on a serious matter like this? I take a very strong objection to this. Let him confine his remarks to what he has done, and what he proposes to do, and not indulge in all

sorts of things against various political parties ruling in other States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. Let me hear from the hon. Minister what steps he is going to take.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Some of the hon. Members had suggested that I should take control of drinking water etc. from the States. I am not going to oblige them. There are some subjects which belongs to the States. I think you belong to Andhra Pradesh. I am not going to curtail anything which your Chief Minister is entitled to do in his own State. Some of my Members suggested that I should do it. Why should I do it?

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : You give your reply.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I have given that reply. You were not present. You did not hear. Sometimes, the reply is good, in a sense....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the Minister reply. Don't interfere. I do not allow any interruption while the Minister speaks.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : We enjoyed the hon. Minister's speech very much, but nothing has been said about solving the water problem.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The last speech was made by Shri Zainul Basher. We have noted all his points, but we are afraid that we shall not be able to take this measure as Tewariji would be annoyed with us ...

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : No, he would not be annoyed.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I was telling about it. You are asking me to deprive him of his powers.

SHRI JAINUL BASHER : I am not asking you to deprive him of his powers. You should help him. I am asking you to extend your help to him.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : He meant the same thing which you have understood.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : What I am saying is that every State should identify its problem-villages. You know that every State gets assistance from the Centre according to its accelerated rural water supply programme. This assistance is provided to solve much problems. In addition, we even go to this extent that we pay more attention to a State which works more in this direction. Our hon. Member belongs to the Telugu Desham Party. We are happy that more work has been done in that State. I would like to congratulate the Government of that State.

Our friends had referred to Orissa. Ten days back, a question had been listed for being asked in this House. Due to shortage of time, it could not be replied to in the House. You would be surprised to know what I told him about Orissa. I told him that his question had not come up for reply, though I was very eager to reply it. I read the reply to him. He said that it was good that the reply was not given on the floor of the House.

The maximum assistance is provided to this State by the Centre. At certain places the amount has been refunded, and at other, the funds have lapsed but our friends are saying that the people are dying. People in Orissa are dying for want of drinking water. The Centre is providing funds to every State, but the money is not being spent. The funds are diverted to other works and

then a demand is made for more funds...

PROF. K.K. TEWARI (Buxar) : The funds are diverted to other items, but funds are not spent for making provision for supply of drinking water. If funds had been spent for supply of drinking water, this situation would not have arisen.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The funds are diverted to other works and funds are spent on this item also. Leave all that aside. If all such things have to be mentioned, I would publish a booklet and the booklet would expose many persons. The Housing construction activities are going on at a very fast pace in one State while work relating to provision of drinking water schemes is at a fast pace in another State. Both the activities are very fast in yet another State and there is slackness in both the activities in some other State. Do I not know what is going on in my State and what is happening in other States? All these things are there, but we are prepared to undertake all the work which we can do. We have done not only that—you please listen to me attentively, but we provide more incentives to the States which work more. We say that the States should put in their best-efforts and then they should approach us for more funds. They do not do their part of the work but ask the Centre to do work for them. *(Interruptions)*... You have not followed me. I was replying to him but the other Member has got annoyed. I was defending them. I was defending the C.P.M. and I was saying that such types of questions should not be raised, otherwise we shall have to face more problems while we are already in troubled waters; but they do not pay any heed. They think that it is better if the facts are revealed. We are aware of all these things. Our Finance Minister is also aware of these things. They also are

aware of these things and we all are aware of such things and the calamity has not yet come before us into full intensity....(Interruptions)....

14.02 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (H K.L. BHAGAT):

Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 13th May, 1985 will consist of :

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
2. Further discussion on the 32nd and 33rd Reports of the Union Public Service Commission.
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills :
 - (i) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Bill, 1985.
 - (ii) The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill, 1985 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
 - (iii) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 1985 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
 - (iv) The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1985 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

4. Discussion on the Resolution seeking approval in the increase of export duty on black pepper.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : The energy crisis in Jammu and Kashmir has deepened as a result of shortfall of snow in the higher reaches of the mountains this winter, which has affected flow in channels feeding hydroelectric projects. This development repeated this summer also is playing havoc with the tourism and small scale industry including handicrafts industry. Towards this end, the Centre should meet its commitment to provide electricity to summer and Kashmir in winter and also in scarcity period from the Northern Grid. The Government of India should also apply its mind to the vast resources and tremendous potential of J & K State in electricity which is potential harnessed can give a tremendous boost to this essential commodity. Work on hydroelectric projects like Uri Salal, Dool Hasti, Sooru (Kargil) etc. needs speedy implementation by the Centre. With these few projects, the State can generate enough electricity which shall not only suffice the needs of the State, but can be exported to the neighbouring States, these projects have the capacity of 10,000 Megawatts if completed under the 7th Five Year Plan.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : About 600 black bucks are found moving freely in the rural area of Buguda, Ramunda and Bhetnoi of Ganjam district, Orissa. They are confined in 20 surrounding villages having 30 square miles geographical limit. They eat grass and cereal crops comprised within 3000 hectare cultivable and hilly lands and 300 hectare Government waste land. They are seen in herds in 20 to 30. Their average life span is 12 years. Their horns measure nearly 6 ft. They can gallop very fast to the extent of 60 m.p.h. Their gallop in herds presents a unique sight.

The villages of Buguda, Ramunda and Bhetnoi are the most ardent conserva-

tionists like the Bishnois of Rajasthan and Rabaris of Gujarat. They regard the black buck as a sacred animal and do not harm them under any circumstances even at the cost of loss of their cereal crops. But they have been facing constant threat from outside hunters. It is doubtful whether the black buck will be able to survive in their natural habitat for long because of growing hostile environment. Therefore I suggest the Government to take some immediate measures to save these rare species from destruction. The implementation of Baghua State II irrigation project will help production of the buck to a great extent as they will get sufficient grassland and the intensity of damage of crops by the bucks will be less. As the protection of these rare species warrants the urgent attention of the Government, the Baghua irrigation Project should be executed as early as possible. A national park should be set up for the black buck without any further delay.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Madam Chairman, the Atomic Power Plants in the country are not working properly and as a result thereof the States having the units of atomic power plants. Continue to face the power crisis. Both the units of the atomic power plant at Kota in Rajasthan are not functioning properly and as a result, Rajasthan is facing power crisis. Due to power crisis 30 per cent to 60 per cent power cut is imposed on industries. The farmers are not supplied electricity for more than six hours a day and the problem of the drinking water supply is always there. This problem is more acute in desert areas.

The first unit of the atomic power plant at Kota was lying closed for three years and even after repairs it remains closed for 15 days in a month. Similar is the position of the second unit.

I would, therefore, request the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that the

condition of the atomic power plants in the country may please be included for discussion in the Business for the next week.

[*English*]

SHRI S.M. BHATTAM: The wholesale failure of crops in 27 districts of Andhra Pradesh has caused object misery and distress to the vast sections of small and marginal farmers. Because of the dry spell and withering of crops agricultural labourers were thrown out of employment. The Government of Andhra Pradesh notified 201 taluqs as drought affected. A detailed memorandum on the drought conditions was presented to the Centre pleading for an assistance of Rs. 366 crores for drought relief works besides a loan amount of Rs. 51 crores. Employment generation works for the period of April to June 1985 alone require Rs. 280 crores which includes community irrigation works, deepening of irrigation walls, minor irrigation works, etc.

A big action programme for providing drinking water to the affected population has to be taken up at a cost of Rs. 46 crores upto the end of June.

I urge upon the Government to release additional assistance of Rs. 300 crores as a special case to enable the State Government to continue the relief operations in full scale and on war footing during the period April-June, 1985.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Madam Chairman, I request that the following matter may please be included in the statement of the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs regarding Government Business for the next week.

There is a serious situation of drought in 23 districts of Madhya Pradesh. People in nearly, 35 districts are facing shortage of drinking water. The situ-

ation would become worked in the coming months.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh are trying to meet the situation with their resources, put on the one hand there is the problem of drought and on the other the State Government had to spend a lot of money on the rehabilitation of the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy. Recently, assistance had to be provided to the riot affected people. The State Government had also to spend money on the commitments made to the U.G.C. The State Government has waived the loans of small farmers. A lot of expenditure had also been incurred on the provision of schools and additional teachers.

Taking all these factors into consideration, it would be very difficult for the State Government to meet such a heavy burden. The facility of overdraft to the State Government has also been reduced to only Rs. 30.48 crores, whereas the smaller States like Kerala and Andhra Pradesh have been provided with the facility of overdraft to the tune of Rs. 100 crores. The Government of Madhya Pradesh had fulfilled their commitment to raise resources. They have also maintained financial discipline under these circumstances, a discussion is necessary on the subject that in addition to increasing the facility of overdraft, at least an amount of Rs. 80 crores should be provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for meeting the situation in the drought affected areas and for making managements for drinking water supply and at least a sum of Rs. 50 crores should immediately be provided to the State Government for providing help to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy.

SHRI JAI PARKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chock) : As regards this increase in pollution due to the dumping of garbage and the provision of garbage enclosures or 'Dalaos' in the densely populated areas of Delhi and the need to check the growing pollution, I would

like to draw the attention of this august House towards main source of man made pollution in Delhi. Each citizen is directly or indirectly affected by this source of pollution. The source of this pollution are garbage enclosures or 'Dalaos' situated in the midst of the city, in the main markets and almost in all the residential areas.

People throw the garbage in these garbage enclosures. Many a time the garbage is not removed from these enclosures for almost a week. Flies and mosquitoes breed there. In the modern age, when the country is advancing in every sector, the existence of much garbage enclosures in the midst of the city is not justified.

I would like to request the hon. Minister that whereas in any modern techniques are being adopted to protect Delhi city from pollution and many boards have been set up, attention should also be paid to modernise these garbage enclosures and these garbage enclosures should be shifted to secluded places away from the city so that pollution in the nearby areas could be checked.

(2) The condition of old Katras which have been in existence for centuries in Chandni Chowk and other areas of Delhi is deteriorating day by day. Families consisting of ten persons are living like animals in small rooms. Drinking water, electricity, sanitation and other facilities are not available to them adequately. One comes to tears by seeing their miserable life and one is moved to all their condition. I don't know for how long these people would have to live in such miserable condition in India which is about to enter 21st Century. Until concrete steps are taken in this direction, the condition of these people would not improve. We would have to formulate special schemes for them immediately.

I would, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to include this item in the business for the next week.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): It is generally seen that Government of India's sanction of funds under the different centrally aided plan schemes like appointment of Hindi teachers in the non Hindi speaking States, National Adult Education Programme, National Service Scheme, Non-formal Education Programme, etc., is communicated to the State Governments towards the end of the financial year. This obviously creates serious difficulties in proper implementation of the schemes and full utilisation of the funds sanctioned. Even, pending the actual sanction, no advance intimation is given to the State Governments indicating the size of the Central funds sanctionable under the different schemes in order to enable the State Governments to take preliminary and preparatory steps to initiate the schemes or to make any advance commitment in this regard. It is, therefore, felt necessary that soon after the the passing of the Central Budget, sanction should be communicated to the State Governments.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): It is well-known that the unemployed youth while applying for jobs need postal orders to attach with their applications.

In most of the post offices of West Bengal postal order forms are in short supply. The unemployed youth have to stand in long queues to secure postal orders and often they cannot secure them on the same day. Letters of their agony have appeared in the columns of Ananda Bazar Patrika, the biggest circulated daily.

This problem is not unknown in other States. It should be discussed in the House next week so that this shortage can be overcome.

2. News of dowry deaths are pouring in the newspapers all over the country.

Obviously the Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act, 1983 is not being implemented as it should be by the police in many places. This problem and measures to combat it should be discussed in the House in the next week.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I shall bring it to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

STATEMENT RE: ABOLITION OF
THE ANDHRA PRADESH
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ): The House is aware that the Legislative Assembly of the State of Andhra Pradesh on the 24th March, 1983 a Resolution in terms of article 169 of the Constitution for the abolition of the Legislative Council of that State. A like Resolution was again passed by the Legislative Assembly of the State on the 30th April, 1985. Government have taken a decision to introduce during the current session of Parliament a Bill providing for the abolition of the Legislative Council of the State.

14.16 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Seventh Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGET): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee

presented to the 9th May, 1984."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee Presented to the House on the 9th May, 1985."

The Motion was adopted

14.18 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1985-CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Finance Minister will reply to the debate now

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : Madam, we have been discussing this Finance Bill and it was almost a second review of the Budget and quite a number of subjects were covered ranging from deficits to debts, from prices to public enterprises, from overdrafts to socialism. I thank all the hon. Members for their compliments as well as their criticisms. I have been benefited by both. Criticisms I take to be well-meaning and in good faith to give another perspective to the issues which we are commonly facing.

Before coming to details, one major point was made that there has been a departure by the present Government from its path of socialism. The hon. Members from the benches opposite gave a date to it also, 16th March, 5 p. m. or 4. p. m., whatever it may be the time of presentation of the Budget. By this very contention of theirs, they at least confirm that we were on the socialist path till 16th March, and I am happy that those leaders who criticised Shrimati Indira Gandhi, our late Prime Minister,

at least today they do confess that she was on the right track and on the socialist path. So, it is to be diagnosed whether the deviation has been for seven weeks, as they suppose it to be. That is the only argument that is to be made. But without scoring debating points, I would take the issue of ideological context of the debate because I think that is more important than the details of it. It is in this overall ideological context that we can understand the individual details also and we should not in counting the trees lose sight of the wood. The basic issue in this whole debate has been whether we are going to the socialist path or the capitalist path. In fact, as I perceive it, the approach between the two is basically one of attitude, not only of social ownership or State mechanism, but also the approach of both and the psyche of the human-being himself. The socialist philosophy puts a trust in man, in his innate goodness, with the dismantling of the exploitative super structure, the initial goodness of human beings will come forth to harmonise while the Capitalist System essentially believes in the greed of man. And that is the main force to draw in the mechanism between the two systems.

But coming to very specific, rather very broad debate, it is the social ownership of the means of production that is the essence of the debate. On socialism, to frame the issues properly and to answer points of the debate that have been framed, what is important is the extent and content of social ownership as envisaged by the founding fathers of the nation.—Have we deviated from the path as we envisaged it to be? So, let us see what after Independence as the extent and what would be the content of social ownership. Was it our contention that agriculture will come under social ownership? No. Was it postulated that handicrafts will come under social ownership? No. Was it postulated that small-scale industries will come under social ownership? No. Was it that the basic industries will come under social ownership? Yes and positively yes. That has been the concept.

In this connection I want to quote Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru himself :

"In any event in India by far the greater part of life and our industry is bound to be governed by the private enterprise. Take the whole sector of land. We are an agricultural country. Take the whole small-scale industry. It is a very big sector in India. All these form a private sector and private industry."

And when we come to the basic industries, he goes on to say :

"We think in terms of what may be called the basic industries under State control."

Here he very pointedly out that the basic industries have to be under State control.

And further on 24th May, 1956 in this very august House in a debate he said and I quote :

"When there is such a vast field to cover, it is foolish to take charge of the whole field, particularly when you are totally incapable of using the huge areas yourselves."

So, the extent of social ownership was envisaged to cover the basic industries and heavy industries.

There may be very serious ideological differences on socialism, whether it should be collective workers or there should be guilds or in what form the workers should exercise their ownership. But so far this was what we had envisaged.

And again in his own words he said and I quote :

"The basic strategy governing planning is to industrialise and

that means, the basic industries given the first priority".

Madam, I may also quote the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 in length because we have to answer this basic issue. It goes out to say this :

"The adoption of the socialist pattern of society as the national objective as well as the need for planned and rapid development requires that all industries of basic and strategic importance or in the nature of public utility services should be in the public sector. After consideration of all aspects of the problem in consultation with the Planning Commission, the Government of India have decided to classify industries into three categories. The first category will be the future development of which will be the exclusive responsibility of the State. The second category will consist of industries which will be progressively State owned and which the State will therefore generally take initiative in establishing new undertakings but in which private enterprise will also be expected to supplement the effort of the State. The third category will include all the remaining industries and their future development will, in general, be left to the initiatives and enterprise of the private sector."

So, we have to see this. Have we in term of what was envisaged by the founding fathers of the nation, as envisaged by Jawahar Lal Nehru and also as spelt out in the Industrial Policy Resolution, achieved those objectives and followed those policies mentioned in the Industrial Policy Resolution? And in those industries, the State ownership has to be there and commanding height has to be established as ordained at that moment. What are those industries? I will read the Schedule. 'A' They are :

Arms and ammunition, Atomic energy, iron and steel, heavy electricals and plant, coal and lignite, mineral oils, mining and processing of copper, minerals specified in the schedule of atomic energy, aircraft, air transport, railway transport, ship building, telephone, generation and distribution of electricity. I am proud to say that our Party and our leaders on each and every count have established the commanding height of the public sector in all these fields which were envisaged and we have established the concept and ideal of socialism. It was not in words but it is in concrete terms today in our country. It was the genius of Jawahar Lal Nehru who combined modernity with our ancient culture which gave socialism in our Indian context, who did not sacrifice development to dogma, who was aware of the various stratified structure of our society and economic conflicts and interests. Yet, he had the audacity to synthesise this into a mass movement. For him, the nation was supreme and that is true even for our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. And the emphasis on public sector was made and it was valid then and it is valid today even.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Diluting it.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Let me come and I will answer each and every point that was raised. Precisely that is why, I have taken that first. We had started from the colonial economy where we were doing it in spite of crisis that might have come. The pattern of colonial economy is that the colonised country shall be the regular and permanent suppliers of raw materials. Even if they have manufactured, it should be in the consumer items. Heavy industries were regularly discouraged and we could not expect the private sector to give a push to an economy which was stagnant and where poverty was a reality and, therefore, it had to come from the State and that is why the

public sector came. Otherwise also, considering the dimension of investment and the rich factors, private capital was shy to come in to these areas of critical importance to our economy. The public sector is the engine of our growth. If we evaluate our public sector, it should not be by the audit book. The audit of the public sector is not the cash balances. It is the balance to the economy it is the viability to the economy and not its monetary viability, that is to be seen. Had this public sector not been what it has been the private sector today should rest on the shoulders of the public sector. Its benefits flow. It gave benefits right from the start. When contracts of civil construction start, supplies made, and when the public sector produces the profits, even then the private sector takes benefit out of it and many times, prices are subsidised in the public sector and that is also the benefit of the private sector. Today the private sector has no face to come and criticise the public sector. But now we have to see what role we have to play. We have established the commanding heights of the public sector. If you put your hand on a switch in the morning, the public sector is there is there. Open your tap for water, the public sector is there. Open your newspaper, the news print is brought by the public sector. If you want a cup of tea or gas there is the public sector. Telephones and the banks are in the public sector. If you want to travel, it is public sector. You go on scooter to a petrol pump, that is a public sector. Public sector is in every part of our life and it has become integrated to our existence. That is the commanding heights we have established and we proudly say that in spite of your criticism that you made, we established it. It is not in hypothetical terms. We will continue to do so. There are no uncertain terms on that.

The share in the general gross domestic product of the public sector in 1960-61 was 11%. In 1983-84, it went up to 23%.

The share in total investment of the public sector in 1950-51 was only 27%. In 1983-84, the share of the public sector in total investments of the country went up to 46.2%.

In mining and quarries, power, gas, water supply, banking and insurance, the role of this public sector is more than 90%.

It employs more than 16 million people.

Having achieved all this, now we have to see what are the strategies for the future. We have not only to increase it in size or in area where 'B' List is concerned that is also an objective ordained by the industry, but we have to make it stronger also.

Yesterday Mr. Dinesh Singh made this point that the public sector has to make a positive contribution to resources and not a negative one and the flow of investible resources are expected from the public sector now.

Rs. 35,000 crores are being invested and it is not a wrong thing to try to attempt to do it. It is not that they are put in the cold and are asked to do it. We are all in it. We are all responsible to see that it does come up and we have to contribute to it. Even in this year's Rs. 18,500 crores Central Budget, Rs. 11,747 crores is envisaged in the Budget from taxation and other resources and Rs. 6,753 crores out of Rs. 18,500 crores is expected as internal resources generation of the public sector. The Seventh Plan very much rests on the performance in the public sector. We cannot afford to neglect it; even if we wish, it cannot be. It just banks on it because on taxation we are reaching the limit, approaching 20 or 19 per cent of our GNP. On borrowings we are reaching the limit—internal borrowings and not external borrowings for the information of Shri Indrajit Gupta who was worried about this

yesterday; I will come to that point later. On borrowings, we are approaching the limit. We cannot go on increasing deficits. There are only two ways to fund our Seventh Plan: the internal resources of public sector and the growth of the economy itself, of the GNP itself, which will broaden the sources of our resources. There are only two routes open to us. Otherwise, we get into a debt. Certainly we have the resource constraint. We will have to make some changes in the management; maybe, we have to give more autonomy as well as accountability to the public sector. That is a question of detail; that calls for a different debate, how to deal with it and improve our public sector. But with our resource constraint, we have to look for completions where we start getting the result of our investments, consolidation, using of existing capacities, because public sector investments are highly capital-intensive. Non-utilisation of capacity is bound to lead to loss; net loss is inevitable if capacities are not used. So, we have to get more out of the same rather than more of the same when we have got resource constraint. If we increase the plant load factor by a few percentages, it is equal to a new plant where crores of rupees will have to be invested. Just by improving the management, using existing potential, we can do. This will be our technique to get more out of the same rather than more of the same—when there is resource constraint. It is not because any one wants, but because there is a physical limitation. And why it is so, I will come to that later.

Today the public sector is facing supply constraints as well as demand constraints. In many of the basic inputs of the public sector, be it power or coal or sometimes transport itself, we are facing one problem, and it is for us to solve it. On the demand side, there is a main constraint; we have to split it into three parts. One, where the output of the public sector is consumed by the private sector itself; the market of

the public sector is in the private sector where consumption is there of all these items. The other is capital goods whose demands originate from private sector, but it is quite sensitive to the overall investment in the economy. Those demands grow if there are overall investments ; and if the overall investments diminish, the demands do not grow and hit our public sector. The third category of products of the public sector are those which are consumed by the other public sector units. Here there is need for coordination. Shri Indrajit Gupta yesterday mentioned about wagon factories. If the Railways' demand for wagons goes down, the wagon industry gets affected. In all the three you will find that inter-relationship is necessary to ensure that the whole economy is stimulated, is active, alive and healthy—to sustain the public sector. Because sickness in one area is bound to affect the health of the other. This is the internal relationship we have come to. This is what the Budget and the economic policies are attempting to do, and it should not be misinterpreted in any other sense except in this sense that we see it and pursue this. I have mentioned what are the compulsions about further investments or the constraints. I want to share with you. Mr. Peruman yesterday mentioned that non-Plan expenditure should be cut down. I think this could be one answer. I think every one, it is non-plan, would say 'Yes, Yes, cut it down.' But I am mentioning some of the items of the non-plan expenditure. Defence should we cut it down ? ...

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Interest which we have constructed and instalments we have to pay. Could we cut it down ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Subsidies on fertilisers and food,

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Not at all.

AN HON. MEMBER : It should be increased.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Hon. Members you have made the very budget which I have made. I get your stamp. This is how we process in arithmetic. 64% of the non-plan expenditure you cannot touch. In the balance, there also there are commitments to social welfare activities of the States and other factors where you think you can cut down and finally it will come to 4 or 5 per cent. That is not going to solve your resource problem which you have in thousands of crores. Now what actually happens ? When we debate such issues, what is happening is that on the non-plan side your constraints do not get reflected. When you debate the budget and the plan, debate on development—why that has not been increased, why that has not happened and so on, it is because the non-plan has not been cut. We are seeing through the window while we have to see through the roof. For instance, with pressure on our borders—thanks to some big countries—anyway, I need not mention it. What happens ? Resource commitment at least has never been aggressive. But at least for our defence, for our own protection, resource does get committed and this is a reality. Some people had estimated that one tank cost can build 75 hospitals of 100 beds each. One modern bomber can give us 1000 class-rooms to teach 30,000 boys and a modern nuclear submarine which we do not have still cost can give 4 lakhs houses which can house 20 lakhs people. What happens ? The development you are asking for—the tubewell, the roads, the hospitals, the schools, everything gets converted into gun powder. There are only two options before the country—not only our country but before many countries. Curtail development. What is the consequence ? There is political discontent expressed, as you see, in

agitations leading and helping destabilising forces. Alternatively, when you are faced with a resource crunch, you go and take loan. What has happened to South American countries? You walk into a debt trap. And it is to the credit of Shrimati Indira Gandhi that in spite of this, she led this country to victory and also to economic independence and could face the difficulties also. Now, coming to the private sector and where it should be placed and what role it should play if there is a role. But certainly its role cannot be the Government's one. It has been our persistent policy that in the private sector the concentration of wealth is something which we have been against always and this is so even today. But we have to trace the history of our public sector, as of private sector, and only then we can come to remedies and responses. When after independence we were in shortage of foreign exchange, in order to conserve our foreign exchange, we had to have a protectionist policy. Import substitution became the banner of industrialisation and development; it was the correct path and there was a demand saying 'Let there be growth of industrialisation' and that is how we have reached here. And today, by the same instruments of licensing and protection, those units in the private sector which are not economically viable are still financially viable because of our system. Though they have no productivity, yet, they have high profits—high profits for which they are not justified to attract investments in those areas. It is this economic injustice that we have to confront them with—that no longer you will be babies which the Government will be carrying! You will have to stand on your feet. And if you have some grouses you will have to take those grouses. And that is precisely what we have behind the thinking of the process we have put forth. In this process, while I do not say that we cannot dismantle physical control, for the monopoly houses we will have to keep it; for FERA companies we will have to keep it. For certain imports we will have to keep it. But it

is time that we move from discretionary controls to non-discretionary controls. It leads to lot of corruption. I have a right to say yes or no. On licensing quota if I say you will get institutional finance or no, if I say you can get foreign exchange or no, at various levels, discretionary element comes in. But if we can fix up priorities of financing, of foreign exchange availability, that these are national priorities, there are what is for the common people, not for luxurious consumption and institutional finance will flow according to patterns of national priority, then we have developed a much more sophisticated instrument of controlling our economy. Now we have established ourselves in public sector. And I think when the age of remote control has come by the sophisticated methods of credit policy, of interest policy, I think these are the instruments now we should adopt. And slowly wherever the areas are possible discretionary control should give way to non-discretionary control. This is another thing. It is in this sense that things were said about sickness. Of course there can be objective conditions of sickness also; textiles or power shortage are some areas where there are objective conditions about them. But where there is sickness out of siphoning of money—and there are many cases—there is no reason why the same person takes institutional finance, siphons off the money, goes to another licence and come to institutional finance and they give him the money. So, that was the sense. Of course, if there is power failure and the unit has not got it, it is not to be applied blindly or mechanically. So these considerations will be there. But where there is syphoning off money, those units will be answerable and a management which has been responsible for syphoning off money should not be made accessible to institutional finance. I have seen in the newspapers that Mr. Modi has very strongly reacted to it, Mr. Birla has also very strongly reacted to these budget proposals. But I must very firmly say that we cannot squander our resources. We cannot go in an *ad hoc* manner as

whoever may come and put it anywhere, we will fix priorities and the exercise is on. Madhu Dandavate mentioned about one preliminary point which is about propriety of making an announcement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : After Rusi Modi, you have come to....

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Now, I have come to a very relevant point. Besides you, Shri Indrajit Gupta has spoken and jointly for both of you I can answer. One point has been made about the philosophy, about the budget and the economic policy pronouncements and its stance. Prof. Madhu Dandavate specifically used the words 'it is pro-affluent and it is not social.'

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Greatest good for the smallest number.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Now, the scheme for the social security is for the smallest number and is it anti-social? The crop insurance scheme is for the smallest number and is it anti-social? Now, to get the workers' dues *pari passu*—to secure that first—is for the very few and is it anti-social? Increasing the bonus calculations from the limit of Rs. 750 to Rs. 1600 is for the few and the rich and is it anti-social?

Now, coming with a policy of stock options where it will be possible when the Government is de-investing, the shares to offer to the workers and the employees, it is for the few and is it anti-social? Increasing the retrenchment allowance from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000 is for the few and is it anti-social? For protecting labour wages to the industrial labour, it was raised from Rs. 1.3 to Rs. 1.65 and it is for the few and is it anti-social? All this come from the resour-

ces provided in the budget. How can we say that it does not form part of it? Food subsidies of Rs. 1100 crores is precisely—this is an element of the budget—for the few and is it anti-social? Now, 35% hike which we have given to the States against 30% which will go for agriculture, education, irrigation and poverty programme is for the few and is it anti-social? The excise duty removal for agricultural equipment is also for the few and the fertiliser subsidy of Rs. 18 crores which we have provided is also for the few and is it anti-social?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Bashir-hut) : I wish you mention about Reagan.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I will come to Reagan. There is only one difference for us. These are socialist measures for us; these are concrete measures. It is not the abstract socialism of yours, but it is the concrete socialism of ours.

(Interruptions)

Because we are going to set up special courts to try the tax evaders, we are pro-affluent!

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In order that you should be able to try them before special courts, probably you want that tax evaders should be created. That seems to be the priority. That is what is going to be the result of this.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am going to raise no taxes Dandavateji, if what you are saying is that there would be no further revenues to come.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Smugglers also will have to be tried.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am coming to that. We

have provided this year that if anybody takes a loan or a deposit more than Rs. 10,000 and if it is not by cheque and if the person commits this offence twice, he can be punished with six or seventh months imprisonment.

Regarding the total realisation from the corporate sector, we are raising Rs. 251 crores this very year from the corporate sector. This is envisaged in the budget. And you are saying that we have given away everything to the corporate sector. Just by raising one per cent of the statutory limit as a law, by which the banks have to deposit a certain amount with the Reserve Bank, Rs. 100 crores which would be available to the private sector has come to the Reserve Bank. We raised it just by one per cent. This is where there is competition between public sector and private sector. It is in the distribution of resources. It is not in other areas and both go together in other areas. If you see the availability of institutional finance, what is with Government and our foreign exchange and what comes out from abroad—it is here we have to strike a balance and a judgement can be made as to which side we are taking. There is this clamour between the two. That is how we have to ensure and this might have become too subtle, but that is different.

It is being paraded and trumpeted that Government has opened its treasury to the private sector and that there is a loot and that we have given them a bonanza gift. But, out of the direct taxation of Rs. 4000 crores it is only Rs. 116 crores. That is all. And it is being trumpeted like this. You can work out the percentage.

Another point is made that rates have come down and therefore the socialist path has been given up. As regards rates, we have come down from 97 per cent to 62 per cent. When we came down up till 35 per cent, we were not considered capitalistic. We were still socialists.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You are never socialists. We never said that.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : All right. Now you change your stand.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We never alleged that you are socialists. We have made such an allegation.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

14.59 hrs.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I will corner you on that also. Anyway, they have got a pocket thermometer for socialism. As soon as the tax rate came from 97 to 62 per cent, they applied their thermometer and seeing the temperature they said that it was still socialism. But when it came down from 62 per cent to 50 per cent, the temperature in the thermometer shows that it is capitalism.

The debate is not about the tax structures. The fundamental issue is about ownership of property and it is a much bigger debate than this tinkering with tax rates hither and thither. I have not trumpeted it as such.

15.00 hrs.

This is the essence of debate. Let us discuss areas where the debate lies, and not where the debate does not lie.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY (Adilabad) The most important is the direction. In what direction are you going.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Yesterday, Mr Madhav Reddy raised this point of direction. He made the thesis that we have raised the liquidity with the private sector, without giving a direction. He said that the private sector would go into consumer products and push up the prices. That was

his basic theory. Yesterday, I had announced certain things here itself, for the power and Communication sectors. We are giving those things where this channelization and direction can take place. We are thinking on the same terms. That is a valid point not that we are not aware of it.

About smugglers, one lady Member had spoken. She will be happy to know that in the first four months, Rs. 20 crores worth of gold has been seized, whereas in the whole of last year, Rs. 10 crores worth has been seized. So, that is our step-up on smuggling.

Similarly about contraband : Rs. 60 crores worth has been seized, as against about Rs. 60 crores worth for the whole of last year. What could be achieved during the whole year, we have achieved in the first few months. That is the step-up we have been able to achieve here.

Now comes the question of prices. That was what was reflected in the speeches of the hon. Ministers from this side, as well as from that side. I am not aside of it. I am part of you as far as prices are concerned. I think we should calmly and collectively face it. But I would like to say one thing about diagnosing the disease. Suppose there is fever. It should be diagnosed correctly. Fever is there, but instead of typhoid, if you diagnose it as malaria, you will give Quinine, and the patient will die.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : It is an enteric fever

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : So, you have to find out what are the various factors. I do not say that the Budget does not have an impact. To my perception, there are 4 or 5 elements which have gone in. One is the seasonal factor; the second is the Budget. The Budget has two elements :

the tax, and the deficit. At this moment deficit cannot i.e. within five weeks, play that sort of a thing. So, what is the element of tax that has gone into prices ?

Then about our administered prices. There also, how much has been the cost-push from the administered prices of things like steel or railway freight ?

Then there is the factor of shortfall in production also as in sugar. This year, sugar is 22% down, Budget or no Budget. The shortage constraint on production will have a pressure on prices.

The fifth is profiteering—sheer—profiteering, out of psychological reasons, using a situation, and using the Budget as a facade. So, all these five elements are there.

Coming to the first factor, viz. seasonal one, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the graph which I have submitted before them. Perhaps they have got it. If you look as it . . .

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : I wish you had given figures for 1977-78 and 1978-79 also there.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I think it is not going to be very different, Prof. Dandavate. That is why I included one year, viz. 1979-80—just to include one Janata year also. But that is a general factor. You can see it over the years. You can see things for seven years, if you look at this graph. This is the wholesale price figure. Let me make my point. This is the graph for movement of wholesale prices for seven years. You will see that from March to August, during all the seven years, the wholesale prices have gone up, and that has been the trend in the previous year also ; and it is only after August that prices start falling. So, every time it is the budget which increases the prices, that is the general impression, which is not correct.

Perhaps if we change the year to September, the Finance Minister will be the happiest man, because this is inevitable, seasonality that is super-imposed on the perception of the budget. But I don't say that the budget will not have any impact. Here it is not a question of defending a Ministry or a party but it is a thing which I want to share with you ; and let us see how we can get over it.

Some of the things have come to our notice—the prices of vegetables, milk products, soap and gur have gone up. For gur, even last year, there was a rise during this period between March-August—60.9 per cent ; in the previous year, it was 37.1; then it was 33.1. I will not take time in this data because the Private Members' time is coming.

Now, the analysis that has been done is, the impact of the budget that has come to our notice is that due to the effect of taxes there has been 2.4 per cent rise between 16th March and 20th April of the price index. The effect of taxes is .53 out of 2.4 which includes petroleum products, soft drinks, cigarette cement and vanaspati; I mean this is the range where taxation has been made. There are not other things much. The effect of increase on administered prices is .56. So, the total impact of administered prices as well as on taxes out of 2.4 is 1.10 and other reason, that is seasonality plus profiteering is 1.30; so, it is less than half; and I think here there has been a fall of prices also; some prices have fallen of wheat and pulses, etc. But these are details. Let us go to the wholesale prices index. It only shows that there are other factors than the budget for the fall of prices and here I must say, what are the options; the option is of cutting expenditure—which side, plan, non-plan, about non plan, you have seen it. Then borrow more money, more taxes ; more taxes, more prices. Here I am already criticised.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Produce more. ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : That is what the budget is. Another point was made that in two months, there is a rise of 2.4 multiplied by 12. It is not true. If you see the figures given in this graph, you will find that whereas in 1983-84 in the first six months, the rise was 7.3, but in the whole year, it was only 5.2. So, it was not multiplied because the first impact gets absorbed. Once prices have been adjusted, the prices become low. So, what can now this adjustment affect is the deficit ; that can have an impact over the year and that is what we have to manage and see that it is in control. With the debate, I have been strengthened in the sense that I feel that it is the general consensus of the House to take very strong measures.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDVATE : It is a prospective applause.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : May be, but there will be some unpleasant measures also, but if prices have to be controlled we have to take them. We have the strength of the House to take those measures. I may be coming with those steps. Because, the people are more important than any proposal and people is the essence of all the proposals and for their sake I think we should be flexible enough to accommodate what is necessary.

Now, a point was made about overdrafts, and also of the Eighth Finance Commission. In the Sixth Plan the States budgetary resources—all right ; I will not pick on States, too much of picking on is going on, that everybody knows what is what. In totality the States budgetary resources and contribution of States enterprises was estimated to be Rs. 26,033 crores for the Sixth Plan, originally, and the performance of the States was, against Rs. 26,000 Rs. 17,966 crores, there was a decrease of Rs 8,067 crores. While

there was an increase of borrowings by Rs. 1.60 crores, central assistance, what was envisaged was increased by Rs. 204 crores, overdraft from RBI—that has become a resource to the States—of Rs. 6,128. This was the position.

Now, when this ban on overdraft came, in one day—I monitored—the overdraft went up by Rs. 30 crores, next day it went up by Rs. 40 crores in one day. This financial situation had to be saved. That is why this ban come, to stabilise at Rs. 1,850 crores. So, this had to be brought down, we are not happy about it. Not only here. It is the country, in the sense that if the States develop the country is being developed. But there is a certain system of monitoring. I do not want to go into the Eighth Finance Commission and other things. But I may tell you that under the system that is existing, the Eighth Finance Commission would not have given more in 1985-86 than what was given in 1984-85. The figures which went from the Centre during 1984-85 were given.

Now, one thing has to be done very frankly. The items for which the money is allocated in the States, that will have to be monitored. Diversion cannot be allowed. If it is 'Plan' spending on 'Non-Plan' will not be possible and that is our discipline. That will have to be there. When I say 'discipline' I want to discipline myself also. I want discipline on myself also.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : No objection.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Now I have strengthened my hands on that.

One point was made about the debt—Shri Indrjit Gupta has gone away that there is too much of borrowing of external debts. Shri Ram Singh Yadav made a point that we did not accept further instalments of IMF, that was the

strength of our economy, that as our external debt servicing has definitely a relation on our export earnings and also invisibly—it is ranging from 12 to 13 per cent, which means that India's credibility is very high. There is no problem on that, as also the domestic and external borrowings; as a percentage of total Central Government expenditure has been in 1970-71 about seven per cent; in 1985-86 it is 4.5 per cent. So that is being very well managed on this count.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Are you sure that those figures are correct? I think in 1970-71 the total expenditure was of the order of 3 per cent and in 1985-86 the proportion of borrowing is 10 per cent.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : This is what I have been given. Anyway, I will check up. Even if it was 3 per cent and now it is 4 per cent, the point is well made. We have improved upon the situation and that the country has managed it.

Did you say 10 per cent or 3 per cent?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : 10 per cent.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : That is not my figure.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There was an increase from 3 per cent to ten per cent.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I do not think it is 10%.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : This is not what I have spent, this is what you have spent.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I will check this. But it is in the order of 4%, 4.5% or 5%.

I just want to touch upon the trade policy and then conclude. Much was said that it is a very liberalised trade policy and that this will lead to debt crisis and that there will be an outflow of foreign exchange. But if you look towards the import structure policy, free or restricted, 65 per cent of your import is beyond your policy. The bulk of your imports are: petroleum, edible oil, cement—you are exporting non-ferrous metals. These are under Government decisions to import. These are not policy decisions. So 65% goes out of the policy parameters. And if you add to this aid, which you need for projects, it is 35 per cent of the capital goods and raw materials, if you judge at least more than half, for which credit will be necessary. So, whole of your policy debate on liberalisation is on 10 per cent of the imports. On this 10 per cent you say whether we have made it liberal or made it restrictive. Yes, this 10 per cent should not grow like cancer. Have an eye on it and this should be contained.

If you look at the trade gap, this will point towards growth. But the trade gap has to be taken in the strength of the economy. If we take trade gap as percentage of GNP it has gone down. In 1981-82, the trade gap was 5 per cent of our GNP and in 1983-84 it was 3 per cent of the GNP. So, this is not that we have an unmanageable trade gap.

Some issues about the developing countries were made here. Here I must raise my voice and say that we should be proud that as NAM leader, our late Prime Minister and our present Prime Minister have taken initiatives. It is true the picture is not a very happy one. Concessional borrowing flows are drying up; pressure is building up to go in for commercial borrowings, which is a high cost money. And then there are high rates of interest. We must remember that one per cent rise of interest rate causes a burden on the developing countries on \$3 billion.

These high interest rates are having crushing impact.

Then in the very fields in which we have comparative edge, we face protectionist barriers against all international trading rules of the GATT. Those who are the contracting parties at the GATT and those who are big countries, do not follow it. In textiles we have an edge, but we come across textile protectionism. It is not that we only pay. In the US it has been calculated that to protect their textile industry from the developing countries, the US Government has to spend \$ one against 7 cents as a cost to its workers. It is 14:1 ratio. In Canada the ratio is 70:1. They also are paying, but are not dismantling, the protectionist barriers. This is what we took up in Washington and it had been said in the Press that I came back as a sad man. I think what India stood for was there. The second round of the GATT negotiations was on the cards. There was high pressure that services and everything should be taken in the round of negotiations. It was India which reserved this position first; that became the rallying point of the developing country that they reserved this position and the developed countries had to change their draft to concede to the developing countries that first they will be rolled back on protectionism, that on the work programme, after the Tokyo round, of dismantling protectionist barriers on textiles, agriculture etc. substantial progress will be there. Only then this could lay the foundation for a second round. Consider, everybody was expecting that in Washington after the Development Committee meeting there will be announcement that the second round is going on, but it was India's stand, I am happy to say and report and I am proud of the Indian team also to have taken this stand by which the developing countries could consolidate and it was because they could get this change and get the developing countries incorporated in the document and in this forum the developing countries have a voting strength of 96.2

per cent because that is according to the shares in the world money that they have taken and all the developing countries together have a voting strength of 3.8 per cent only. In that forum we could stress our point and it was at India's initiative that we could get it and bring it to them.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Before you conclude at 2.20, I would say that I had raised a very important question of propriety.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am coming to it. It will be very improper for me if I don't.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : At least there should be no impropriety.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I will answer both things, of Reaganomics and impropriety. (*Interruptions*). Dandavateji, you know it well that any change in indirect taxes can be done and is done regularly outside the House ; it does not come here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : By an executive order.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : So, when that power is already with the Government, is it not greater propriety that I have come to the House and told you and took you into confidence ? And you are charging me with impropriety'. I could have done that without announcing it here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Right on 1952 up to 1985, tell me a single budget in which prior to the consideration of the Finance Bill the Finance Minister made any additional levy at the stage of the reply of the discussion.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Dandavateji, history alone is not the sole test of propriety.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Geography also.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : And geography, yes, because for what I can do outside the House without reference to the House, my mistake is that I have come and told the House. Indirect tax, I can do any time, it is not needed to be passed in the Budget. And about the excise duty on cigarettes, I came and told you, and that is my mistake.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Are you satisfied, Sir ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Let us go to substantial issues.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : The only last substantial issue, I think....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You have given goodbye to conventions and traditions.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Dandavateji, I will end with that.

You have raised the very basic issue of the dignity of man and that issue should be subordinated to machine and that is the statement and that precisely the dignity of man should be maintained, it should not be sold in the market place, that the dignity of man should be maintained and should not be crushed under authoritarian system, that this 'commoditisation' of human and mankind, to make it an object either of power or money should not be there. This is precisely our socialism and that to what we have been fighting for, and this is the dignity of man on which our policies will be maintained.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1985-86, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

CLAUSE 2

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mool Chand Daga not present. The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adapted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 3- (Amendment of Section 2)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 5, line 47, after "inserted", insert

"and shall be deemed to have been inserted" (2)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

Page 5, line 47, after "inserted" insert

"and shall be deemed to have been inserted". (2)

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 3, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

CLAUSES 4 AND 5

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clauses 4 and 5 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 6 —(Amendment of Sections 17)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 6, line 40 for "item", substitute "paragraph" (3)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

Page 6, line 40 for "item", substitute "paragraph" (3)

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

CLAUSE 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 7—(Insertion of new Section 33 A B)

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh) : In view of the Government's amendment which is to the same effect as that of my amendment, I am not moving my amendment No. 1.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 7, for lines 4, 5 and 6,
substitute.

“33AB. (1) Where an assessee carrying on business of growing and manufacturing tea in India has, during the previous year, deposited with the National Bank any”. (4)

Page 7, line 8, for “it”, substitute “the assessee” (5)

Page 7, line 14, for “it profits”, substitute “the profits of such business” (6)

Page 7, line 30, for “its business”, substitute “the business referred to in sub-section (1)” (7)

Page 7, line 35, for “its” business”, substitute “such business” (8)

Page 7, line 40, for “its business”, substitute “the business referred to in sub-section (1)” (9)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

Page 7, for lines 4, 5 and 6 substitute—

“33AB. (1) Where an assessee carrying on business of growing and manufacturing tea in India has, during the previous year, deposited with the National Bank any” (4)

Page 7, line 8, for “it”, substitute “the assessee” (5)

Page 7, line 14, for “its profits”, substitute “the profits of such business” (6)

Page 7, line 30, for “its business”, substitute “the business

referred to in sub-section (1)” (7)

Page 7, line 35, for “its business” substitute “such business” (8)

Page 7, line 40, for “its business”, substitute “the business referred to in sub-section (1)” (9)

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That Clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill

CLAUSES 8 AND 9

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“Clauses 8 and 9 stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 8 and 9 were added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 10—(Amendment of Section 36)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 8, line 47 after “applies”, insert “no such deduction shall be allowed unless” (10)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

Page 8, line 47, after “applies”, insert “no such deduction

shall be allowed unless"
(10)

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 11

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 12—(Amendment of Section 40 A)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

Page 9, lines 2 and 3, omit "clause (c) of" (11)

Page 9, line 10, for "shall be allowed" substitute "shall be allowed in excess of the ten thousand rupees for any assessment year" (12)

Page 9, line 13, after "services" insert "(not being services by way of preparation of return of income)" (13)

Page 9, line 16, for "court; or" substitute "court;" (14)

Page 9, for line 19, substitute—
"under this Act; and

(c) for any advice in connection with tax, penalty interest or any other matter under this Act." (15)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

Page 9, lines 2 and 3, omit "clause (c) of" (11)

Page 9, line 10, for "shall be allowed", substitute "shall be allowed in excess of ten thousand rupees for any assessment year" (12)

Page 9, line 13, after "services", insert "(not being services by way of preparation of return of income)" (13)

Page 9, line 16, for "court; or" substitute "court;" (14)

Page 9, for line 19, substitute—
"under this Act; and

(c) for any advice in connection with tax, penalty, "interest or any other matter under this Act." (15)

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.

CLAUSES 13 TO 18

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That Clauses 13 to 18 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 13 to 18 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we will take up private Members Business.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Let the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have no objection.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : The third reading will be on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : There will be loss of time and it has to go to Rajya Sabha also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever the Members say, I am ready to accept,

(Interruptions)

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Suspend the rules and pass it.

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Shillong) : It is the power of the Chair, to vary the proceedings of the House. Even if the private Members Bill comes five minutes later, it does not matter. Heavens are not going to fall. We are also private Members. Not only the opposition.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will just tell you. We can extend the time.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Do not create very bad precedents. It is a very bad precedent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something. Let us hear him.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : I am making a very earnest appeal to the Opposition Members. It was the decision of the Business Advisory Committee that the Finance Bill will be passed on 10th May, 1985. We have always cooperated with each other. All of us have done everything with complete cooperation. If you want that the Private Members' business be taken up right now, I have no objection; that can be done. But in that case after 6 O' Clock, we have to take up the Finance Bill and finish it today.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: The Private Members' business should have been taken up at 3.30. Five minutes have already passed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : There is Half-an-Hour Discussion to be taken up at 6 00 p. m. That will go upto 6.30 p.m. We can clear the entire business on Monday, if necessary by sitting late, by sitting after 6 P.M. on Monday.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : We must carry out the decision of the Business Advisory Committee. It has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee that the Finance Bill will be passed on or 10th May. On every topic, we have been with you. You should also Cooperate.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It has been decided in the Business Advisory Committee that the Bill will be passed today.

As some hon. Members are saying, we must not encroach on the Private Members' time. I accept that. We shall take up the Private Members' business now. But after 6.30 p.m., the Finance Bill has to be taken up and finished.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : On Monday we can do it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No; we have already decided. That is why I had requested the Members to be brief. But Members took their own time. What can I do now ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : The Heavens will not fall if it is taken up and finished on Monday.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are now two alternatives open. One is, if the House agrees, we finish the Finance Bill and then take up the Private Members' business for two and a half hours; and thereafter the Half-an-Hour Discussion. This is one alternative. The second alternative is this. If the Members press that the Private Members' business should be taken up now, we shall take up the Private Member's business, then the Half-an-Hour Discussion; and thereafter we take up the Finance Bill and finish it. Now you can take a decision on this.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Sabarkantha) : Private Members' time has always been considered as sacrosanct. That has always been observed. I do think if you make an exception . . . (Interruptions) Let them quote a precedent.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : Many times it was done.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Never.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the Members are willing, I will accept.

Now we are going to take up the Private Members' Bills. After 6.30, after the half-an-hour discussion, we will again take up the Finance Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT
BILL*

(Amendment of article 130)

[English]

PROF P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

PROF P. J. KURIEN : I introduce the Bill.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
(ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMA-
NENT BENCH AT SILIGURI)
BILL

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Permanent Bench of the High Court Calcutta at Siliguri.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The ques-
tion is :

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill to provide for the
establishment of a Permanent
Bench of the High Court at
Calcutta at Siliguri."

The motion was adopted

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : I introduce
the Bill.

[English]

STATE OF GOA, DAMAN AND
DIU BILL*

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO
(Mormugao) : This is an epoch-making
Bill to grant Statehood to Goa. I beg to
move for leave to introduce a Bill to
provide for the establishment of the State
of Goa, Daman and Diu and for matters
connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The ques-
tion is :

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill to provide for the
establishment of the State of
Goa, Daman and Diu and for
matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

**

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : I
introduce the Bill.

CONTRACT LABOUR (REGUL-
ATION AND ABOLITION) AMEND-
MENT BILL*

(Amendment of section 1, etc.)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA
(Bankura) : I beg to move for leave to
introduce a Bill to amend the Contract
Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act,
1970.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The ques-
tion is :

"That leave be granted to intro-
duce a Bill to amend the Contract
Labour (Regulation and
Abolition) Act, 1970."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I intro-
duce the Bill

RESERVATION OF POSTS IN
GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND
SEATS IN EDUCATIONAL INSTI-
TUTIONS (FOR ECONOMICALLY
WEAKER SECTION OF PEOPLE)
BILL*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA
(Salempur) : I beg to move for leave to
introduce a Bill to provide for reservation
of posts in Government services and
seats in educational institutions for
persons belonging to economically
weaker section of people.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The ques-
tion is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation of posts in Government services and seats in educational institutions for persons belonging to economically weaker section of people."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Insertion of new part IXA)

[English]

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM (Visakhapatnam) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Insertion of New Article 47A)

[English]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar) : I beg to move for leave to

introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : I introduce the Bill.

MINIMUM WAGES (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of Section 2 etc.)

[English]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI AJOY BISWAS : I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL*

(Amendment of article 244, etc.)

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) :

I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : I introduce the Bill.

FAMILY WELFARE BILL*

[English]

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to promote planned parenthood and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to promote planned parenthood and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : I introduce the Bill.

While introducing the Bill, I have also to bring to the notice of the House that Clauses 8, 9 and 10 of the Bill, which were to be printed in thick type, have not been so printed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will take care of it.

15.48 hrs.

WORKING WOMEN WELFARE
BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami on 26 April, 1985 namely :

“That the Bill to provide for the welfare of women employed in various industries and establishments, be taken into consideration.”

Shri Manoj Pandey to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY (Bettiah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had raised some points regarding condition of the women working as agricultural labour in the rural areas and had put forward some suggestions also.

First of all, I would like to tell the hon. Labour Minister that many women are working as a skilled labour in brick kilns. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you might also be aware of it. These women belong to rural areas and are considered to be skilled labour. Banking of maximum bricks in the shortest time is skilled work and some women of Orissa and of the Santhal Pargana in Bihar are considered to be very skilled in this work and these women have made a great contribution in brick kiln work and especially in Bihar these women are in great demand in brick kilns.

As you know there is a great demand for bricks in the country, but it is a

matter of regret that the women working in the brick kilns are not getting even the minimum wages. They are being subjected to great exploitation. I personally know that even now the women working in brick kilns are being paid a daily wage of Rs. 3 to 3.50. Such a large-scale exploitation in our society is not confined to Bihar only. In other neighbouring States also, where these women go for work in brick kilns, even the minimum wages are not being paid to them. Although the number of women working in the brick kilns can be assessed only through a survey, yet according to my estimate, half of the population of the villages, particularly of Chhota Nagpur, which consists of women, work in these brick kilns. They have only one skill, i.e., banking bricks. I would request the hon. Labour Minister through you that schemes should be formulated to secure minimum wages for these women. For this purpose he should hold discussions with the State Governments and he should convene a meeting of the Labour Ministers in particular to know whether minimum wages are being paid to these women or not.

Secondly, attention should be paid towards those women also who work in agro-industries. In Bihar, the State to which I belong, agro-industries have not been developed in a planned manner, but where agro-industries are developed and where women are working, only those women should be given employment who are connected with that sector. For instance, women engaged in the cultivation of maize should be given preference in employment in the maize based industries, e.g., maize-oil factories, so that the women working in the maize fields may be able to get an opportunity to work in the industry based on maize. In this way, we may be able to solve the problems of the agricultural labourers particularly of women to a great extent.

Besides, I would like to draw your attention towards widows. We want

to help the widows in a planned way. Bills to this effect have also been brought forward. We have programmes in this regard also. But it has been observed that widows are not getting security pension properly. We do claim so but they are not getting the pension. I have seen in Bihar particularly that when the date of disbursement of security pension falls due, the widows are not intimated in advance and as a result the security pension drawn in their name is disbursed to other persons. Such irregularities often take place. So I would like to make submission through you that the programmes relating to widows should be implemented properly.

I have dealt with only agricultural labour in my speech and pleaded that they should get an opportunity to work in the organised sector. At present they are working in the unorganised sector and as such the benefit of the schemes is not reaching them. So the first step should be to organise this sector so that the facilities being enjoyed by women in the industrial sector are made available to the workers in this unorganised sector. I would like to submit some more points to the hon. Labour Minister. I went to give a suggestion pertaining to maternity and child health and welfare. Facilities should be provided in our Primary Health Centres. There is no scheme for maternity leave to the working women. It is not sufficient to say that we are thinking of something for the unorganised sector. The women workers, who are agricultural workers, should be registered in the Primary Health Centres. They should be provided with the same facilities as are being provided to the women in the industrial sector. For instance, their children should be covered under the immunisation programme so that they are vaccinated at the proper time. This will enable that section of society, whose children do not get an opportunity to advance in life, to make arrangement for the education of their children. I think

by doing so we shall be fulfilling a commitment. In the end, I would like to make a submission. We must invariably ensure the implementation of minimum wage scheme in regard to women working in any field. For this purpose we should call a meeting of the State Governments and take an initiative in the matter. The wages given to the women workers should not in any way be less than the wages given to male workers because our society consists of men and women and both are complementary to each other.

[English]

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : First of all, let me congratulate Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami for bringing in the Working Women Welfare Bill. It is really a thoughtful one, but I have some reservations on certain points. I will come to them later.

I would like to say that a majority of the Women in our country are the greatest sufferers. They suffer in the society they suffer in their families, and they suffer also at their work-site. Though equal wages for equal work legislation is there, in most of the places, except in the Government sector, we find that they are not paid equally. Employers find some clue or lacuna somewhere, and as a result women are deprived. I must also say that in most cases women are not so organized so; they are not able to fight and they are deprived.

16 hrs.

I wish that this Bill was more comprehensive. Though it is a very good Bill. First of all, I said that it was a very thoughtful Bill. So, I congratulated her. At the same time, I would say that the Bill should be expanded in some other areas also. I find that nothing is said in page two under clause (2) regarding agricultural workers, construction workers and brick workers. As you know

a large number of women work in the construction sector. The previous speaker has already spoken about the brick kilns and I am not going into it again. Another point I would like to say is regarding the PWD contractors. PWD contractors are engaged by PWD, i.e. by Government. But whenever you approach the Government, Government will say that they are not their workers. And this happens in most of the States.

Another point I would like to make is about clause 3 in page 2 of the Bill. I hope my hon. friend will excuse me if I say that I disagree with her when she says that women employees shall not be required to contribute anything to the fund. But I feel that they must contribute, whatever may be the amount, even just one per cent must be contributed, so that there is respect for them. It may be very little, but they must contribute. The employers and others may contribute and women also should contribute, though it may be very little.

Now I come to page 3, sub-clause (XV) in which the hon. member suggests that hostel facilities for women employees, both married and unmarried, nearest to the place of work should be provided. Here, I would like to point out that according to the norms of the hostel facilities nowadays existing in the country for our women, it may be difficult for all the women employees to live in hostels with their husbands and children. So, the nomenclature should be changed so as to enable the women to stay in the hostels along with their families.

In clause 5, a point is made regarding representation of women employees in trade unions formed for the purposes of working classes. Here I am myself in a dilemma. If the trade union is managed by men, there is no hope for women. I am sorry to say this. I am not a trade union worker. But I have studied the issue. Because of the status of women

in India, we have seen that our women workers do not get any facilities and they hardly come up to the higher positions in trade union movement except for a few who can fight and achieve the standard. So, I must say that this clause should be changed. Otherwise women will not get any benefit out of it or they may get only a very little benefit from it. So, it must be changed in some other fashion. You kindly see page 3 and para 5 of the Bill. I do not know what is the position according to the law. But what I would like to say is that it should be extended to the State Governments and the public undertakings in the State Governments; it should be mentioned specifically. It is not very clear; I am sorry to say that it is not even clear to me.

Then you kindly again see page 3, para 15 of the Bill—*avahas*. There is a different nomenclature: you have to change that nomenclature because *avaha*, whatever may be, some of them are very good trained *avahas*, but they are not respected as trained workers. I think that word should be changed. The women are the most sufferers; they suffer in all fields particularly in working places. I just want to tell you about their sufferings. I was in one of the undertakings of the Government of India. There one woman officer was working. She was very well educated, very well placed, but she was alone. She told me that she had to leave a house because of the torture of her landlord. That is the attitude of men towards women in most of the cases. I don't say in all cases. She had to leave that house because of the torture of her landlord, she is living with one of her relations now. In this connection, we can find out the conditions of women in all respects. I do not want to go into them because we have discussed about women's affairs and we have mentioned about the present conditions of women. So, I would like to see this Bill a comprehensive one, it could be more comprehensive; and I would request, through you, to the Government to think over and

bring forward a more comprehensive Bill. I also want that the Government should give an assurance to the House that they will bring forward a more comprehensive Bill, because what I feel as a worker is that this type of Bill should come from the Government; it should not be a Private (Members) Bill; it should be a Government Bill. I would request my colleague to withdraw this Bill and give a chance to the Government to bring forward a comprehensive Bill.

There are a lot of things to be told about the sufferings of women, but due to shortage of time I only want to point out what are the lacunae and what points should be included in the overall Bill which must come from the Government. There are many points which are not included here.

But I feel that in this Bill some provision has to be made for women who after going through the operation or treatment of the Family Planning have to be looked after. Some provision has to be made here for their welfare, because it is absolutely necessary. We need family planning in our country, we also should see that our women get some more facilities after the treatment. So, that is my point and I again say that I must thank Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami for thinking about the working women's welfare and bringing up this Bill. I also request the Government to come before us with a more comprehensive Bill for the welfare of the working women, including the agricultural women workers, usually they do not work in groups, though sometimes they working in groups also. I understand that it becomes difficult for an organisation to eye-centre it or for the administrators to execute some scheme for them. You have to think over and do it. We can all decide and do. After all, agricultural women workers are producing food for us. We cannot forget. They are the main people who are producing the food for us. We may not be able to do much for them, but at the same time we

should not forget them. Whenever there is some facility to be given to them, we should give them. We cannot forget the agricultural women who are the real base of our country and who are feeding all of us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri A. Shanmugam.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI A. C. SHANMUGAM (Vellore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on the Working Women Welfare Bill, 1985 that has been introduced by hon. lady Member, Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami. The hon. lady Member who preceded me stated that the Government should come forward with a comprehensive Bill of this kind for the welfare of working women in the country. I am also of the same view that the Government should take the earliest opportunity for bringing forward a Bill of this nature incorporating some more provisions in the light of discussions taking place in this House.

At the very outset, I would like to point out not as an allegation but as a suggestion—that the State Government of West Bengal should implement a law of this nature and since the State is ruled by the Marxist Party which is committed to the upliftment of downtrodden and the have nots, a law of this kind if implemented by the Government of West Bengal will gather greater momentum in other parts of the country. I would like to know from the Mover of this Bill whether this is being done in the State of West Bengal from where she has been elected.

According to 1981 Census, for every 100 men there are 93 women; in other words about 50% of the population of the country is women. For the first time, in the Sixth Five Year Plan, the

“Women and Development” Chapter was included to highlight the need for attending to the problems of women in our country. This Chapter dealt with Education, Employment and Health of the women of our country. Our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajive Gandhi, has recently announced that girls’ education upto higher secondary level will be free. I take this opportunity to demand that this should be implemented from the next academic year itself. In Tamil Nadu the girls’ education upto higher secondary level has been made free long ago. In fact, Tamil Nadu occupies a pre-eminent place in the matter of girls’ education. I will refer later in my speech to the advances made by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the beloved leader Dr. M.G.R.

By the end of March 1984 in the organised sector there were 30.55 lakh women employees. So far as public sector is concerned, the increase in the employment of women has been of the order of 4.5%; unfortunately in the private sector it has declined by 0.5%. I do not know the reasons. I demand that the Government should ensure that employment opportunities for women in private sector do not go down; in fact, the ladies should have more opportunities in the private sector.

By the end of 1984 in all the employment exchanges of the country 40.02 lakhs of women had registered themselves for employment. Of course, there are special counters and also there are women Officers to assist the women registrants. But the women candidates are facing untold hardships in getting jobs. I would request the hon. Minister of Labour that he should bestow his personal attention in redressing the genuine grievances of women registrants and he must extend all assistance in procuring jobs for them.

Sir, there are about 1000 hostels in the country for the working women.

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

But this is negligible, when you see that lakhs of women are employed in public undertakings and in local bodies like Municipalities, Corporations etc. More hostels should be constructed. I suggest that an autonomous authority should be constituted specially for the purpose of constructing and maintaining hostels for working women. More hostels for women should be constructed on war footing. The voluntary organisations engaged in constructing and running such hostels for working women are getting grants from the Government. I suggest that the grants should be enhanced for them so that they are induced and enthused to go in for large scale construction of hostels.

If a male does not get employment with the prescribed age limit, he can somehow eke out his livelihood. But it is not so easy for women. I demand that there should be no age ceiling for women in regard to employment. I want the hon. Minister of Labour to get this age ceiling for women removed at the earliest.

I find from the Annual Report of the Ministry that there are about 5000 creches for the children of working women. As I told you earlier, when there are 31 lakhs of women employees in the organised sector, this is a measly effort. We should have more number of creches.

In order to enhance the standard of living of women, we have got the scheme of Science and Technology, under which 40 projects are being implemented throughout the country. They are mainly to minimise the drudgery of daily chores of women in our country by introducing scientific techniques. This scheme should be expanded further for the good of women in our country.

The hon. lady member who preceded me referred to the plight of agricultural women workers in the unorganised sector. The mover of this Bill has not

made any provision for them in her Bill. She says that there are so many imponderables in doing that. Even after 38 years of independence, if this is the approach to the problem of women agricultural workers, who number about 11 crores, then all I can say is that eternally injustice will be perpetrated on the women workers in the unorganised sector. The efforts of All India Women's Conference, the Central Social Welfare Board and the State Social Welfare Boards have been tardy, in fact I should say dismal, in this matter. If we do not make an earnest endeavour to look into the problems of 11 crores of agricultural women workers living in 5.6 lakhs of villages, then we are committing a crime against humanity. I will draw the attention of this august House to the fact that the minimum wages were fixed some thirty years ago and the Minimum Wages Act has not yet been amended so far. Do you think that the wage of Rs. 11 or Rs. 10 per day will be enough for a worker to meet the daily needs in the unhappy environment of soaring prices of essential commodities? I demand that the worker's daily wage should be enhanced to Rs. 25 per day and the Minimum Wages Act should be amended suitably.

Sir, it is a common sight in the rural areas to see the infants of women agricultural workers sleeping in cloth-hangings from trees in the hot sun and in the pouring rain. Poisonous insects and crawling snakes are their companions when these infants are on the ground, while their mothers are working in the fields. I wish that the Minister of Labour tries to see the appalling conditions of living of our women workers in rural areas. I demand that the creches of the sort you have in urban areas should be opened in rural areas.

There is no equal pay for equal work. The women workers are discriminated against. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 is not being implemented effectively. If a male worker gets Rs. 10 as daily wage, then the women worker gets

Rs. 7 ; if it is Rs. 15 for male, then it is Rs. 10; for female worker. The provisions of Equal Remuneration Act should be implemented effectively.

The plight of women construction workers in towns and cities is no different. Behind the superstructures of 20 stories or 30 stories, you will agree with me if I say there is the blood and sweat of women construction workers. Their children are sleeping near the gutters; they live in hovels and pavements. They are all semi-clothed, if not almost naked. It is really a stigma on our society that we allow the inhuman conditions of living of these people in the midst of plenty and extravagance. Food, cloth and shelter are the primary needs of working women. The Central and the State Governments should ensure that the working women are provided with these basic requirements.

Here I would like to bring to the notice of the House that if there is one State Government in the country which has dedicated itself to the upliftment of hapless women workers, it is the Government of Tamil Nadu headed by our Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M. G. R. I am proud to say here that the status of women in Tamil Nadu is really a matter for other States to emulate. The woman agricultural worker no longer worries about her children when she goes for work. Their children are given nutritious noon meals. For the children in the age group of 3 to 5, we have in Tamil Nadu children's homes; they may be called Rural L.K.G. From 8 AM to 5 PM these children are looked after carefully. The women workers's burden of anxiety about their children has been removed by our Chief Minister who has made all these arrangements. He has also ensured that the destitute women and the women deserted by their husbands and the widows are given priority in employment. They are all being rehabilitated in happy environment. They are given respectable and decent livelihood. There is old-age grant of Rs. 35 per month, rice and a sari every year for old

and disabled woman. The State Government arranges for this. Some 1,76,000 widows have been given jobs in the nutritious meals centres. These jobs are exclusively reserved for them. He has got the relevant Act amended for reserving 15% jobs for women in Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, Municipalities and Corporations in the State of Tamil Nadu. Unfortunately, a stay has been obtained in the Court and presently this is not being implemented by the State Government.

In Kodaikanal the Government of Tamil Nadu have opened the first ever exclusive Women's University. It was inaugurated by Mother Teresa and our Chief Minister presided over the function. This has been done for ensuring scientific and technological progress of women in the State. I want that such exclusive Women's Universities should be opened in all other States also. I have no hesitation in openly declaring here that the moral, spiritual and social force behind the Government of Tamil Nadu is the progress of women that has been achieved in the State. Our Chief Minister has dedicated his life for the progress of women in the State. When he fell sick recently, lakhs and lakhs of women in Tamil Nadu rushed to the Temples in the State and offered prayer for his speedy recovery. Many of them did not hesitate to offer their lives so that the life of the Chief Minister could be spared. For them, our Chief Minister is the walking God on earth, their elder brother and their beacon light. Our Chief Minister has been repeatedly stressing that the provisions of Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act are being made applicable to women only. He is convinced that the men are equally guilty and they should also be booked for indulging in this anti-human activity. I hope that the hon. Minister will look into this also and amend the act accordingly.

I suggest that the Working Women's Welfare Fund should be substituted by

Agricultural Working Women's Welfare Fund. With such necessary modifications in the legislation, I demand that the Government on their own should bring before this House a Bill, a comprehensive Bill, for the welfare of working women both in the organised and unorganised sectors in the country.

With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : (Pali) Mr, Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Articles of the constitution categorically vest all powers in you. There are some short comings in this Bill. I welcome the spirit behind it and would like to give some suggestions.

[English]

Now, article 14 of the Constitution says :

"The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India."

Article 15 says :

"(1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex place of birth or any of them."

Article 16 says :

"(1) There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State.

(2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State."

Article 23 (I) says :

"Traffic in human beings and *begar* and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law."

Now, there are Directive principles of State Policy under the Constitution. Now, article 39 says :

"The State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing—

(a) that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood ;

(b) that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good.

(c) that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment ;

(d) that there is equal pay for equal work for both men and women ;

(e) that the health and strength of workers, men and women, and the tender age of children are not abused and that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their age or strength ; ..."

Article 42 says :

"The State shall make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief."

Article 44 says :

“The State shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India.”

Article 325 says that no person is to be ineligible for inclusion in, or to claim to be included in a special, electoral roll on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex.

[Translation]

There are other Articles also in the Constitution which I can quote. Equal rights have been given to the women and there should be no discrimination.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Roberstgang) : It has of course been provided, but what has actually been done ?

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : If you read the Bill, you will come to know

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : What treatment is meted out to woman.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Some women are very strong. I was saying that there was no penal clause in the Bill.

16.29 hrs.

[**SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM** in the Chair]

Mr. Chairman, Sir please let me know who would be punished ? I would request the hon. Minister to bring forward a Bill to safeguard to interest of women. In the Bill it has been suggested that Committees should be constituted for this purpose but the entire amount would be wasted on these Committees. There is suggestion for constituting Advisory Committees also. At lot of hard work

has been done in drafting the Bill which would be appreciated and her reputation would also be enhanced among the women. The Bill provides :

[English]

“The Central Government shall constitute for each area, where industries and establishments are situated, Advisory Committees in respect of the area at the city level, district level and an apex body at State level”.

How many Advisory Committees ? One at the city level, the other is at district level and the third is at State level.

They do not have any statutory backing.

[Translation]

If such committees are constituted, then the entire amount will be spent on them. I do not know what benefits will accrue by constituting these committees.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Look at the content, not the form.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : It must be effective.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Let the Government give the assurance . . .

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : You can go to your house and tell your wife that certain Bill has been passed. She will put certain questions to you and you will have to answer !

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I shall take your help to explain to my wife !

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Kindly hear and try to understand.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I
understand.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please continue.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I am
making my speech. You must kindly
protect me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am requesting
you not to detract from your speech.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : There
are the district level committees and the
apex body. So, there are three advisory
committees. For what purpose? What
will they do?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please get
along. You seem to be willing to discuss.
Get along.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : I
have just quoted Clause 3 and Articles
of the Constitution.

[Translation]

What will be the term of these Advisory Committees, who will be their Members and what will be the qualifications of the Members? These things have not been specified in the Bill. The Bill also does not prescribe the procedure that will be adopted for their working. The intention of the Member is not clear from the Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOS-
WACEMI (Nabadwip) : You please see
Article 2.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : "To
ensure the right to work for the women
employees in any industry or establish-
ment."

[Translation]

There is no provision in the Bill
about the authority to whom cases of
violation will be referred. Only the day
before yesterday, the Supreme Court
delivered a judgement.

[English]

"It is proved. But there is
nothing before me. Under what
rule, under what law, I can
punish for that offence."

[Translation]

The Bill is not clear about the autho-
rity which would take action in case
there is breach of law.

[English]

Will the Labour Inspector look into
it? or will the Labour Commissioner
look into it? Who will do this? . . .

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY
(Kurnool) : May I clear this doubt?
Rights are conferred on citizens. A citi-
zen has a right to approach the High
Court under article 226 for a writ of
Mandamus against those persons who are
violating it. There is always the citizen's
right under article 226. The High
Courts are enforcing them. There is no
difficulty. There is no clause which
makes that punishable in criminal court.
It is not necessary to have a penal clause
in every statute.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : But
there should be a machinery. Where the
complaint can be lodged against the
employer. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : You go through the Bill carefully; then you will know.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : This Bill will involve an expenditure of Rs 5 crores and further non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 5 lakhs. When already more powers have been provided in the Constitution in the various Article that I have read out for in the Bill, then what are sought, what is the need for bringing forward this Bill ?

I would request the hon. Minister to bring a comprehensive legislation which may be more useful. When there is already a law for dealing with cases of social exploitation of women then what is the need of bringing forwards a separate legislation ? Already when there are laws for ensuring better facilities to women, why should this duplication be there ? I would like the hon. Member to withdraw this Bill.

I would like the hon. Minister to bring forward a comprehensive legislation to provide more facilities to women. Now who will make arrangement for uniforms for the women workers ? You have asked Government to give 10 per cent amount to the employees. How much amount Government would like to provide ?

This is not clear from the memorandum attached to the Bill. I think you have presented this Bill in a great hurry. I do not think that this Bill will serve any purpose. More powers have been provided in the Constitution than what have been sought for in the Bill. Our Labour Minister should bring forward a comprehensive Bill based on them. Then after passing the Bill, a machinery should be set up to implement the Bill equitably. Only then women can be benefited and not otherwise.

An hon. Member has stated that under Article 226, one can go to the

High Court. The Bill should designate the Court for the purpose and there should be power to take the matter to the designated court. It should be made clear who will hear the case, who will file the case, how much punishment will be awarded, and how they will get compensation. In my opinion the Bill will not serve any useful, purpose.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. lady Member deserves our congratulations for bringing forward this Bill for the working women. The most important thing is that our Finance Minister had emphasised a few days back that they were taking the country on the path of socialism and he did not care if the Opposition criticised them. This Bill clearly express him. If you cannot bring equality between men and women, then your assertion of socialism will be nothing but hypocrisy, What is the condition of women workers both in the organised as well as the unorganised sector ? What is happening in BCCL today ? A circular has been issued by the company wherein they have been asked to get voluntary retirement because they cannot work in the collieries. Instead, they have been given a choice to get their husband, son or any other relative employed in their place. This process is still going on. Now what will happen to a widow working there if she has no family, and is forced to seek voluntarily retirement ? If they cannot work inside the collieries, they should be given some job outside the mines. You should think about this. Voluntary retirement of women workers as a result of the BCCL circular should be stopped. This matter comes under the Central Government. What is the condition of the women who work in the unorganised sector. Just not an hon. Member draw the attention of the House towards the miserable condition of the women workers of brick-kilns. A large number of women are working in those kilns and they should be paid the minimum wages. There are no checks for their children also. The result is that while they remain busy in bricks-

kilns, their children get drowned in the Ganga or killed in some road accident. Creches should be arranged for their children. You say that it is a welfare Government. If it is so, then creches should be set up either by Government or by the Company at all such places where the number of women workers in the brick-kilns is between 500 to 1000.

As I come from a rural area, I shall talk about that area. It is a matter of shame that the women who work in the fields are not paid wages equal to those the male workers. You have enacted a law but that is not being enforced. Even now there is difference between the wages of the men and women workers. There is no one to take care of those women's children. They shut their children in their houses and they simply crawl there. This disparity should be removed. To those who claim that they are marching on the path of socialism, I would cite the above instance to show that they are indulging in hypocrisy as they have not been able to improve the women's lot.

The women who work in factories and big mills are also not getting proper wages. Once I went to Calcutta. There were many workers from Bihar with whom I had talk. They told me that during the rule of the previous Congress Government, they were treated worse than a dog. With the Left Front coming into power, they had this much respect that at least they were being treated as regular workers whether they worked in a Cement godown or any other godown. The women who work privately do not get proper wages. If they ask for proper wages, they are shunted out, when they or their children start starving, they agree to do work on those wages. The senior officers of the Labour Ministry and the Labour Minister should consider this matter and take steps to improve the condition of the working women which is going from bad to worse. You must make efforts in

this respect. Our hon. Members have rightly said.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted is over. Shall we extend it by one hour with the consent of the House ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : You may extend the time for it. But what about the next Bill ? For the next Bill you may please leave at least 5 minutes or so.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next Bill will certainly be reached. There need not be any doubt.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : A Bill should be introduced by Government to protect the interests of these workers. With these words I conclude.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I thank my sister Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami for drawing the attention of the country through this Bill towards the welfare of women. The objective of the Bill, otherwise is limited. It is true that we belong to a country where it has been said.

“Yatra Naaryastu Pujyante Tatra Ramante Devta.”

We live in an India of which we are proud but unfortunately during the last two or three hundred years the situation has changed. If we go into the figures, we find that women are nowhere. It is true that when the constitution was framed, a d Shri Daga has' also referred to those Articles, many

provisions were included in it which related to the welfare of women. I would like to submit that welfare of women cannot be ensured by merely providing for equal opportunity in the Constitution and law. Equal opportunity is meaningless unless there is equality in the means required to attain it. 50 per cent of the population of the country consists of women. The country can march forward only when both men and women are given equal opportunities. It is not sufficient to provide certain facilities rather we shall have to consider this aspect afresh. It is a fact that the new Prime Minister and this Government had done a commendable job. They have added the term 'Women' with the Ministry of Social Welfare. This clearly indicates that Government intend to do something for women. There is no doubt that during the last 37 to 38 years, some work has been done but that cannot be called adequate, whether that work relates to adult education, working women or opening hostels for them or for the upliftment of women belonging to the backward communities Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. No work done for them can be termed as adequate.

We celebrated 1975 as the International Women's Year and that programme lasted 10 years. During those 10 years it looked as if only in India but in the world, something would be done for women. As I have said about 50 per cent of our population consists of women and we should be thankful to our founding fathers that they included many rights for women in the Constitution. They thought of giving equal rights to women in the country and made provision to that effect but there is also the other aspect relating to implementation. We must implement those programmes with good intentions so that women may come at par with men. Only then can we achieve our aims.

As I said, after 1975, the International Women's Year was celebrated

for 10 years but what should have been done for the upliftment of women has not been done. Of course India has contributed its mite according to its resources and it is a matter of happiness that, as has been said here just now, India has contributed \$ 20,000 (U.S.) to the International Women's Welfare Fund. But this amount of \$ 20,000 (U.S.) is not sufficient. But of course, we are paying our attention towards this aspect.

The need of the hour is to create equal educational opportunities for women. There are certain professions like teaching in which we can absorb more women. They can be good clerks and telephone operators. How this thinking does not hold good that women cannot work efficiently. Many women now a days have joined administrative services, I.P.S. etc, and have proved successful in every field..(Interruptions).. not only Ministers, they have become Prime Minister also and the whole world is proud of them. So far no personality like the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi has emerged on the horizon of the world. If we turn the pages of the Puranas, the Shastras and study Indian culture, we shall find that our Shastras and Puranas are replete with stories of the valour and glory of women. It is said that our ancestors used to eat pure ghee and now we cannot have ghee even to smell. But while basking in the glory of the past we cannot forget the realities of today. There is a serious problem before us in relation to women. We often hear reports about atrocities on women. During the last 5 to 7 years we have enacted many laws for them but even then their problems have not been solved. Therefore, the need of the hour is to accord proper status to women in the society. It should not be only in the shape of wages but as Shri Daga was saying, we should adopt the policy of equal wages for equal work. The hon. Labour Minister is sitting here. It would have been better if our Social Welfare Minister

had also been here and heard the different views. We have to take comprehensive steps for the welfare of women. This is just a part of it. You have enacted many laws but even after 37 to 38 years of independence they have not got their requisite place. That is what I feel. You say women are exploited in the private sector but in the public sector also justice is not meted out to them. Moreover, in all other Government works like plantation in the Forest Department, wages for women have been fixed less than that of male workers whereas both have to do the same type of work. In many fields women can do work in a better way than men and people want to employ them also but they are given lesser wages. Now the time has come that we should make it clear to the Private Sector at the time of giving industrial licence that they will have to reserve a certain percentage of the posts for women. They can do certain jobs in a better way. They can do secretarial work; they can prove good clerks. Now a days women have entered the field of engineering etc. and they are proving successful in every field. Therefore, the Labour Minister should make a provision to the effect that whenever an industrial licence is given, it should be given only on the condition that a certain percentage will have to be reserved for women in that industry. In the Public Sector and the Government Departments, their rights should of course be protected but in the Private Sector industries also a condition to this effect should be imposed that they will have to employ as much of percentage of women as are getting education. My esteemed sister, while introducing the Bill today has rightly said that wherever women are employed, they are exploited. Separate toilet. Canteens, Common rooms and other necessary facilities should be provided to them. These facilities are not provided to them. The Indian women can do work very efficiently but these big capitalists and big industrial Houses of the country do not employ them.

Therefore, it is necessary that Government should enact such laws as may provide more jobs opportunities to them. If we want a balanced development of the country, we shall have to give equal share of work to women. When both the wheels are equally strong, only then the country can be strong. Otherwise, the vehicle will be stranded. For this, women will have to be provided with more and more work. Only then the country can march forward on the path of progress.

The hon. lady Member, Shrimati Phulreme Guha, has correctly said that today in our country there are crores of women agricultural workers and their plight is miserable. We talk of child workers. This topic was discussed here also but I want to raise the matter of the girls who are employed for domestic chores. They are provided with neither education facility nor any other facility and they are leading a very hard life. They are engaged in the work of banking bricks only. They remain busy throughout the day in making bricks oblivious of the outside world. When the work of banking bricks comes to an end in July, they start working in the farms again. Brick kiln owners do not keep clearcut accounts. When the women workers leave, they are involved in false theft cases. Sometimes, the balance is shown against some of the workers on the pretext that she had taken loan and had not repaid it. In this way the brick kiln owners do not make the full payment due to them and pocket that money themselves. A law is proposed to be enacted in this regard. I would like to submit that while enacting such a law a provision should be made for female labour so that the brick kiln owners are compelled to provide residential accommodation to women employed in the kilns, to make full payment of wages due to them and not to involve them in false theft cases. If it is done, it will be a good thing because these owners never think of their

welfare. They are always after making money.

Sir, as you are aware, besides doing their work, the female labour have to look after their children also. There small babies need nutritious food. I would like to ask whether public schools are meant for children of affluent persons only? Better education facilities should be provided to the children of common man. Only then can there be equality. You say that there must be equality. But I would like to say that equality will have no meaning unless everybody gets an opportunity to come at par with others. The need of the hour is that we should do work for the upliftment of women because they are not only women but teachers of children also, who are the builders of the future. The children will take after their mothers. It is, therefore, essential that women should be educated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, at present there is a lot of corruption in Maternity and Child Care Centres functioning in the country. State Government employees and some anti-social elements misappropriate the entire funds.

So, merely talking about employment will not serve the purpose; monitoring arrangements should also be made at the place of work. Now, there is a separate Ministry for Welfare of Women. It would have been better if the Minister for Welfare of Women had been present here. Sir, labour is a very potent force which has not only made our economy sound, but has built the nation by braving sun, rain and other inconveniences. They work day and night and only then they get money. The hands of our Labour Minister are very strong. I would like to submit that a monitoring cell should be set up for all the schemes relating to welfare of women.

Women do household chores also. What type of life are they leading in

Delhi? You can see it for yourself. They reside in the space adjacent to the staircase in M.P.s.' flats. Who is there to see all these things? Even after Independence, women clean utensils and do other household chores. There is great necessity to ensure that women are not exploited at any level. A large number of women from Orissa and Madhya Pradesh are working in Delhi. They belong to respectable families, but nobody is prepared to treat them as such. Is it not our duty to pay attention towards this matter even after Independence? We shall have to ensure proper wages and other facilities for women working in the houses or at shops. If some woman is working as a domestic servant, she should be provided with residential accommodation. Does it look nice that she should sleep on the footpath or in the space adjacent to the staircase? I humbly submit. If we have to restore the glory of India, that it is a country where women were worshipped. Then women should be given a status in society and they should be paid equal wages for equal work.

I again thank Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami for introducing a Bill which provided us with an opportunity to express our views. I urge the hon. Minister to bring forward a comprehensive Bill and request Shrimati Goswami to withdraw this Bill.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN
(Barmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the working Women's Welfare Bill, 1985 introduced by Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami.

In our culture, women have been given a very high place. A Women's name is always prefixed to any name e. g. Sita Ram, Radhey Shyam. In 'Sita Ram' Sita and in 'Radhey Shyam', Radha have been accorded importance. In this way, in our religion and culture, women have been given a very high status. Despite this, women are being subjected to cons-

tant exploitation. The women, who are financially weak, have to do chores like cleaning utensils, grinding, etc, which are below their dignity or state, but they are compelled to do these jobs in order to earn their livelihood.

In our country, the Purdah' system is still there among 75 per cent of women. They still wear a veil. In our district about 90 per cent women wear a veil.

The custom of wearing veil and the Devdasi system are still in vogue in our country. Atrocities on account of dowry still take place. Women are subjected to severe injustice and atrocities and sometimes they lose their lives also.

Now, I come to the present Bill. This Bill has been brought forward to ensure the welfare of women working in factories and other institutions. In this Bill, about 16 special measures have been suggested for their welfare. In case they get all these facilities, it will serve a very good purpose and this will become a model Act. In the prevailing circumstances, if the objectives of the Bill are achieved it would be an indication of our progress and development. But within limited resources it is very difficult for us and for those who are running factories and institutions to provide all these facilities. If all these facilities are provided to them, then I think, it will be great justice to them. It would rather be an atonement for injustice meted out to them.

At the time of recruitment, efforts are made to ensure that no woman labour is recruited in these factories. If a woman is at all recruited, she is not paid wages equal to that paid to men. The reason given is that she cannot do as much work as man can do. It is, therefore, necessary to provide for equal wages for women. This situation is not prevailing in factories and institutions only. If a contractor employs a woman, he too does not pay her wages equal to those of men. She should get equal

wages for equal work. In the Famine Code also there is a provision that a woman should be paid less than what is paid to a man. We have seen that man is dishonest and does not put in full day's work, whereas a woman works with dedication. Still, for unknown reasons she gets less wages. In Rajasthan also, women are paid less than men. There should be equal wages for equal work. It is her right. It should not be violated anywhere. If in any Act there is a provision, which violates this principle, then that Act should be amended, so that they can get equal wages for equal work.

In addition, I would like to make the following points item-wise :

"To ensure steady and definite increase of the women employees in the total work force;"

It should be made mandatory for any factory, industry or establishment to employ 20 per cent or 25 per cent women employees. Only then they will be able to get their due place, and not otherwise, I, therefore, support this measure.

"to ensure, after suitable amendments, proper application of the existing labour laws for the benefit of the women employees;"

A provision to this effect should be made in the labour laws so that the women can get due benefit of their right.

"to ensure child care facilities for the women employees with minimum needs like milk, tiffin, clothes, toys and trained aya to look after the children;"

In big factories such facilities have not been provided. It is true that in certain factories of Birlas and Tatas, sports and crèche facilities and toys for children,

etc. do exist. Such facilities must be provided in our public undertakings. Implementation of such a provision should be ensured.

“to ensure mobile child care facilities for agricultural women employees;”

Such arrangements do not exist anywhere. The condition of women working in farms is appalling. The condition of landless women farmers is pitiable. They are employed for a period of 10 days after which they are thrown out. There is no certainty about their job. They should be given such facilities.

“to ensure retiring rooms with adequate facilities like bath-rooms, latrines, etc. at the work-site for the women employees;”

Such arrangements exist at very few establishments, out of so many industries, institutions and establishments. Such facilities should be provided everywhere. Women should definitely get this facility in this democratic age. Besides women, other workers should also get this facility. Every effort should be made to provide this facility. There are provisions to this effect in the labour laws, but these are not being implemented. Strict compliance with these provisions should be ensured.

“to ensure residential facilities for the women employees nearest to the place of work;”

At present they live in dilapidated jhompri. There should be proper arrangement for construction of houses for them. They should be provided with this facility by constructing suitable houses for them near place of work.

“to ensure recreation facilities for the kids of the women employees at the child care centres;”

There is provision for it in the labour laws. What is required is their implementation.

“to ensure proper and adequate security arrangements for the women employees at the work site, as well as, to and from their residential places;”

Their safety and security is at the mercy of God only. They have not even been provided with transport facilities to go from their residence to their place of work.

Whenever their situation has improved, they certainly have the facility of bicycle. As cycle is a cheap mode of transport, the workers have got this facility. For that also the workers should be given certain concessions such as loans at the minimum rate of interest. What I mean to say is that I welcome this Bill. When we are marching on the path of development and making progress in the field of science and technology, it becomes imperative on our part that labour loans be made stick and efforts made to ensure compliance with them and then implementation. We should do all that we can do for the welfare of the women. We should strive for their development, progress and upliftment.

With these words, I support the Working Women Welfare Bill, 1985 moved by Shrimati Bibha Gosh Goswami.

[English]

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria): I would not like to say that if enactment of laws could have been sufficient enough to wipe out injustices from the earth, then naturally this world would have been a heavenly abode. But I am sorry to point out that we are more concerned to catch the eye of the press and get popular support outside Parliament House on this issue.

We have spoken much about the women welfare. But the fact is not

that way. There is no disparity between a women worker and a male worker. If the nature has given that much of disparity, then the Government or any other agency could not help otherwise. If physically they are much weak and are unable to put in arduous or strenuous work which they are expected to do, how could a Government help it? Naturally we have to give them much more than what they are getting. Our tradition has been such that we have respected and adorned our womenfolk. Virtually they are the masters of the house. From this we can very well see how predominantly they govern our homes. It is they whose wishes are carried and males are tamed and they have no voice in their houses.

It is said here in the Bill that more social justice is required, more amenities should be given, more intensive care units should be established in case of their sickness, their children should be given facilities and all that. Nobody will deny them these facilities. But the difficulty is that 50 per cent of the demands made in the Bill are so impracticable that no Government howsoever benevolent it might be, could afford to give. In brick kiln industry they are employed for hardly two or three months on contractual basis and they get more than what their counterpart gets in Government service as casual labourer in a year. But the Bill demands that they should have houses, hospital and other facilities. How could it be possible when their actual stay is hardly for three months? So, this will not help them much.

I was the Labour Minister in Uttar Pradesh. I know that in Uttar Pradesh the labour problem is so acute that if the labour from Bihar does not come to harvest our crop, 50 per cent of it will remain in the field and get destroyed. The tragedy is only in respect of the educated youth who have no jobs to be offered. Here in Delhi or any other big city you will not find a working woman either as a cook or a maid ser-

vant in any price or pay which you would like to give. It is not that the women as a class are suffering most. It is those who are educated and who do not find a job who are suffering most. For the women labour folk you have such potentialities that if they want to do the work, I think no woman could remain unemployed. I think there will hardly be any person who will not favour the amenities asked for, but I am opposed to such kind of demands which are impracticable and which nobody, howsoever benevolent he might be, will be able to give. We have all the praise for our traditions and our women folk, but our traditions go a long way to see that women do not come out of their houses. Their education is very meagre. Even those who have got education, do not have the audacity to come in the open field. In many States of the country, except in Kerala and some other States, even now their education percentage is hardly 12 to 13 per cent and even out of those, 8 to 9 per cent are drop-outs. So, if we want to give them equality, which everybody will like to give, the question is what kind of jobs you could offer to them. At the most they could be a clerk or a telephone operator. They could not be sent to the army, they could not be offered arduous work, they could not be offered such types of work where more physical labour is involved. After all, what kind of work they could be entrusted to do? I think the Government is already doing its best. We should see to it that women are done any kind of injustice. The society is changing now and women are progressing at a fast rate. I do not think there is any kind of injustice from the male side or from the Government side. So, I think this kind of a legislation which is seeking more than what anybody or any Government could give, should be dropped and the Government should enact a legislation whereby some such kind of help should be given to women which is possible and which the Government could afford to give.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA (Motihari): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Bill moved by the hon. Member, Shrimati Bibha Ghosh Goswami. I was very much surprised to listen to such things from a revolutionary leader like Shri Raj Mangal Pandey who had been a Labour Minister in his State. I did not want to speak, but after listening to his speech, a sloka from 'Manu Smriti'—comes to my mind :

"Yatra naaryastm pujante
Ramante tatra devta."

and Prasadji has also said in his Kamyani :

"Nari tum kewal shraddha ho
Jiwan ke antasthal mein Piyush
srot si baha karo."

Merely saying so would not serve the purpose. You praise women, you appreciate them and you may write many articles in their praise or you may compose a lot of poetry to eulogise them, but what purpose would it serve? Today we see in modern India and in the modern world that women are working shoulder to shoulder with men. Even when our country was under subjugation, women made a great contribution in the freedom struggle, made sacrifices and undertook all sorts of difficult tasks. Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who is revered by everyone, is no more with us. There is no task which she did not accomplish. Did she not set an example for others? There is no task, which a man could do, and which she did not do. If we look at the example of Rani Lakshmi Bai or we go through our ancient history, the Ramayana and the Ram Charit Manas, though it might be called mythology, do we not find that when war broke out, Rani Kaikeyi went to war with king Dasharath? The brave Lakshmi Bai had also fought in the battlefield. What do all these things indicate? You say that the work

of the armed forces is difficult. Do the armed forces not have women in various branches? There are lady doctors, nurses and there are many items of work in which women make a significant contribution. I do not want that all the jobs should be given to the women, but there are certain items of work like primary education which can be reserved for women.

Jobs should be provided to them in big institutions and industrial workers. Women work in hospitals, small creches and in the Telephone Department and they are discharging their duties very efficiently. Women are in no way less efficient than men. I would, therefore, welcome the Bill which has been put forward here, as this Bill would provide protection to the interests of the women. Government should accept this Bill, because no body is subjected to so much exploitation as women are. The class most exploited is that of women.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been contesting elections since 1952 and I visit rural areas also. Now I have been elected to Lok Sabha, you can see how big this House is. There might be 500 Members in this House, but in this House only 30 or 35 women Members have been elected. Even then on Pandeyji talks about equality. You may see the composition of the Cabinets, whether these are State Cabinets or the Union Cabinet. How many lady Ministers are there? Their numbers is negligible.

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDEY :
For the elections of M.L.As. and M.Ps, 20 per cent tickets were allotted to women, but out of them only 7.5 per cent have been elected. Even then they are demanding fifty per cent seats.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :
In my view women are in no way deficient in intellect or merit than men. It might be politics or any other sphere of activity, but the women are in no way

lagging behind. Even then they do not get equal wages. Women actually shoulder double the responsibility. They discharge their office work and then attend to their domestic work. Men only work outside the house and do not attend to domestic work at all. I do say that women should not do their domestic work. In my view it in our culture and tradition that women should do the domestic work. Men simply work outside and relax at home and either their mother, sister or wife looks after their comfort.

I want that the women who stay at their homes and are only house wives, should be given unemployment allowance. It is my demand which should be accepted by Government.

I would like to say that this Bill is in the public interest and it should be passed. It would not put any financial burden on Government. It would effect only the factory owners. A provision of ten per cent has been made in this Bill. I would submit that it should be raised to 25 per cent and the industrialists and factory owners should bear this burden.

When I listened to the views of a revolutionary leader like Shri Raj Mangal Pandey, I had to speak on this Bill so that I could inform him about the plight of women.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salcm): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in so far as the basic objectives and reasons of the Working Women's Welfare Bill are concerned, I personally feel they may be welcome, but, however, I think it is necessary for all of us to realise that the women may be the fairer sex, but definitely they do not seem to be the weaker sex. Without going into the matter of

discrimination, the speech made just before me would definitely identify who would be the weaker sex.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: From your speech you seem to be the weaker sex

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I am not denying it. I admit it, professor. But the fact is without doubt that though women have after independence moved forward a lot and progressed and they have, in fact, moved in all fields, whether it be the professional or not and even if it is engineering or high technology or even when it is daily manual labour, they have moved forward and got more and more share in employment opportunities that are available.

In so far as politics is concerned, without any doubt the women of India specially have impressed the world that they could be greater statesmen, in a way definitely not lesser than any male anywhere in the world. After all, our great leader, Indira Gandhi, was a woman undoubtedly, and a very beautiful lady at that, and she did impress the world with her calibre and statesmanship. So, one cannot really say that women in India have not established beyond doubt, that they are no match to any man, let alone in India, but anywhere in the world.

So far as this welfare Bill goes, it is the one which talks of creation of a working women's welfare fund and carrying out the objectives of the Act. Why should it only be working women's welfare? Why can't it be workers' welfare? Let us treat both men and women as equals. After all, the working men themselves require a lot of support, a lot of facilities. When we talk of unemployment dole to the working women, why don't we talk equally about the working men also? Mr. Chairman, Sir, undoubtedly the working class in India do not have those facilities which the working class in the

advanced countries, in the developed countries, do have. It is a fact that the workers though often criticised for fighting for their rights only, really have not got their rights. So, when we talk of workers, we find that whether it is men or women, the facilities that are provided for them are not sufficient and undoubtedly there is a lot to be done for them. In fact, even the workers in the public sector, whether it be a woman or a man, do not have the facilities which we have promised in the Directive Principles of our Constitution. There, they have promised a living wage. They have said, 'We shall strive to achieve a living wage? Have we given a living wage? Why this is 'so? Is it not necessary for us to think not just only in terms of women, but think in terms of human beings? Let us not forget that workers are as much citizens and human beings of our country as any other section of people and it is the working class which is the backbone of any country. If the working class of any country—why working class, Mr. Chairman? I humbly submit, it includes not just the organised labour, not just the unorganised labour of industry, but it includes every man who works for his living and does not use capital and exploitation to earn his living, and that undoubtedly is the majority. (*Interruptions*). In this circumstance, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would submit that I would be extremely obliged personally, and I am since the House will welcome a Bill by the hon. Minister for Labour for welfare of workers in totality, bringing within its scope better facilities, giving them a living wage and giving them a chance of moving forward in life.

17.33 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

It is unfortunate that it is only in the lucrative private sector we find the workers getting a chance of talking of a little bit of living wage.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I humbly submit, and I request the Labour Minister to consider bringing to this House a Bill which talks of welfare in general. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many M.Ps have expressed their views on this Bill. Nothing new has been said about women, as we all are aware of the difficulties faced by them. Whatever progress we have made in this country, has contributed towards enhancing the prestige of women and we are continuously striving to enhance it. The condition in the villages is the same for all the people living there, because the people of our country are dependent mostly on agriculture. The people engaged in it are facing difficulties. In some other sectors. You will find that our women have made tremendous progress. They are respected very much in India. At many places a few problems arise. Some women have made a complaint that they are teased in industries and equal remuneration for equal work is also not being paid to them. A committee has also been set up for this purpose. Bidi workers are also facing some difficulties. The Central Government has imposed some cess as part of exercise duty in this industry so that some benefits could be provided to these workers. There are many industries in which only women are employed. You know that women work very hard. It is wrong to say that there is no respect for women in India. I have visited many other countries also. Many things are said in the politics of today. It is our first and foremost duty to respect women. You know that our country is called Bharat, Hindustan and Bharat Mata as well. Our Prime Minister has instituted a Shram Devi Award for women workers. In this way we are trying to move forward in various spheres of activities. It is not a fact that the number of

women in the total work force has gone down. I have got the figures with me. It is correct that they are not being provided with transport facility when they work during night. The women are unable to reach their homes. That is why we are asking the industries either to provide transport facilities to them or women should not be asked to work in night shifts. Some such arrangement should be made so that women might feel safe in their occupation, as they have to face many difficulties. So far a payment of less remuneration to them in certain industries is concerned, we are asking all the State Governments to set up advisory boards in their respective States to ensure equal remuneration for equal work and these board should also be delegated the power of prosecution. It is very difficult for me to say whether this directive is being implemented properly or not. As the Labour Minister's conference is scheduled to be held tomorrow, we would, therefore, discuss this subject in the conference.

Many other things have been said regarding women here. A demand has been made to provide facilities to them, but I think the question of wages is the most important question. Many Members have said that women are paid much less wage in our country, but so far as the Public Sector is concerned, I do not have any information regarding the injustice being done to them there because we have taken a decision regarding the public sector. They are facing difficulties only in the private sector as in the textiles mills, jute mills or in other factories. In such industries women are being paid much less wages than male workers. We have also received such complaints that some capitalists and industrialists force the children and the women to work more, but they are paid less wages and this is going on. We are making continuous effort, to check such things. Laws have been enacted in this regard. Through laws and other methods, we are trying to check this injustice being done to

them. I think that women should be put on light work such as telephone, electronics, shops and typing work and the women should be given reservation indirectly in such jobs in all the industries in the country. But as you know whenever the question of reservation comes up, we have to face many difficulties. It is a separate matter that the condition in the socialist countries is a bit different and the women there have many opportunities to rise in industries and I agree that they are much advanced in comparison to us, but our country is also not far behind. We are also advancing in that direction slowly. Even then you know that most of the women are traditional and conservative. Moreover, we want that they should not become so much forward as we see in the advertisements in newspapers in magazines and in films. Some capitalists in our country are engaged in exploiting the women. They take their photographs and publish them in the magazines, produce films and make a very meagre payment for their photographs. We are making all efforts to check such exploitation. We want to condemn such exploitation and would like to take action against them. The reason for this is that it has been the history of our country that for ages we have been providing protection to women you have read in the Ramayana also how a big war was fought for Sita. Similarly, a war was fought for Draupadi also. So far as women are concerned, Mahatma Gandhi and many other leaders have made efforts in this direction...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Did you read the Ramayana...

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Yes Sir, I have seen the Ramayana... (Interruptions)... Secondly, Ram Lila is played in our country. In our country, the people take inspiration from the Ramayana. To say that there are a few such people is true; they are seen everywhere. You take any country today, the evils

in society are there in every country. But the question is that we are paying attention to what our sister Bibha Ghosh has said. She is the Home Minister in her house. There are women who not only rule but also do not heed the biddings of their menfolk.

We are already giving consideration to bringing forward a separate legislation for women as sought for by her. There are many suggestions in this Bill, which it would be difficult to country with. In this connection, we propose to bring forward a comprehensive legislation and our intention is to bring a forward a separate Bill for women. But, this is not so simple. We shall discuss it with the Department of Labour and shall endeavour to bring forward a legislation for women independent of others. The Bill so drafted will have to be sent to the Department of Law for legal opinion and it will take some time. Therefore, I shall request my sister to withdraw her Bill.

***SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI (Nabadwip) :** Mr. Chairman Sir, at the very outset I wish to thank all the Hon Members who have participated in the discussion on my Bill. Some have supported this Bill and some have criticised or opposed it. Most of them have supported the sentiments and principles behind this Bill and on the whole it has become apparent from their speeches that the existing enactments in this respect are not adequate and do not fulfil the needs of welfare for the working women and that amendments in the existing enactment and also enactment of new legislation to give the contemplated welfare benefits to the working women are necessary. Shri Shantaram Naik has spoken about comprehensive legislation in this respect and the Hon. Labour Minister has also spoken about the same. Shri Harish Rawat and Shri Naik has said that in certain industries and establishments only women workers should be employed.

The 'objects' of the Bill are not at conflict or with this view. Atleast I don't think so. Shri Naik has also said that in the matter of forming trade unions by women workers some leniency or relaxation in the existing rules and laws is necessary. I support that view but in the present Bill no provision regarding forming of trade unions or trade union rights of women workers has been made. Mr. Naik has said that the Advisory Committee must compulsorily be composed of women. Here I do not agree with him. Because I think that half of society as a whole the member consists of women who are inseparable from the society as such. We want welfare for the women as a part of that society. There in the man are not only not untouchables but they are co-workers and co-sympathisers. This point of mine will be clear from the speeches of most of the male members who spoke on this Bill. Since the Labour Minister has given a categorical assurance that he will bring forth a comprehensive Bill in this respect, I am not going in detailed discussion of various clauses of this Bill separately. Shri Daga raised a question about penal provisions. If the employer does not supply the required information then what action will be taken against them? I think that when licenses are issued for any industrial establishment at that time itself they are made liable to furnish any such information required by the Government. The employers are obliged to furnish all such information. Therefore, I think that the penalty requirements of this Bill will be covered under that. Shri Harish Rawat has said that at present there are 350 hostels for working women. This is not at all adequate. Many more are needed. I fully support his view. Shri Manoj Pandey and many others said that there is nobody to look after the interests or voice the grievances of the women in the unorganised sector particularly those working in the agricultural field. It is very necessary to organise them. I entirely agree with this view of Shri Manoj Pandey. At the same time I want

*The speech was originally delivered in Bengali.

to point out that, we, the workers of democratic movements are trying to organise the women. Wherever strong leftist democratic movements are in existence, we have set-up strong womens' organisations also. We have strengthened them. This can be seen in West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura, etc. There the rural women are getting organised in ever-increasing numbers and are also able to extract higher wages. This holds good in all spheres. If the women are organised, they will be able to get enforced the provisions of the minimum wages. Act or to get equal wages for equal work etc. Shri Monaj Pandey is not present here, but I want to tell him and all other hon. members to try to organise the rural women in their respective areas wherever they may come from. Ask them to demand their rights, so that they may be able to extract their demands and right to minimum wages. Without being organised, what to say of women even men do not get the minimum wages. Therefore, getting organised is of the prime importance. I am grateful to respected Smt. Phulrenu Guha who has supported my Bill. She has spoken about the construction workers, the brick-kiln workers etc., and has said that she does not agree with the provision of the Bill that the women workers should not contribute anything themselves. She said that she does not want that the women should go begging. But the question of begging does not arise here at all. This Bill envisages that the Working Womens' Welfare and the welfare of their children will be taken up by the Government as a national responsibility, and as such they will contribute 10 p. c. The question of begging does not arise. There is no point of degrading the women. Shrimati Phulrenu Guha mentioned about clause 5 of the Bill. I think it is in order. It says the Government shall ensure representation of women employees in various Committees of trade unions formed for the purposes of working class. Provision has been made only for the representation of women employees. Therefore, I do not think that Phulrenuji had any

objection to that. Shri Shanmugam asked whether the State Government has framed any such Bill. I want to tell him that only the Central Government is competent to pass such a legislation. No State Government is empowered to do that. He mentioned that the Tamil Nadu Government has made education free and has taken some other welfare measures. All such steps are welcome and everybody will support them. Many other States have taken similar measures. The West Bengal Government has provided free education up to class XII both for boys as well as girls, and mid-day meals are being provided there for a large number of primary class children. He highlighted the problems of the 11 crores of women engaged in agriculture. Here too I am in full agreement with him and I support him. Shri Daga quoted extensively from the constitution and said that all these rights and benefits have already been provided in the Constitution. We all know that constitutional provisions are there. Then where is the need for making other legislation or enactments? Constitutional provisions are there but actually these benefits have not been made available to the women. That is why the need has arisen for this Bill. The Minister has also to accept this position and to state that he will bring forth a comprehensive Bill in this connection. Shri Ram Piyare Ji has given the right reply to Shri Daga, and he has rightly raised the Question of the women belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If the comprehensive Bill comes, as assured by the hon. Minister, then the SC/ST working women will also be surely equally benefited there by. This Bill also has been drafted in a manner that will bestow equal benefits on them too. I think Shri Jain for supporting this Bill and for what he said in this connection. He also rightly talked about social revolution. Without social revolution women can never get equal rights. He strongly upheld the Question of 'right of equal wages for equal work'. I fully support what he said. Shri Raj Mangal Pande raised certain issues. Of course, respected

Shrimati Prabhavati Gupta has given a fitting reply to him. Shri Pande said, that if the women are so weak physically that they cannot do any strenuous work then what can the Government do? I know that in many parts of the country specially in Uttar Pradesh such type of thinking and mentality does exist in some influential circles for a long time. This mentality continues even today. The 'Committee on Status of women in India' had submitted a report. There in they mentioned about this sort of mentality prevailing in U. P. The report says that at one time a request had come from U.P. That women may not be accepted as trainees in the I. A. S. and I. F. S. cadres. Even if women are taken as trainees, then at the completion of the training they may not be posted in U. P. Now that particular section of people with anti-women mentality is represented here by Shri R. M. Pande. Smt. Prabhavati Gupta has already given a fitting reply to him. I therefore do not wish to go into that. So long as this type of mentality against women will remain in our society and in this House, it will be extremely difficult to work for achieving equal right for our women. Shri Kumaramangalam said that he does not like speaking about the women separately and distinctly. He is right, but so long as in our society the disparity and discrimination is so pronounced, we will have to speak about our women and their children separately. We shall have to clear the backlog first. Otherwise merely by saying so, they cannot get equal rights. Equal rights can not be bestowed on them in this manner.

In the end I will thank the Hon. Labour Minister. He has admitted that the working women are faced with many hardships and difficulties. According to him the Government is attending to the question of equal wages for women in the public sector. But in the private sector the women are not getting equal wages at most places. He is contemplating a comprehensive legislation to remedy that situation, at an early date.

Sir, I will conclude with one more point. I will request the Minister to consider how to enact a legislation separately for the women in the unorganised sector, specially those engaged in agriculture. I request the Hon. Minister to ponder over this in consultation with go to Ministry of Women Welfare. I have got one clear suggestion about it. I said it earlier also while speaking on the demands of the Ministry of Women's Welfare and that is the Government shall have to take the responsibility of granting maternity leave to the women employees with full pay in the entire unorganised sector. One member raised the Question that the brick-kiln workers work for only 3 months in a year. How can the welfare provisions be made applicable to them? But my demand is that every working women in any part of the country, whether she works in a factory or mill or in the fields or in any other place, must be allowed maternity leave with pay and this shall be the responsibility of the Government. Then only, this problem can be solved. How this legislation can be enacted it has to be found out. We are also thinking about it. Sir, in view of the categorical assurance by the Hon. Labour Minister that he will bring forth a comprehensive Bill in this respect, I withdraw my Bill.

18 hrs.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for the welfare of women employed in various industries and establishments."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI: I withdraw the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before we go to the next item of business, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan will make a statement on Sri Lanka.

18.01 hrs.

STATEMENT OF SRI LANKA

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : Sir, as Members are aware, Shri K. Anand, the correspondent of the Press Turst of India based in Colombo, was arrested by the Sri Lankan authorities yesterday morning. According to information received, he was taken away around 9 A.M. and prevented from contacting the Indian High Commission by the Sri Lankan police. He was in detention for $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours at an investigation centre. In spite of his requests, Shri Anand was allowed to speak very briefly to our Deputy High Commissioner in Colombo only at 2.30 P.M. As soon as the High Commission came to know of Shri Anand's arrest they lodged a strong protest with the Sri Lankan Government. Later in the evening Shri Anand was placed on judicial remand and taken to the Wellikade prison in Colombo. Consular access has been allowed by the Sri Lankan authorities this morning. We understand that Shri Anand has been charged under the Emergency Regulations of the Government of Sri Lanka. He has now been released on bail.

Government have taken up this matter strongly with the Sri Lankan Government both in New Delhi and Colombo and expressed their deep concern over Shri Anand's arrest as well as for his personal safety. We have pointed out to the Sri Lankan Government that the arrest and the treatment meted out to an Indian national representing a well-known Indian press agency has been high-handed and deplorable.

Our High Commissioner who was to proceed yesterday on transfer has been asked to stay on to deal with this emergent situation. The High Commission is

doing everything possible to provide legal and other assistance to Shri Anand and is in constant touch with the Ministry of External Affairs. The House will be informed as soon as we receive any further reports in the matter.

Day before yesterday, the Sri Lankan Minister of State and Government's spokesman made certain regrettable remarks on the replies given by me in the debate in the Rajya Sabha. We have conveyed to the Sri Lankan Government our distress over the Sri Lankan Minister's statement. As Members are aware, we have always made constructive and positive suggestions and efforts to facilitate political solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka within the framework of Sri Lanka's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity. It is therefore, disappointing and unfortunate that through observations of senior and responsible members of the Sri Lankan Government anti-Indian sentiments are being whipped up in Sri Lanka.

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18.04 hrs.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 125 and 127)
by Shri G.M. Banatwalla

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will now take up the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill of Shri G. M. Banatwalla. Before we take up the Bill for consideration, we may fix two hours time initially. Then we will see.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend Code of Criminal Procedure

(Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration.”

The Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code 1973 is necessitated by the decisions of the Supreme Court in certain recent cases. Sir, Section 488 (3) of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1898 empowered criminal courts to pass orders for maintenance in favour of wives whose husbands neglected to provide the same. This Criminal Procedure Code was revised in the year 1973 and Section 488 (3) was re-enacted with an important modification. The term ‘wife’ was defined to include a woman who has been divorced by or has obtained a divorce from her husband and is not remarried.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : (Rajapur) That is the definition of every wife !

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : So, now you are shocked.

So, the courts could also make an order for maintenance of a divorced wife till she marries or dies. Mr. Chairman Sir, as you know the amendment was vehemently opposed by Muslims on the ground that under Islamic Law, a husband is bound to maintain a divorced wife only during the period of *Idda*, which is nearly three months and not thereafter. There were so many articles in the press. The Muslims were restive. Consequently, in responses to the Muslim opinion, the discussion was reopened in the Parliament. I must emphasise that this reopening of the discussion in the Parliament at a very unusual stage was one of the rare instances in the legislative history of India and it was done in order to maintain and protect the rule of Muslim Law. Clause (b) was specifically added to Sub-section (3) of Section 127 to protect the Muslim Law, the amendment provided for the cancellation of order of maintenance till re-marriage or death in case where the divorcee has received before or after the date of the

said order the whole of the sum which was payable under any customary or personal law applicable to the parties of such order.

I shall continue next time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will continue on the next occasion.

19.8 hrs.

HALF AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Educated Unemployed Registered With Employment Exchanges

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The next item is Half an hour discussion to be raised by Shri Jitendra Prasada.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur) : I rise to raise a discussion on the points arising from the reply given by the Minister to my Starred Question No. 334.

Sir, before I come to specifics, I would like to say that unemployment is a major problem being faced by the country. The Government of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is committed to reduce unemployment. Shri Anjiah, the hon Minister of Labour is a senior person who was the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh also. Now he is holding a very important portfolio. But some how, after listening to the reply given to my question and I also listened to him when he was replying to Demands of the Labour Ministry . . . I have a notion that he has not taken this problem very seriously.

I would like to quote his speech during the Demands of the Labour Ministry, that is when he was replying to it. He mentioned something about the employment exchanges. He said—I quote :

[Translation]

Two crore names are registered with the employment exchanges which means that so many people are unemployed. The people often question the role of employment exchange. The eradication of unemployment is posing a challenge to every State Government at present. Somebody had asked what that the role of an employment exchange after all is. The private sector does not wish to be regulated by any laws as such. The public sector makes an excuse to get people through advertisement. Similarly, the banks and postal department follow suit. Now the employment exchange's merely an office for appointment of peons.

[English]

If this is the attitude, then the entire discussion is pointless. If the Minister is admitting himself that the employment exchanges in the country are serving no purpose, then I am sorry to say that the time of the House will be wasted. I would request the Minister to give a specific answer to the queries and questions made by me and other Members, and also announce some firm decisions on the floor of the House, so that something could be done in this very important field.

I had raised a vital question which is of great significance to the social and economic health of the people of our country as a whole. The question of growing unemployment among young men and women, and the working of employment exchanges—this is what I want to highlight during this discussion.

The employment exchanges, as far as I have experienced, have become another department, of Government a slow moving machine with cracks, a machine which is going nowhere. Are we going to continue like this, or do we expect the employment exchanges to play an effective role in creating, locating and

spotting employment, and providing our young men and women with jobs and livelihood? This is the basic question of this discussion.

I would like to quote the statistics which the minister gave in his reply. The situation is far from satisfactory. In fact, it is grave. As against 21.7 million unemployed registered, with the employment exchanges in November 1983, a year later, i. e. in November 1984 for which the latest figures are available, the figure had gone up to 23.65 million. This works out to an increase of 9%. In fact, in one financial year namely 1983-84, there was an increase of nearly 12% in the number of unemployed.

The chart is ever increasing. We cannot provide jobs, but the number of persons who are registered is growing up every year; every year number is increasing. This is what is taking place in the employment exchanges. And when you come to think of the problem of educated unemployed, the picture is even more alarming for the simple reason that they have expectations, their parents have expectations, their family members have expectations; and when they go to the employment exchanges, they get no hope from there. I do hope today at least the hon. Minister will come out and tell what plans are there to tackle this problem and how he expects the employment exchanges to play a dynamic role in spotting jobs and in placing the vast multitude of the unemployed into productive avenues of work. This is the thing which I want to highlight and I want the Minister to give a specific answer. The reply to my starred question No. 334 (April 1985) was a mere recital of official figures and the conclusion was drawn that there is, to quote the reply "of necessity, a waiting period" before a name is sponsored. What is this waiting period? Does it differ from State to State? Is it five years or ten years? Which State has the longest waiting period and which State has shortest waiting period? When I asked about

about the details from him, I could not get the answer : and the hon. Speaker was kind enough to allow Half-an-hour Discussion on this. So, I would like the Minister throw some light on this aspect.

Let us look at the reply given to my part (d) question. I was told that, and I quote, "It will not be possible to give priority to persons who are expected to cross any age limit as the exchanges have to sponsor the names according to their position in the live register and the requirements of the employer. It is true that the roster has to be observed, the employers' requirements have to be borne in mind, but, then with all that kept in view, is it not possible to take a more human view of these who are soon going to go out of the employment market because their age will be against them? Can't we take some human view of this problem because every day we see everywhere in the country that the waiting time is so long that the majority of the persons registered are over-aged at least to Government services? Can't we find out a way by which they can get a chance to be sponsored earlier so that they do not cross the age limit mentioned in the Government services. The employment exchanges have to be made more responsive to the needs of the unemployed. Their wooden, bureaucratic approach has to give place to a more human, sympathetic approach.

There was a Mathew Commission in 1978. The Janata Party formed it. They went into the national employment service. On page 77 of Export, it reads as follows :

"Employment Exchange Organisation should do everything possible to change its public image as a bureaucratic organisation bound by procedural red-tape. It should develop the image of an agency which studies the requirements of its employer-clients in the form of assistance to recruit employees satisfying certain requirements and

try to provide quality service efficiently and promptly."

This is the relevant part which I have quoted. They have also said that something should be done to improve the functioning of the employment exchanges. Everybody is aware of the position. Today if you want your name to be registered you have to pay something. Or if you go to the office to enquire when your name is going to be sponsored, or what is the serial number, you have to pay something to that get information. To get your name sponsored you have to pay something.

Sir, bureaucracy and the official behaviour is such that it is difficult for any person—a poor person—to go to the employment exchange. Something should be done. It is high time that we look into this aspect and I suggest that public participation in the employment exchanges is only remedy for this. Some way should be found that public participation is there, that representatives of the public are associated with working of the employment exchanges.

I would like to ask two questions : Whether the Government will order an in depth inquiry into the working of the employment exchanges so that some measures may be recommended for ensuring jobs to the registered candidates especially the ones who are on the verge of crossing the upper age limit, so that the backlog of 12.3 million educated unemployed can be reduced, and enough jobs should also be created by the Government and the public sector. I want to know whether the public sector has recently been asked to recruit fresh graduates, and are they making it obligatory for the public limited companies to notify their vacancies and fill them through the employment exchanges ?

In the reply earlier the Minister has stated that the banks do not obey them, that the private sector does not obey

them and the other organisations do not obey them, and so on. But there is an Act, —this is an Act of 1959. Under the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act of 1959 it is obligatory that all establishments in the public sector and such of those non-agricultural establishments under the private sector as are employing 25 or more workers should notify their vacancies to the employment exchanges and supply or partake information as prescribed in the Act and in the rules made thereunder.

I do not understand how the organisations can make their own methods of employment when this notification is there. I think it is not being enforced. I would like the Minister to clarify this also.

The next is, whether the rules will be suitably amended to allow the candidates about to cross the upper age limit to be sponsored before they become age-barred and whether the hon. Minister will issue orders for a thorough overhaul of the employment exchanges.

I wish he could go and visit one of the exchanges so that he could see for himself how they are working there, so that they could become effective instruments to provide jobs, and all the malpractices can be removed in the larger public interest. I would like the Minister to give a specific answer to the problem and the question I put.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister for labour.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : Sir just now the hon. Member has raised many points, which are not new. I am aware of them. Therefore, I am prepared to listen to whatever you

say with regard to the working of employment exchanges. We are prepared to accept whatever proposal you would like to give with regard to the efficiency and the style of working of the bureaucracy and the staff in the employment exchanges, I had taken two or three steps to remove corruption from the employment exchanges during my tenure as Labour Minister in Andhra Pradesh. Similar steps are being contemplated at the all India level also. Labour Ministers' Conference is scheduled to be held tomorrow. We have taken a decision pertaining to the introduction of the computer system and another decision relating to the introduction of the photo system. If somebody by the name of Ram Prakash is registered in the employment exchange in Andhra Pradesh. There are chances that another person of the same name may be sponsored for the job. Therefore, this type of inconvenience will not be there if a photograph of the registered candidate is kept with both the candidate as well as the Department. We used to publish daily by in the newspapers the candidates registered in a particular year, who are being sponsored. We can exercise control through this system. If you insist, we are even prepared for the inquiry. We can correct whatever malfunctioning is there. Whatever proposals you will send to improve the performance of employment exchanges...

(Interruptions)

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur) : You are saying that you will be doing all this, but how do you propose to do it... (Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : What can I do when you are not prepared to listen to me? We involve M. Ps., M. L. As. and the representatives of the trade unions at the district level. This system was working in Andhra Pradesh. If you want, I am prepared to introduce that system. I am also prepared to constitute Advisory Boards at the district and the

State level. In this way, we used to constitute Committees of which the Collector used to be the Chairman at the district level, the Labour Minister at the State level and the Union Labour Minister at the Central level. You have asked whether the managements notify the vacancies. I would say that the private and public sector people regularly notify the vacancies. But it is nowhere obligatory on them to recruit the personnel compulsorily from the employment exchange Administrative instructions have been issued. I do not want to conceal anything. I want that recruitment in the banks, the Railways and the Postal Department, etc. should be done compulsorily through the employment Exchange. But an exemption has been granted for quite a long period. This has to be deleted. For this, an amending Bill is required to be brought forward in which things like Advisory Board etc. are involved. So far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, I made it compulsory during my tenure as Labour Minister. There was no Railway or Postal Department there. We used to tell the private sector people there that since we were giving them land, electricity and water they should recruit staff through the employment exchange compulsorily. We used to pressurise them for this indirectly. When we come to the national level all bulk recruitment in the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of coal and in the Banks... (Interruptions)

SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN (Rampur) : There is mishandling at the Centre . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : What can I do. You try to understand. The name 'Employment Exchange' was given during the British time. I also become a worker in 1942 through the employment exchange . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : The exchanges came into being in 1945 . . .

(Interruptions)

SHRI T. ANJIAH : Exchanges existed even in British time. Perhaps, you do not know . . . (Interruptions)

Employment exchanges were set up during war time when a need for them was felt for recruitment. At that time some training Centres and some employment exchanges were opened in the country.

So, I wanted to ask you how you want the corruption and other malpractices to be checked, you want. That there should be no writing list, but it is written in our rules that 20 persons should be called as against one vacancy. I myself feel that calling 20 persons for a vacancy is not justified. This system is wrong, because if 20 persons come for one post, they will incur some expenditure on transport on bus fare and if they come by bicycle, they will have to pay cycle stand charges and only one out of those 20 is going to be selected, the rest will have to go empty handed therefore, I am also of the view that very few persons should be called against one vacancy. But, here, we have a system of calling 20 persons against a vacancy. Besides, the employment exchange does not sponsor persons for vacancies at all places, they sponsor persons for only those industries which come under their jurisdiction. Therefore, with a view to removing all these shortcomings. We are considering the question of being forward a new Bill we shall have to hold discussion with all the Ministries to decide what improvements can be effected through it and we shall have to make an in-depth study of all these things. So far as the question of increasing employment avenues is concerned, you better talk to the Planning Minister in this regard so that he could formulate the future plans in such a way that more and more people may get employment. So far as the question of effecting improvement in the functioning of employment exchanges and increasing their powers is concerned,

you can discuss this matter with me and we are always prepared for it.

[English]

SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : I suggest that you should form a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Jitendra Prasada.

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We can put you on the Advisory Board if you so desire ..

(Interruptions)

There is no question of Constituting a separate Committee . . . This is going to be constituted at the national level, you may join that . . . (Interruptions)

Even if you do not want to be represented on that, I am certainly going to name you on that Committee because we do not want to hide anything . . .

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : He apologises to you, Sir,

[Translation]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : I am empowered to deal with employment exchanges only. As regards the question of setting up industries and raising employment avenues it is not in my hands. For that you talk to the Finance Minister and the Industry Minister. If they have the funds . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today you have 745 employment exchanges in the country and 62.19 lakh candidates were sponsored for employment during 1984 alone, where as only 4.7 lakh candidates actually got employment. Therefore, so far as

placement in your employment exchanges is concerned, I think, this is not the reason.

[English]

The percentage of placement was 2.59 in 1980 which was itself fast declining compared to 1979 and has since been coming down steadily to 2.8 in 1981, 2.4 in 1982 and 2.2 in 1983.

[Translation]

The percentage of the number of candidate approaching employment exchanges for seeking employment is declining steadily. Now, when I want to ask you some questions, you are being briefed by the hon. Finance Minister from one side and the hon. Home Minister from the other, you are sandwiched between the two and are in great trouble, meaning thereby that you are flanked by the senior Ministers from both the sides.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may ask the question, he will reply.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Sir, you listen to me first because it is the question of unemployment which is a curse for the entire country and you are not taking it seriously. This is not a simple question, this is a question of removing unemployment from the country. In this connection, I want to ask some questions from you. I want to give an example of how one gets employment through your employment exchanges. When a Collector or some other big officer wants to employ a boy at his house, he does so directly and there after he tells the employment officer to sponsor his name so as to regularise him. I want to know what your power are. Are there only

to satisfy the requirements of big officers ?

Anybody may inquire into the fact that 40 per cent of jobs are given to the relatives of those who are already Government servants. They get their names registered with the employment exchange and you cannot enforce any of your laws on them. You have a law in this regard that any department, whether it be the Railways, the municipal office or the office of the collector, will be violating the law if it employs some one who has not been sponsored by the employment exchange. Will you enforce this clause of the law and take action against those officers who have employed the people who have not been sponsored by the employment exchange card, will you send them to jail ? This is my first question.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my second question is this may I know the member of departments which have employed personnel without making reference to the employment exchange and the number of persons thus employed since 1981 ? Please let me know the year-wise figures in this regard.

The third question which I want to ask from the hon. Minister through you, Sir, is that Government have identified the beneficiaries under the D.I.Cs., who are poor and are living below the poverty line. It has been decided that they will be given loan only on the recommendation of the Employment Officer. In this connection, I want to know from you the number of Employment officers who have recommended the names of the persons living below the poverty line during 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 and the number of persons thus recommended as also the number of persons who were actually given loan on such recommendation ? These employment exchanges are under your charge and if you cannot enforce any rule and law on them, better close them down. At least, the heavy expenditure being in-

curring on them will be served and at the same time the people will be saved from the inconvenience being faced by them in making rounds of the exchanges ... (Bell)... please do not ring the bell. No relevant answer is forthcoming to any question and you are ringing the bell. Time and again, I am asking whether one gets employment on the basis of the percentage which you have given. Besides, you also reply to my other questions. You go ahead with making amendment in the law if necessary and let us know the time by which the amendment will be made so as to give justice to the people.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijaywada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is most unfortunate that the Minister for labour has expressed helplessness in dealing with the grave situation. It is a common practice that in the private industries and establishments the management and the people who are at the helm of affairs, take people of their choice, their kins and the persons in whom they are interested leaving the persons who are waiting in the employment exchanges for ten years or even more. Most of the persons who are registered with the employment exchanges do not get even a Call Letter, what to talk of a job, to go to an interview. It is a general phenomena. What steps the Government is going to take specifically against the non-compliance of the present rules in force and what action the Government is going to take in regard to those unfortunate educated unemployed people ? The Minister himself told that there are 12.3 million unemployed people, and it is not their fault. They have spent so much of their valuable time in learning and their services could not be utilised. Not only it is a great loss to themselves—most of them are common people from middle class families—but it is also a loss to the nation. So, I would like to know whether the Government is going to make the necessary

amendments in the Act so that this age restriction is relaxed in regard to the people who have already registered their names in the Employment Exchanges long back. Also I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps the Government is taking on the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Employment which had submitted its Report and made recommendations, and recommended for setting up of National Committee on Employment and Manpower Planning to give necessary suggestions and periodical review of the situation pertaining to manpower, employment and unemployment, and also protections of labour force in different categories of manpower with the available data and to advise several Ministries and make suggestions regarding the policy matters. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, what the Government is going to do in regard to those recommendations.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with my colleagues who have levelled charges of corruption and inefficiency against the Employment Exchanges. Besides, I also understand the hon. Minister's inability to do much in this regard but he can at least make arrangements so that the people are not required to go very far to register their names. For this, if the Employment Exchanges are set up in schools, universities and each Block, it would at least enable the candidates to register their names conveniently, irrespective of the fact whether they get jobs or not. Will the hon. Minister consider it ?

SHRI T. ANJIAH : It can be done. The names can be registered at the Samiti level or Block level and there is no difficulty in that. The State Governments will have to co-operate in this regard.

Shri Daga has demanded changes in the Employment Exchanges Act. He

has also demanded that it should be made compulsory that in regard to the examinations held by the Public Service Commission, and for recruitment to the Railways, the Postal Services and the private sector, only those candidates should be taken who are registered with employment exchanges, which may help in improving the position. We are prepared to do whatever you have suggested with regard to corruption. We are ready to make the amendments in the Act as desired by you. We have 600 MPs and a similar number of employment exchanges and if you wish we can attach one MP to each employment exchange. The employment exchanges of each State will be informed about their MPs and a meeting can be held every month to devise the mode of functioning. We do not wish to hide anything. If you wish you can give us the name of the employment exchange where you wish to be attached and we shall issue an order to that effect. Thereafter you tell the Member of Parliament how the employment exchanges are functioning. We do not want to keep any secrets in this matter if there is corruption we do not want to cover it. We propose to bring about amendments in the Act by involving the public representatives. When the Amending Bill is introduced, you support us at that time. There are many loop-holes in the Act. Within the framework of the present employment exchanges nothing much can be done. But this has been there for a very long time now. The employment exchanges did not come into existence during my tenure. They were very much there during the Janata Party rule and earlier also. They did not come into existence during my tenure or the new Prime Minister rule.

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : I think the Minister is confused. The people sitting on this side here are also Members of the Congress Party.

[*Translation*]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We shall try to implement the suggestions made by you and Shri Daga, who has made some valuable suggestions, about the employment exchanges.

Now we can ask the banks to recruit through Employment Exchanges. This we can do by forming some sort of a society. To set up factories is not my business. I am not the licensing authority. Whatever is in my mind I can convey to the Planning and Finance departments.

[*English*]

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Why don't you ask the hon. Finance Minister ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI T. ANJIAH : You should do that. Why are you asking me ? You ask me about the performance of the employment exchanges and I am ready to tell you about that. It is not my responsibility to provide employment to every one. You are asking about it unnecessarily. The sick industries and the closed down factories are already a headache to me.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : The figures I was quoting were about your performance.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : I have before me whatever you have said.

So far as constituting the Advisory Boards is concerned, we shall constitute them at the national level, State level and the district level. We may include Members of Parliament and MLAs as members of the Board.

So far as the question of age relaxation is concerned. I can relax it but it would not be of much use because

candidates with a seniority of 20 years or 10 years will not be covered by it. I may say that the age may be relaxed up to 35 years, but if the demand from a factory comes for people in the age group of 20 to 25 years or 18 to 25 years what can we do ? Even if we relax the age of what use would it be ? It can be given up to 7 years in the case of Harijans and something could be done for the physically handicapped. But this question of age relaxation is dependent the attitude of the factories.

There are other ways to solve the unemployment problem. We shall have to tap local resources...

[*English*]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Because of the age-limits prescribed for them they are becoming age-barred.

SHRI T. ANJIAH : We cannot fix the age limit. It is according to the management's choice. They want candidates between 18 and 25 years. They will send their requirement like this.

[*Translation*]

In this way we sponsor candidates as per their requirement. The unemployment problem can be solved if we tap other sources also.

18.50 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill, 1985, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th May, 1985."

PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT) BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha.

[*English*]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table of the House the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

18.52 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 1985—Contd.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we take up further clause-by-clause consideration of the Finance Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Clause 19, Prof. M.R. Halder—not present.

(*Interruptions*)

CLAUSES 19 to 27

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill has to be passed today. There is an amendment to Clause 19 by Mr. M.R. Halder. He is not present. I put Clauses 19 to 27 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That Clauses 19 to 27 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 19 to 27 were added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 28—(Amendment of Section 136)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

"Page 11, line 22, for "and Chapter XXVI", substitute, "but not for the purposes of Chapter XXVI."(16)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

Page 11, line 22,

for "and Chapter XXVI", substitute

"but not for the purposes of Chapter XXVI."(16)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 28, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 28, as amended, was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 29—(Amendment of Section 139)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I beg to move :

"Page 11, line 31, for "the auditor's report and", substitute—"auditor's report and," (17)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
Page 11, lines 31,

for "the auditor's report and,"
substitute—

"auditor's report and,"(17)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 29, as amended,
stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clause 29, as amended, was added to
the Bill.*

CLAUSES 30 to 35

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are no
amendments to Clauses 30 to 35.

The question is :

"That Clauses 30 to 35 stand
part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clauses 30 to 35 were added to the
Bill.*

CLAUSE 36—(Consequential
amendments)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP
SINGH : I beg to move :

"Page 12, line 50, for "shall be
omitted", substitute shall be
omitted and for the words,
figures and letters

"section 80J and Section 80JJ,"
the words, figures and letter

"and section 80J" shall be sub-
stituted."(18)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

Page 12, line 50,

for "shall be omitted", substitute—

"shall be omitted and for the
words, figures and letters "sec-
tion 80J and section 80JJ" the
words, figures and letter "and
section 80 J" shall be substitu-
ted."(18)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 36, as amended,
stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

*Clause 36, as amended, was added to
the Bill.*

CLAUSE 37—(Amendment of Section 5)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is an
amendment to Clause 37.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP
SINGH : I beg to move :

"Page 13, for line 22, substitute—
account are maintained or a
business carried on by an institu-
tion, fund of trust referred to
in clause (22) or clause (22A)
or clause (23B) or clause (23C)
of section 10 of that Act".(19)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :
Page 13, for line 22, substitute —

"account are maintained or a
business carried on by an institu-
tion, fund or trust referred to
in clause (22) or clause (22A) or
clause (23B) or clause (23C) of
section 10 of that Act".(19)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 37, as amended,
stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

CLAUSE 37, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 38 to 50

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are no amendments to clause 38 to 50.

The question is :

“That clauses 38 to 50 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 38 to 50 were added to the Bill.
The First Schedule

Amendment made—

Page 20, line 16, for “30 per cent” substitute—“25 per cent.”(20)

Page 20, line 17 omit “and crossward puzzles”(21)

Page 20, line 19, after “horse races”, insert—“and crossword puzzles.”(22)

(SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That, the First Schedule, as amended, stand part of Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

The First Schedule, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules were added to the Bill. Clause 1 the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Sir, I beg to move : “That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved : “That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”
Mr. Ayyapu Reddy.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Sir, it will be in human on my part to inflict a speech on the Members of the House at this time. So, I will be very brief and make only a few points.

My first suggestion is that the financial year must begin from 1st January. There was already been a Committee which has made a recommendation in this behalf. 1st April-31st March is unrealistic and May is absolutely unsuitable for discussing Budgets. The Union Government's Budget must come first. Then alone the States can formulate their budgets properly. As it is the States formulate their budget proposals first and then the Union Budget comes where you find, for instance, increase in the prices of steel, cement, etc. Then the Budget proposals of the States become unrealistic. Therefore, it is necessary to change the financial year and we must observe it as a tradition that the Union Budget precedes the States Budgets.

My next point is about our perceptions, what exactly are our perceptions, whether it is socialist or capitalist or mixed economy. There should not be any confusion. Our goals are clear and they are set out in the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in our Constitution. I would only request those who are preparing our Budget proposals to read the Directive Principles and see whether they are giving priorities to the Directive Principles set out in our Constitution. At the time when the Constitution was drafted, our founding fathers did not include the term ‘Socialistic State’. They were content with laying down the basic principles of a Welfare State in the Directive Principles. We have yet to give effect to those Directive Principles. (Interruptions)
The phrase ‘Socialistic Republic’ was brought in only by the Forty-Second

Amendment. It is not necessary for you to become very sensitive when we say that you are not socialistic in your outlook and that the Budget has given priorities to the affluent sections. It is no doubt true that the income-tax assesses in India have been given some relief, and this has been welcomed in some quarters. Everybody knows that Mr. N. Palkiwala, the great jurist and one of the top lawyers in India, has given full praise for the Budget proposals. I have got great admiration for Mr. Palkiwala. It is no doubt true that he is not a champion of socialism, he is undoubtedly a champion of free enterprise. That is why some people have thought or some people really feel that we have diverted from the path of socialism and have taken the road to capitalism. Let us not worry ourselves about these 'isms'. For forms of Government let us not contest. Let us see whether the destination which we are reaching is the right destination, whether the objectives as laid down in the Constitution are going to be achieved . . .

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli) : On a point of order under rule 94 of the Rules of Procedure. We want to know whether he is rejecting or accepting the Bill. He should not go farther than that. He is going further than that. He should either support or reject the Bill.

19 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : His speech is in order.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : In achieving this object if—it is necessary to go to the right, let them go to the right and let them do it freely. Let them not be hypersensitive to these isms. After all the purpose is the welfare of the people and the welfare of the nation as a whole. Let us not be what is called Casablanca's boy on the burning deck refusing to move away from the burning deck. Let us follow

the spirit of the Constitution and let us not be bothered about the isms.

The same Jurist has quoted the main problem. The main problem in India today is unemployment. The agitation in Gujarat essentially springs from this basic factor of unemployment. Just now half an hour earlier we have discussed about this problem of unemployment. I only quote Palkiwala from this very same brochure where he has praised the Union budget. This is what he has stated :

“The number of jobless to-day is 45 million, the homeless 29 million. It is morally repugnant, economically wasteful and socially dangerous . . . ”

Socially dangerous—it is proved in Gujarat which is showing that it is socially dangerous. Now we know fully well that Gandhiji's philosophy was that he first laid emphasis on human beings and how best to employ them. Your planning must be on the human resources of India. We do not want luxuries.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under Rule 94 you cannot make a general speech.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I am trying to make points. The financial perceptions must be the problems of the country and unemployment is the major problem of the country. It is leading to agitations here and there. Reservation, agitation and corruption, everything. For all that unemployment is the root cause. Therefore, that must get the top priority—tackling unemployment.

My third submission is that our investments are not paying back. We have been making huge investments on our river projects, on our irrigation projects on our power projects and on our industrial projects. Of course, the public sector is there. On our investment we are not able to get

back even the interest, the simple interest. For instance, I may quote a project of my own State the Nagarjunasagar project. The State has borrowed huge amounts . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot go into all this at this stage. You may oppose the Bill.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Therefore, in trying to get over this difficulty of making investments which do not pay we have to remember the fact that it is on account of long gestations, bureaucratic delays and half-hearted approach to the implementation of these important projects. We are forgetting the principle and all the States are forgetting the principle . . .

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Under Rule 94 the hon Member cannot go into all these details at this stage.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rule 94 is very narrow. There is no general discussion of the budget now. You may either support or oppose the Bill.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I am only saying this that the investments made by us should be made to yield the returns. That can be done by taking one project after the other. One thing at a time, that done well, you take up the other. That principle has to be strictly enforced by the Union Government as well as by the State Governments. Instead of spending all the monies on all the projects, let them concentrate on a few projects and let them achieve results.

My last submission is this. With regard to the amounts which we are granting and which we are spending, Audit is always raising objections pointing out the losses, misappropriations and all those things. There is a huge Audit Department. Every State has got the Audit Departments and we have got also the

Central Audit. Now, these audit objections are practically not receiving any attention. Therefore, my submission is this.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao) : Then you become Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I am not interested. I am merely saying this. There should be a method of closing the lacuna. You should curb misappropriations and losses. Administrative reforms are necessary. Without all these things, all our services, all our efforts and perspectives will not pay. With these words I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill and hope that Government would eradicate black money and remove the increasing economic disparity in the country. On the one hand people are wallowing in wealth which on the other hand there is object poverty. Efforts should be made to remove this disparity and to tone up the sluggish and inefficient administration so that the poor may get relief. It should not be so that our resources are not utilised for the country itself. Our young Prime Minister had said in his maiden speech that each and every penny spent in the country would be accounted for, but even today 50 per cent of the funds allocated by the Centre for developmental works are being packed by a few. We demand that the funds should be properly utilised. We have three demands ; firstly, to eradicate black money ; secondly, to remove economic disparity and thirdly, to have a clean and efficient administration. You must reconsider your decision to grant two days off in a week lest the Government machinery should come to grinding halt.

In the end, I thank you for having put in so much of hard work in bringing forward this Bill, but the programmes

are not yet being implemented in the right spirit. The writing on the wall is clear that no one can escape the scrutiny of the future generation. The result will reveal the progress made by the country and what has been done for the poor and to eradicate black money.

[*English*]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Sir, I do not want to tax the Members very much. I have already levied tax. There is just one point. The Report regarding the Financial Year is under consideration. And about the general principles of perspectives and thrust of the budget etc., I have already replied. About sensitivity, it is not our sensitivity, but it is the insensitivity on the other side, because, what we have done, they are unable to see. About the burning deck, it is not a burning deck. Ours is a sailing deck and we are going to sail and we are not on burning deck. About unemployment, we have the schemes of anti-poverty programmes ; we are committed to them. Of course, by stimulating the industrial sector and general welfare measures we would be

able to tackle or reduce the problem of unemployment. Regarding the point about concentrating on a few projects and completing them, it is well taken. The resource constraint is there. We are trying to improve the efficiency. But the public sector should not be judged by only the financial results. It has to be seen in the economy as a whole. About debt etc., I need not make any comments. On any misappropriation we do take action. About black money and disparity etc. and tightening the administration, these are all good suggestions, of course, and we are taking action. About Saturday and Sunday, I think, I should take a holiday from speech now. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

19.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, May 13, 1985/Vaisakha 23, 1907 (Saka).