

Ninth Series, Vol. V, No.37

Tuesday, May 8, 1990
Vaisakha 18, 1912 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Second Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)



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CONTENTS

[Ninth Series. Vol.V, Second Session. 1990/1912 (Saka)]

No. 37, Tuesday, May 8, 1990/Vaisakha 18, 1912 (Saka)

COLUMNS

Oral Answers to Questions :		1—25
*Starred Question Nos.	739, 741, 742 and 744	
Written Answers to Questions :		25—381
Starred Question Nos.	740, 743 and 745 to 758	25—41
Unstarred Question Nos.	7794 to 7917, 7919 to 7995 and 7997 to 8025	41—381
Members Sworn		382
Re: Laying on the Table of the House Papers Pertaining to Air Bus A-320 Deal		382—423
Papers Laid on the Table		424—428
Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance Recent spate of bomb blasts in Delhi		429
Shri Kalp Nath Rai		429—434
Shri Subodh Kant Sahay		429—431 444—446
Shri S. Krishna Kumar		434—436
Shri Madan Lal Khurana		436—439
Shri Prakash Koko Brahmabhatt		439—441

*The Sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(ii)

COLUMNS

Prof. P.J. Kurien	442—444
Matters under Rule 377	447—452
(i) Need to take up the question of Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees with Sri Lanka Government to check their influx into Malkangiri in Koraput District of Orissa	447
Shri K. Pradhani	
(ii) Need to clear various pending projects for promotion of tourism in Gujarat State	448
Shri Prakash Koko Brahmhatt	
(iii) Need to convert metre gauge railway line between Delhi and Ahmedabad into broad gauge	448—449
Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat	
(iv) Need for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in all fields of activities	449—450
Shri Ram Krishan Yadav	
(v) Need to take steps to enable northern districts of Malabar to receive Malayalam programmes from Trivandrum Doodarshan	450
Shri Mullappally Ramachandran	
(vi) Need to give stringent punishment to people violating provisions of Child marriage restraint laws	451
Shrimati Uma Gajapathi Raju	
(vii) Need to construct railway line between Satna and Rewa in Madhya Pradesh	451—452

Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri

(iii)

COLUMNS

(viii) Need to construct an over bridge over
railway bridge at Kamla Balan river near
Jhanjharpur in Madhubani district of Bihar

452

Shri Deveendra Prasad Yadav

Demands for Grants (General) 1990-91
Ministry of Water Resources
and
Ministry of Agriculture

453—552

Shri Prem Pradeep

453—456

Shri Rudrasen Chaudhary

456—461

Shri Bhajan Lal

461—469

Shri Manoranjan Sur

469—475

Shri Bega Ram

475—476

Shri Nani Bhattacharya

475—482

Shrimati Vijayaraje Scindia

482—489

Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam

489—494

Shri Ram Prasad Singh

494—498

Shri S.C. Verma

498—503

Shri M. Baga Reddy

503—509

Shri Amar Roypradhan

509—513

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh

514—517

Shri Kalp Nath Rai

517—524

Shri Shopat Singh Makkasar

524—532

Shri S. Singaravaival

532—535

(iv)

COLUMNS

Shri Ram Krishan Yadav	535—539
Prof. Savithri Lakshmanan	539—542
Shri Palai K.M. Mathew	542—545
Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav	545—550
Shri R. Jeevarathinam	550—552

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

STATEMENT

Places where salt Production units are functioning

Tuesday, May 8, 1990/ Vaisakha 18, 1912
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at four minutes past
Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Salt Production Units

*739. SHRI N. DANNIS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the places where self production units are functioning, State-wise; and

(b) the details of industries in which chemical use of salt is made on a major scale?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

I GUJARAT

1. Jamnagar
2. Bhavnagar
3. Porbandar
4. Mithapur
5. Singach
6. Salaya
7. Rajula
8. Kachchh (Ghandhidham, Mundra Jakhavu)
9. Dahej — Cambay
10. Dharasana
11. Maliya — Lavanpur
12. Santalpur
13. Namak Nagar
14. Patdi
15. Kharaghoda; and
16. Dharngadhra

- II **RAJASTHAN**
1. Sambhar
 2. Pachpadra
 3. Didwana
 4. Phalodi
 5. Jabadinagar — Nawa
 6. Kuchaman — Sargot Mithri
 7. Sujangarh; and
 8. Pokaran
- III **TAMIL NADU**
1. Tuticorin
 2. Arumuganeri
 3. Valinokkam
 4. Ramnad
 5. Cuddalore
 6. Vedaranyam
 7. Thambikotai
 8. Madras
 9. Covelon; and
 10. Nagercoil
- IV **ANDHRA PRADESH**
1. Kakinada
 2. Pennuguduru
 3. Gurujanapalli
 4. Chinnaganjam
 5. Iskapalli

6. Machilipatnam; and
 7. Krishnapatnam
- V **WEST BENGAL**
1. Contai
- VI **ORISSA**
1. Ganjam
 2. Sumadl
 3. Surla
 4. Goka
 5. Astrang; and
 6. Bolong
- VII **MAHARASHTRA**
1. Bhayandar
 2. Bhandup; and
 3. Uran
- VIII **KARNATAKA**
1. Sannikatta.
- IX **DAMAN & DIU**
- X **PONDICHERRY**
1. Karaikal
- XI **HIMACHAL PRADESH**
1. Mandi.

In Industry, salt is mainly used as raw material in the manufacture of caustic soda, chlorine and soda ash.

SHRI N. DENNIS: Salt industry in India is facing the worst crisis since independence. Paradoxically, it is due to over-production, crisis of plenty. The production of salt in

our country has crossed one crore tonnes and our domestic consumption is about 75 lakh tonnes. There is no prospect for increasing the quantity within a few years. So, setting up of salt-based industries in the over-producing areas of South and also exporting salt to other countries would reduce the crisis in the salt industry. Therefore, in order to avert crisis in the salt industry, I would like to know whether Government would take steps for setting up of salt-based industry in the areas of over-production and also for evolving export possibilities of salt to other countries.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, about half of the salt production is used for the industry. Basically such industries are caustic soda, chlorine and soda ash industries. Those units are already operating in the States where salt is produced. As for the consumption of salt and the export, there is not that much of a gap. Regarding export of salt, some units are already exporting. But to say that the price of salt would come down if we export more, I do not see how that would help.

SHRI N. DENNIS: The crisis in the salt industry has already affected employment prospects of a large number of productionists depending on it. Gujarat and Tamil Nadu are the major salt-producing States in the country. Except Rajasthan, salt production in other States is very nominal and low. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider setting up of salt-based industries and marine-based industries in the salt-producing States of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat to accommodate the large number of persons affected by the crisis in the salt industry. There is one more connected matter. In Kanyakumari District there are several areas... (*Interruptions*) Several areas of salt-production are now kept unused and idle because salt manufacturing is not going on there. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether such areas would be utilised by setting up of industries—either salt-based industries or other type of industries in such unused and idly kept areas.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member is correct in saying that it employs a lot of people. Currently, there are more than 9000 units producing salt and many of them are cooperatives. He has rightly mentioned that about 60 per cent of the salt is produced in the State of Gujarat. As I have already mentioned, the industries which used salt are naturally raw-material industries. Many of these units already exist there.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has just stated that Gujarat is the largest producer of salt in the country. The people of Gujarat generally believe that the Government in Delhi irrespective of party it belongs remains hostile to Gujarat. Which state had made more contribution in the national freedom struggle than Gujarat State? Had Gandhiji not been there, the country would have not got independence. Had Sardar Patel been not there unification of all the Indian States would have not taken place. Gujarat is the largest salt producing state in the country whereas its head office is at Jaipur. Will the hon. Minister shift this head office from Jaipur to Gujarat?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Should the office be located at the place where much of the salt is produced or where it has maximum consumption? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Are there more consumers in Rajasthan? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are small salt factories in the Contai district of Midnapore, West Bengal. They cannot mix up their salt produced with iodine. Because of this, these small factories have to approach the single factory which has monopolised in iodine mixing. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will pro-

vide iodine mixing technology and machinery to these small salt producers at Contai.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Currently, about half of the edible salt is iodised. And anyone can set up a unit to iodise the salt. There is no restriction on that.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: I come to understand from the answer of the hon. Minister that there is no such unit in my State, Kerala. My humble request is, will the Government be pleased to establish some units in Kerala where unemployment problem is at its peak?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: She is right in saying that there are no salt producing units in Kerala. Government has not plan to set up any unit producing salt.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Orissa having 480 kilometres of coast line has enough potential of producing salt. But there is one salt based unit at Chattarpur which is going to be closed down. I ask the hon. Minister that since this has not been exploited in Orissa, will the Government help Orissa to exploit these salt units? And secondly, will the Government have some new industries in Orissa Coast in view of the industry which has gone out of order?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: In Orissa, there are six places where salt is being produced.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: But it is not fully exploited.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The salt production in Orissa has been going up continuously since 1984.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: But it can still go up if the Central Government help the Orissa Government.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply laid on the Table of the House by the hon. Minister, salt

is also found in Mandi in Himachal Pradesh but the extraction is not done by scientific methods. Is there any proposal to introduce modern techniques in that salt unit jointly by the Central and the State Government or has the State Government sent such a proposal to the Central Government or is there any correspondence going on in this regard?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: At present no such talk or correspondence is going on with the State Government.

[*English*]

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA: In Gujarat, production of salt is more and consumption of salt is also more. But the thing which has been agitating the minds of Gujaratis is that when the production as well as the consumption of salt is more, still the headquarter of its is at Jaipur. I would like to know whether the Government wants to rethink of this matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: As I have just stated that there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government to shift the head office from Jaipur.

SHRI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the statement given by the hon. Minister, salt is produced in large quantity in Bhayandar, Bhandup and Uran in Maharashtra. Now-a-days the farmers engaged in salt production are in trouble because Tata has started salt production there by chemical process. As a result of it many farmers are not getting remunerative price for their salt. Has there been any decline in the salt production for last 4-5 years due to this reason? Will the hon. Minister state whether the Government will take care of the interests of the big industrialists or the interests of the farmers? Taking into consideration the decline in the salt production, will the Government formulate any plan to increase the production.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

there are three big companies who are producing iodised salt. The total salt production as per the licenced capacity is less than one and half lakh tonnes whereas more than 95 lakh tonnes salt is produced in the country. So as per the facts, it is not correct to say only big companies are producing salt.

[*English*]

SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: We all know that common salt is mainly used for the production of caustic soda and soda ash. But apart from that, the remnant mother-liquor usually discarded after salt production can be utilised for the recovery of very valuable by-products of the Halogen Family viz., Fluorine, Chlorine and particularly Bromine and Iodine. Is there any proposed by the Government to set up units in this regard as well?

[*Translation*]

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have said that it is used in industries whether it is for production of caustic soda or caustic. Chlorine is also being produced there. Units are already producing gas.

SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was shown in a T.V. serial that after the death of employees working in salt production units, their feet do not burn in the funeral pyre. So, will the hon. Minister state whether the Government have such information about these employees because they scrape salt with their feet? Has the Government taken any step to prevent such diseases?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, I do not have any information about what the hon. Member is saying. There are laws meant for all industries to provide protection to their mine workers and all other such workers. The Government will think over the matter raised by the Member.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is correct that the best quality of salt is produced in salt units at Sambhar, Didwana and Pachpadra in

Rajasthan and supplied outside the State? Is it also true that lakhs of tonnes of salt is produced at Kharwal and Deswal in Rajasthan and lakhs of people are getting employment there? The hon. Minister may please reply these two questions.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what the hon. Member has said is true. His information is correct.

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Now use of iodised salt is the policy of the Government. While this is beneficial and perhaps a must in the tarai region, the question that arises is whether this is beneficial in the coastal region and whether or not iodised salt is harmful in certain regions of the country. If so, in such areas should the use of iodised salt not be banned?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: I understand the hon. Member wants to know whether iodised salt is harmful to health in certain areas. In such cases we will go by the advice of the Health Ministry. As far as we know, they have advised that iodised salt should be used all over the country by the year 1992. Right now, it is for the tarai region where goitre is there. But we go by the advice of the Health Ministry.

[*Translation*]

Small Hydro-Power Projects in Bihar

*741. **SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received a request from Government of Bihar for assistance to set up small hydel power plants in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Union Government to the request of Bihar Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): No, Sir.

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

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Union Government has not received any request from Government of Bihar for assistance to set up hydel power plants. But it is not correct. As per my information Government of Bihar had requested the Central Government for hydel power plants in the year 1984-85 and 1985-86. But the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that no request has been received. I can challenge it. North Bihar is affected by floods and there is no scarcity of water. Due to heavy rains in hilly areas, Kosi, Sone and Ganga rivers cause floods in that area. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would like to provide full financial assistance to Bihar Government for the development of hydel power?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: The hon. Member's question was whether Union Government have received a request from Government of Bihar for assistance to set up small hydel power plants in Bihar? I have stated in my reply that the Central Government has not received any such request from Bihar Government. The hon. Member need not to challenge it. If he gives us clear and definite information about the request made by the Bihar Government, I assure him that we would take immediate action on them. If I get definite information from the Member I would correct my information which have been made available to me. We are making earnest efforts for agricultural and economic development in the country and for that purpose we need power. There is power shortage in Bihar and it is our endeavour to solve the problem of power shortage very soon so that the pace of economic development could be accelerated.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would talk to the Nepalese Government

or setting up hydel power project on Kosi river and if so, when it will be done?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, we have been making efforts for many years to set up hydel power projects on those rivers which flow from Nepal into India. We have repeatedly raised this matter with Nepal and the proposals are lying at different levels of consideration. It is not possible for me to give full details but it is in our mind and it is our endeavour to implement these projects as early as possible.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Sir, at some place of Champaran district in Bihar electricity is supplied from Nepal and it is seen that there has been a regular supply of electricity in these areas. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any talk is going on with the Nepalese Government to provide electricity to some more areas?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, As I have submitted earlier that it is a matter involving another and if hon. Member has any new arrangement in mind and he is talking about a particular area where electricity is to be provided from any other power station, it can be looked into. Basically, it is the responsibility of State Government to provide electricity but the Central Government has also taken the responsibility to supply electricity through central projects.

SHRI JORAWAR RAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated just now that floods in rivers Koel and Sone which pass through Palamau district, threaten Patna every year and it is a permanent feature. Millions of rupees are spent to save Patna. As much as 400 M.W. electricity is generated from Kanhar river. This river also flow from Palamau district Kutuku dam is being constructed on Koel river and power will be generated from this also. I would like to know from hon. Minister the steps being taken by the Government to completed dams on Kutuku and Kanhar rivers to generate electricity from them.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, I

can say that a total of 4778.09 of electricity generation was anticipated from Sone Western, Gandak North, Koel North, Sone North, Tenughat Muzzafarpur, Patratu during the 7th Plan period. But all this work is to be executed by the State Government, out of it only 220 M.W. electricity has been generated. The projects to be executed in the 8th Plan are Chandil, Tenughat, North Koel, Tenughat extension, Tenu Bokaro, Soneved, North Kupdali, Sone East etc. These projects will be completed by the State Governments with the help of Central Government to meet the shortage of electricity.

[English]

SHRI A.K. ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whether Bihar Government has sought permission or help from the Central Government for constructing mini hydel power plants or not, but the prospect of such plants is very important in our economy. We discussed this subject many times in the past also in the Energy Ministry or the Consultative Committee. you know that for constructing big hydel plants, the acquisition of the land, submergence of the villages, etc., are creating a lot of problems these days. For example, in our areas, the Koel Karo project is pending for the last 15 years due to these problems. The fate of Subernarekha project is also like that. They are to produce 750MW of electricity. I do not say that small are beautiful and big dams are bad dams. But I would like to know in this context whether the Government of India, especially the Energy Ministry, would have aresh look over the prospect and future and utility of these mini hydel power plants. I would like to know as to whether or not in this context the Government has contemplated or made some plan in the Eighth Five Year Plan to promote mini-hydel plants in India, particularly in the Chhota Nagpur Plateau.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. In fact we are fully conscious of the points which he has mentioned. A systematic study of assessing the country's power potential to set up small mini and micro plants is presently under

progress in the Central Electricity Authority and the likely period of completion of this study is 1991-92. In addition to this, the REC has given its approval to take up six mini-hydel projects as a pilot programme in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. Now, there is another proposal to allow the Rural Electrification Corporation to provide financial assistance to State Electricity Boards for implementation of small hydel projects with a capacity of above 3 MW on a regular basis. A portion of mini and micro hydel projects with a capacity between 100 KW and 3 MW has been transferred to the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Resources so that they can take up the programme on a larger basis.

Task Force for Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project

+

*742. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Task Force has been appointed to sort out the tangle over the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far; and

(c) when the issue is likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). the Bakreshwar Thermal Project of 630 MW (3 x 210 MW) in West Bengal is being implemented in the State Sector. In view of the paucity of resources, the West Bengal Government have sought permission to avail of Soviet credit for this

project. The Government of India have decided 'in principle' to pass on the Soviet assistance available under the Agreement between the Government of India and USSR on economic and technical cooperation dated the 24th November, 1987 for the implementation of the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project. A Task Force has been set up on the 4th April, 1990 to formulate a clearer project definition and to determine the quantum of credit which would have to be agreed to by the Government of USSR also. The Task Force has already visited the project site. The work of the Task Force is progressing satisfactorily towards making its recommendations expeditiously.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, the statement is quite clear and precise except one point. The statement has said particularly that Bakreshwar Project is a State project. Then, it is also stated that the Government have decided, in principle, to pass on the Soviet assistance available to the West Bengal Government. But what is still confusing is that part of the statement where it is said that it is necessary to formulate a clearer project definition and also to determine the quantum of Soviet assistance. Here lies the hitch. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is really meant by 'a clearer project definition'? Is it the question of technically linking up ABL-Babcock supplied boilers for which orders have been placed by the Government of West Bengal and Soviet-supplied Turbine Generators? In this case, it has to be remembered that the original project envisages 3x210 MW plant and the boilers have been ordered on that specification. But Soviet Union from whom we like to import Turbine Generators produced TG sets of only 225 MW capacity. They do not produce TG sets of our specification, namely, 3x210 MW capacity. Is it not a question of inter-linking the two and does that stand in the way of early clearance of the project?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: In fact, the hon. Member is so well convergent with the various aspects of the project and he himself has given the answer while putting his question. The hon. Member himself

mentioned the problem. For some period of time, we were not able to take it up at a certain stage. It was because a decision was taken that bilateral foreign credit will not be made available to projects which are being implemented in the State sector. That was the position which was taken by the Central Government and the West Bengal Government. They decided that if bilateral credit was not made available for the implementation of the Bakreshwar Project, then they would use their own resources and they would implement this project. Having taken that decision, they went ahead and they placed orders for certain equipments on indigenous manufacturers. Now, the problem is that if bilateral assistance is to be made available, then there are many questions involved like to use of bilateral funds for the import of equipment, which is to be met from the countries which are making this credit assistance available to the country. All these questions are to be resolved. I do not think the Hon. Member should feel that there is any hesitation or there is any hitch on the part of the Government of India.

Last time, I had said that we had taken a decision in principle that we would make this bilateral assistance available for the implementation of the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project. The Task Force, as I have mentioned in my reply, has already visited the site. They are satisfied with the progress of work with the Russian Team, which is already in India, and this Russian Team is going to visit the site after 15th May to finalise financial tie-up of equipment and designs and after that, credit agreement with USSR will be signed.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is confident enough to take care of the question. Please sit down.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: So far as the Soviet credit is concerned, the quantum was already finalised. Now, what is the reason, that the question of re-determination of the Soviet credit came. Secondly, I would like to know whether the clearance of this Project from other Central Government agencies has already been made available to the

Government of India.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, I do not think it will be right to say that the quantum of assistance was decided earlier. Earlier, the decision was that bilateral assistance would not be made available for the implementation of the Projects which are in the State sector. But, a total amount of 700 million Roubles is available under the agreement between the Government of India and USSR on economic and technical cooperation. As I said earlier, to tie up about the equipment and designs etc, how much money will be made available for the implementation, all these are matters of details, which are to be worked out between the Task Force and the Russian Team. I do not think there is any reason to have any apprehension in mind on this account. For this Project, we will make this assistance available, and I am absolutely confident that this Project will be implemented as per schedule.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: The Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project has been hanging over a pretty long time because of the previous Government. It is a justified claim of the people of West Bengal. Now, the new Government has assured that this foreign credit, that is, Soviet assistance will be made available. They have also expressed their satisfaction with regard to the outlay, design and other requirements. May I know from the hon. Minister whether this clearance and finalisation of the quantum of assistance will be declared within two or three months so that the progress already made may be maintained by the Government of West Bengal?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I have already made the point that the Task Force has met on 16th April, 25th April and 26th April, 1990. The Chairman along with three members of the Task Force has already visited Bakreshwar project site on the 20th April, 1990 to have a first hand idea of the progress of the project at the site made so far. I have also mentioned that the Russian team which is already in India will be going to visit the site after the 15th May. I hope the

hon. Member will not insist that I give a specific date, but I hope that everything will be finalised even before the time which the hon. Member has mentioned.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The hon. Minister about three weeks ago answered this question and at that time, as I remember, he clearly said in answer to a direct question that it had been decided by the Government of India to give Soviet credit directly to the State for implementation of this project. Now, the wording has changed and I hope, all the supporters of this project will look into it. The wording now is:

"The Government of India have decided 'in principle' to pass on the Soviet assistance available under the agreement between the Government of India and the USSR on economic and technical cooperation dated 24.11.1987 for implementation of the Bakreshwar Thermal Power Project."

The hon. Minister knows that when a project assistance from a foreign country goes directly to the State, then the entire money goes to the State. If it goes through the Government of India, the entire amount does not go to the State for project implementation. It was agreed that Rs. 600 crores would be the total Soviet aid and out of which Rs. 350 crores would go to the State for implementation of this project in joint section. Probably, the hon. Minister has not gone through the file. The West Bengal Government has also published a brochure stating this. This is because it is going to be joint sector. My plea is that the entire Soviet assistance which was agreed upon, that is Rs. 600 crores should go directly to the State for implementation of this project and the Government of India should not keep any amount. Secondly, the total amount required is Rs. 1800 crores. Rs. 600 crores was agreed upon. Thereafter, we found in the newspapers that it came down to Rs. 350 crores. Seven days ago, we found somebody talking from the Department that it would be about Rs. 180 crores, because two boilers had already been ordered for. I would

like to know what is the quantum already upon and whether the Government of India is sticking to this, and secondly whether this entire assistance of USSR will go directly to the State or not.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: The hon. Member is a very experienced parliamentarian. However, it will be good if instead of relying totally on his memory, he relies on the documents, on the records of the House. Last time, when I had replied to this question, I had made it specifically clear that this is a State project and we have decided to extend bilateral assistance to this project through the Power Finance Corporation. So, there was no question of my saying what the hon. Member is trying to attribute to me. I have also made this point that at some stage this decision was taken that bilateral assistance will not be made available to the State power projects. Because of it, the West Bengal Government had gone ahead and placed orders on the indigenous manufacturers for the procurement of the equipments. Since this order has already been placed, we have to work out the details. We don't want the West Bengal Government to cancel these orders. The West Bengal Government had placed the orders for the boilers which are to be used at the Bakreshwar project. We will have to see as to whether these equipments can be used in some other such projects or not. We don't want to cancel these orders. The order have been placed on the indigenous manufacturers and the details are being worked out. We will try to ensure that this project is implemented as per the scheduled.

Self Sufficiency in Petroleum Products

*744. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated demand and production of Petroleum products by the end of the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether the target of self-reliance is likely to be achieved by the turn of the

century; and

(c) if so, the details of the perspective plan made in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The anticipated demand of petroleum products by the end of the VIII five year plan is 77.7 million tonnes.

Production estimates can be arrived at only after the finalisation of the projects for new refineries and expansion of existing refineries in the VIII Plan.

(b) No firm projection can be made in this regard.

(c) Proposals to set up three new grass-root refineries at Karnal, Mangalore and Numaligarh (Assam) and a Crude Distillation Unit near Nagapattinam in the Cauvery basin are under the consideration of Government. Refining capacity will also be further increased through low cost expansions and debottlenecking. Proposals for three additional grassroot refineries are also under the consideration of Government. However these three additional refineries can come up only during the IX Plan period.

It is also the Government's endeavour to increase production of crude oil through intensification of exploration activities and use of enhanced oil recovery techniques.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I had asked the production estimates of the Eighth Plan. It is very unfortunate that so far Government is not having any idea as to what would be the projection estimates in the Eighth Plan period. I fail to understand how can the Government function like this. The Eighth Plan period has already been started but they still do not have any estimated figure. Petroleum is a very vital sector and a lot of foreign exchange is spent on it. I would like to know why the Government is still sleeping on this. They don't even have the idea as to what would be the production figure at the end of this Plan period.

Secondly, I had asked as to when we will be self-reliant in this field and the reply given by the Minister states, "No firm projection can be made in this regard." I would say Government should have a master plan for this vital sector. So, I would specifically like to know from the Minister as to what would be the production figure for the Eighth Plan period and what are your plans for achieving self-reliance in this vital sector.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I have got figures for the indigenous production of crude oil for a few years. I will give the information to you. In the year 1989-90, the crude oil production was 34 million tonnes. The estimated crude oil production in the year 1990-91 is 35.90 million tonnes. In 1994-95, that is at the end of Eighth Plan period which my friend is asking for, the estimated crude oil production will be 50.72 million tonnes. So, we have plans. I have given these figures for the benefit of the House. In several cases, the demand for petroleum products is increasing. There cannot be full self-sufficiency. We have achieved about 60 per cent self-sufficiency. This will be kept up in the Eighth Plan period also. May I say this that the demand for petroleum products by the end of the Eighth Plan will be near about 77 million tonnes. The deficit in petroleum products will be 18 million tonnes in 1994-95. The deficit will be 42 million tonnes in the year 1999-2000.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: He has stated that 60 per cent of our needs will be met by the indigenous production. He also cautioned us that we are not going to achieve self-sufficiency at all. It is because the demands for petroleum products are on the increase. That is fine. But that does not speak good of the Government. I feel that the Government should aim at bringing self-sufficiency. It can be done in two ways.

Firstly, you must think about the ways by which you can curtail the use of the petroleum products. I would like to ask the Government whether you have any plan to see that petroleum-diesel or petrol or what-

ever it is- is produced in sufficient quantity.

Secondly, the Rajiv Gandhi Government had initiated a drive for non-conventional energy sources. A lot has to be tapped from non-conventional energy sources. That has to be a substitute for petroleum products. I find that this Government is not giving sufficient attention to that. That is a way by which the use of petroleum products can be curtailed. So, by encouraging production of non-conventional energy sources, you can curtail the use of petroleum products. There is a wide potential in that area in this country. I would like to know whether the Government would like to continue the efforts started by the Rajiv Gandhi Government in regard to non-conventional energy sources. There are already areas of oil exploration, but you have to find new areas also. I know something has been done regarding Kerala Coast. I would also like to know which are the new areas in oil exploration that you are going to begin, including Kerala Coast, Tamil Nadu Coast-Cauveri Basin-that is in the South. I would like to know what action you are going to take in these areas.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I would have to agree with many of the things raised by my friend Prof. Kurien. I think, as a country, we have to think of control and restraint on the consumption of petroleum products. It is because the gap between the demand and the supply is increasing. It is bound to increase in future. Though we are trying to encourage non-conventional fuel, we have not fully succeeded in that, but we are making our efforts in that direction. I welcome the suggestion. Our effort will be to see that non-conventional energy is utilised more and more. We will concentrate our efforts on that. But in the meantime, may I take the House into confidence and say that there has got to be restraint and control in the use of petroleum products.

The other day I made a suggestion in this House about it. With the approval of Parliament, I want to introduce one holiday every week throughout India from petrol pumps. I want to seek your help and coopera-

tion in this regard. I want to control and put some restraint on the consumption of petrol. This year, the demand for petrol is about 14 per cent more than last year. If this goes on, we will need foreign exchange on a large scale. We cannot afford to use this much foreign exchange for this. We are taking various steps to conserve energy. We are improving our fuel efficiency in many sectors. There is a Research Cell which is functioning very effectively. But, still it has got its limitations. Perhaps in future we will be facing a great crisis in the petroleum sector.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very essential to increase production of petroleum products. But at the same time its distribution is also very important. There is a lot of bungling in its distribution. I would like to put a question containing 2 or 3 parts from the hon. Minister. What is the policy regarding distribution of Petroleum Products? How many distributors are there in the country? What is the number of scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes among them and is there any reservation for them. How many distributors are to be appointed in Delhi this year?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: This question does not arise out of this at all.

MR. SPEAKER: It is upto to reply to it or not.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: As far as trying to increase our production of crude oil. But there is a limit to that. Only God or dame luck can help us and give us another Bombay High so that we may be able to reach 100 per cent self-sufficiency. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, we are trying our best; we are improving our production quite a bit. In 1989-90, we had increased the production of crude oil nearly by 2 million tonnes. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked about the distributor because the bungling is going on in its distribution.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He cannot reply to that

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please tell him that distribution is an important matter.

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: A detailed report has been submitted to the Government of India for setting up a refinery at Mangalore and also a petro-chemicals complex costing Rs. 1,600 crores. The hon. Minister was also in the Government of Karnataka. Now Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde is in the Planning Commission. The hon. Minister talks about only an oil refinery; he does not talk about a petro-chemicals complex. It was to come to PAC in the month of October when we were about to hand over our charge to this Government. It was in the month of November. What has happened to the petro-chemicals complex?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not talking about the petro-chemicals complex in Mangalore, because there are several projects which are pending before this Government on this sector. We have to take an overall view on which project will go in the 8th Plan and which project will not go in the 9th Plan. During the regime of the previous Government, all sorts of projects were there, not one. There are several projects which are pending in my Ministry. We have got to make a selection out of them. Therefore, I cannot just tell the House which project on the petro-chemicals side will be taken up in the 8th Plan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the consumption of petroleum is increasing in proportion to increase in the number of private vehicles. The number of private vehicles is increasing because most of the people keep many vehicles as status symbol and for comfort and luxury. I, therefore, want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government will take any action to restrict the growing number of private vehicles and strengthen our public transport system.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Maruti Car Distributors in Southern Region

*740. **SHRI A. N. SINGH DEO:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maruti Udyog Limited had decided to appoint distributors for the sale of their products in Southern region;

(b) the names of places where these distributors were to be appointed and whether applications for distributor-ships were invited and deposits accepted;

(c) whether distributors have been appointed for these places; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). Maruti Udyog Limited already has dealers in South India. A new dealership was advertised for Belgaum. An earnest money deposit of Rs. 10,000/- each was collected against a total of fortyfive

valid applications received. The applications received are under scrutiny.

Implementation of Measures Regarding Customers Services in Indian Airlines

*743. **SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYA-WANSHI:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a package of measures was proposed by the Indian Airlines in January, 1990 to improve customer services to refurbish the Airlines image in the light of several problems facing it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of measures out of them implemented so far; and

(d) the reasons for non-implementation of the remaining measures?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The major measures announced in December, 1989 are as follows:-

(A) Accurate and prompt dissemination of information

(i) Provision of additional High Frequency-Single Side Band HF-SSB sets at 19 more stations;

(ii) Safdarjung Airport Booking Office of Indian Airlines to be provided with Auto-Answering Machines;

(iii) Provision of 20 additional telephone lines; and

- (iv) Extension of Tele-text service from 4.00 a.m. to midnight.

of surprise inspections will be implemented in due course, although the customer services are constantly over-seen.

(B) Improvement in facilitation services

- (i) Re-organising and strengthening of customer service units at major airports.
- (ii) Provision of additional cash counters;
- (iii) Serving of tea, coffee, snacks, etc. to stranded passengers at airport restaurants;
- (iv) Transportation of passengers to airport hotels in case of longer delays;
- (v) Prominent display of information at selected hotels regarding delayed flights;
- (vi) Making arrangements with hotels in case of longer delays;
- (vii) Designating officials for providing assistance in refunds, taxi-vouchers, hotel accommodation, etc., and
- (viii) Surprise inspections at Delhi airport for independent feedback.

(c) and (d). Except the following, the above mentioned measures have been implemented. Additional HF-SSB sets could not be provided at all the 19 stations as the equipment had to be imported. The scheme

Additional Terminal at Gandhinagar

*745. SHRI SHANKER SINGH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish an additional terminal at Gandhinagar, Gujarat; and

(b) if so, when the project is likely to be taken up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey has been approved for developing Gandhinagar as a Supplementary Coaching Terminal to Ahmedabad.

Airport at Ajmer

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

(a) whether any sanction was given in or around 1988 for the construction of an airport at Kishangarh near Ajmer:

(b) if so, the progress made in the construction of the airport; and

(c) the time by which it is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

Setting up of Central Public Sector Enterprise in Vidarbha Region.

*747. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a long standing demand from the people of Vidarbha for setting up of some major central public sector enterprises in that industrially and economically backward region;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up any central public sector enterprise in that region;

(c) if so, the details thereof and when it is likely to be cleared; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). Central investments are made taking into consideration techno-economic viability of projects while keeping in view the need for overall balanced regional development. At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up any new Central Public Sector Enterprise in Vidarbha Region.

Functioning of District Industries Centres

*748. SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether deficiencies have been noticed in the functioning of district industries centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to make them more effective?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). The overall performance of District Industries Centres has been satisfactory. However, some deficiencies like, weak data base, insufficient delegation of powers, out dated project profiles, large number of vacancies and lack of trained and motivated personnel have been noticed. The concerned State Govts. have been requested to take necessary corrective measures.

Setting up of Thermal Power Station in Visakhapatnam

*749. SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONTHALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision on setting up of coal based thermal power station at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project and the steps taken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). A feasibility report in respect of the installation of a Thermal Power Station (2x500MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 1477.34 crores at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh was received in the Central Electricity Authority in September, 1988 from the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board. It would be possible for the Central Electricity Authority to appraise the project techno-economically after all the essential inputs such as water and coal availability, etc., are tied up and necessary clearances including from environmental angle obtained by the State Authorities.

Requirement and Production of Chloroquine Phosphate

*750. SHRI S. B. THORAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated requirement of Chloroquine Phosphate in the country and the quantity produced indigenously and imported during the last three years separately;

(b) the main producers of Chloroquine Phosphate and the quantity produced by each of them during the last three years;

(c) the efforts made/proposed to encourage the production of Chloroquine Phosphate in the country and the results thereof;

(d) the current price fixed for Chloroquine Phosphate and when it was fixed;

(e) whether the producers have demanded price revision and if so, the action taken thereon; and

(f) the incentives being given to producers in small scale sector vis-a-vis MRTTP Companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The demand for Chloroquine Phosphate in the country for the year 1990-91 as estimated by the 8th Plan Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceutical is 200 MT. Available details of production and import of Chloroquine Salts are given below:-

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Production (MT)	177.6	140.10	130.08
Imports (Kg)	28870	14270	26977

(b) Details regarding Chloroquine Salts are given in the Statement below.

(c) To encourage production, Chloroquine Phosphate has been delicensed. M/s. IDPL, BILL and IPCA Labs. have stepped up production of this item.

(d) The current price of Chloroquine

Phosphate is Rs. 833 per Kg. w.e.f. 6.11.1989.

(e) No request for price revision of this drug is pending.

(f) Price fixed is the same for all Chloroquine producers whether small scale or MRTTP companies.

STATEMENT**PRODUCTION**

Name of company	A/c Unit (MT)	1986-87	1987-88
	1988-89		
1. IDPL	0.10	7.36	16.42
2. BIL	0.32	0.78	1.06

<i>Name of company</i> 1988-89	<i>A/c Unit (MT)</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>1987-88</i>
3. BEC Chemicals	20.70	4.00	9.77
4. Suneeta Chemicals	31.17	16.62	6.03
5. Ranbaxy Labs.	53.82	43.96	14.66
6. Bayer (India) Ltd.	33.04	2987	30.73
7. Qure Drugs	15.29	-	-
8. IPCA Labs.	23.16	37.51	51.41

Use of Hybrid Names

*751. SHRI MANIK SANYAL:
CH. RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 27 March, 1990 to Starred Question No. 225 regarding use of foreign brand names and state:

(a) the reasons for not objecting to a foreign brand name being used alongwith another word;

(b) whether such name becomes an Indian brand name;

(c) whether it circumvents or violates the object of the condition that no foreign brand name will be allowed for domestic sales; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). The reason for not objecting to the use of a foreign-owned trade

mark in conjunction with an Indian-owned trade mark is that there is no contravention of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958, or the foreign collaboration approval given by the Government in such cases.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Power Shortage in North Bihar

752. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has formulated any scheme to meet power shortage in North Bihar; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps being taken by Government for generating power from solar energy in North Bihar; and

(c) the time by which the work of rural electrification in Bihar is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) So far, no project has been approved to set up solar power plants for supply of electricity on a commercial basis in North Bihar.

(c) The work of electrification of the remaining villages in Bihar is likely to be completed by the end of the Eight Plan, subject to availability of funds and other inputs.

**Discontinuing of 'Janata Express'
Passenger Trains**

753. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the total number of 'Janata Express' passenger trains running in the country as on 1 January 1985;

(b) the names of the trains which were discontinued during the last five years and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to restart these trains; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY
SINGH): (a) Twenty paise.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Re-organised rationalised services that have replaced them provide better facilities to passengers.

STATEMENT

During the period 1985 to 1989 the character/composition of the following Janata Trains was changed either by way of provision of Upper Class accommodation or as a result of change in their names after replacement by better services:-

1. 17/18 Madras Central-Jammu Tawi Express
 2. 13/14 Bombay- Madras Express
 3. 41/42 Bombay-Howrah Express
 4. 169/170 Bombay-Bhagalpur Express
 5. 913/914 Bombay-Muzaffarpur Express
 6. 131/132 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Cochin/Mangalore Express
 7. 81/82 Bombay-Kanniya Kumari Express
 8. 61/62 Howrah-Dehradun Express
 9. 153/154 Muzaffarpur-Delhi Express
 10. 45/46 Delhi-Amritsar Express
 11. 37/38 Madras-Howrah Express
 12. 305/306 Cochin-Shoranur Express
 13. 165/166 Howrah-New Bongaigaon Express
- METRE GAUGE:**
14. 31/32 Delhi-Ahmadabad Aravali Express

[English]

Dulhasti and Kawas Project

754. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to award Dulhasti and Kawas Power Projects to M/s. Alsthom;

(b) whether the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation found the Alsthom quotation very high; and

(c) if so, the reasons for awarding the contracts to the firm?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The contract for turn-key execution of Dulhasti Hydroelectric Project has been awarded by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation to a French Consortium led by M/s. CEGELEC (formerly known as CGEE Alsthom). The contract was awarded to the French Consortium as their offer was found to be lower in the net evaluated costs taking into account the financing package offered.

The contract for Kawas Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project has been awarded by the National Thermal Power Corporation, based on international competitive bids, received under the World Bank financing, to the lowest evaluated bidder M/s. GEC Alsthom S. A., France.

Share of Decontrolled Drugs Production by Multi-national Companies

755. SHRI K. MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount ploughed back and invested by the multinational drug compa-

nies during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the names of the products of these companies which are price decontrolled and the percentage of production of such drugs to total production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). There are more than 30 transnational companies in the Pharmaceutical Sector operating in the country. However, companies having more than 40% equity i.e., FERA companies are only Six. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals does not monitor the details of the investments made by companies and also does not monitor the details to their entire product range. The amount ploughed back by transnational companies in making fresh investments is also not monitored by this Department.

Utilisation of Bombay High Gas

756. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:
SHRI A. R. ANTULAY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some natural gas is also being produced from Bombay High along with crude oil;

(b) if so, its volume and how it is proposed to be used for industrial purposes;

(c) whether any pipelines are being laid for transferring the natural gas from Bombay High to terminals in the mainland; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Pres-

ently about 26.5 million cubic metres per day of associated gas is being produced from Bombay High field. A part of this gas is being transported to Uran through the Bombay High-Uran Pipeline and to Hazira through the connecting pipeline from Bombay High-Uran to South Bassein. The gas so transported is used for various industrial purposes.

(c) and (d). A new pipeline is being installed to link Heera fields in 1990-91. In addition, other pipelines and allied facilities are being planned for compression and transportation of gas from offshore production facilities to onshore terminals.

Report of Panel on Westland Helicopters

*757. SHRI GANGA CHARAN
LODHI:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the panel of experts set up on operational and safety aspects of Westland Helicopters has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The report is under examination.

[*Translation*]

Central Assistance to Anpara 'B' Project of U. P.

*758. SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANG-
WAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Union government have received any request from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance for Anpara 'B' project;

(b) if so, the nature and extent thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The Uttar Pradesh Government has suggested the following alternatives to be considered for the implementation of Anpara 'B' Thermal Project:-

(i) The Government of India should provide special central assistance in order to cover the entire expenditure on the project for the next two years;

(ii) The project might be taken over by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) but implementation of the project should continue to be done by the staff of the U.P. State Electricity Board presently engaged on the projects.

(iii) The project may be executed as a joint sector project of the State Government and the Government of India as has been done in case of Tehri Hydro-electric Project.

In view of the various administrative and technical difficulties involved in the taking up this project in the Central/Joint Sector, it has been indicated to the State authorities that the project should continue to be imple-

mented in the State Sector. As regards additional financial assistance sought by the U. P. Government, the Government of India is seized of the matter.

[*English*]

News Item Captioned "Wing Damage to Boeing Hushed Up"

7794. SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "Wing Damage to Boeing Hushed Up" appeared in the "Indian Express" Bombay dated 22nd October, 1989;

(b) If so, together Government have received any report on the above incident from the Director General of Civil Aviation;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The left hand leading edge flap of the aircraft was damaged in the incident.

(c) One Supervisor and one Technician who were found responsible were warned by Air India.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Gas Chulha Scheme in Rajasthan

7795. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gas Chulha scheme has been introduced in certain district headquarters, cities and towns of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of other cities and towns in the State where this scheme is proposed to be introduced; and

(d) the criteria adopted therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). No such scheme has been introduced or proposed to be introduced in district headquarters, cities and towns or Rajasthan. However, LPG facility is being provided in a phased manner to cities/towns with a population of 20,000 and above which offer viable distributorships, subject to overall availability of the product.

[*English*]

Firm Blacklisted by Air India for Misappropriation of Tickets

7796. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a firm has been blacklisted by the Air India for misappropriation and fraud of tickets amounting to Rs. 1 crores;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Ticket stocks have been withdrawn from M/s. Supreme Travels from May, 1989. This

agency was declared in default in September, 89 by Saudia Airlines. As far as Air India is concerned, there are no outstandings from this agent. This agent was issuing two coupon conjunction tickets in Indian rupees for journey from India to Dubai and back but used to send these tickets to Dubai without mentioning the passengers' name and the tickets were sold in Dubai. Passengers used to commence their journey from Dubai to India and back and according to the rules, such travel was considered out of sequence and therefore, not permissible.

(c) and (d). The Directorate of Enforcement, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India, Bombay have registered a suo-moto case and searched the premises of Supreme Travels. Air India have also made available certain documents asked for by the Directorate of Enforcement.

Complaints Against Officials Ranipet Unit of BHEL

7797. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints against the officials working in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited Unit at Ranipet in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against those found guilty;

(c) whether top officers in the unit have been holding the same posts for several years;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to transfer these officials as per the norms prescribed in the service rules; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nobody has been found guilty.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Growth of Sunrise Industries

7798. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the growth of 'sunrise' industries in the country;

(b) if so, whether any long term plan has been drawn up for their development; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The most important sunrise industry is electronics industry. The growth of this industry has been approximately 35% during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

(b) and (c). While finalising the Eighth Five Year Plan, the recommendations of the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission for development of electronics industry will be taken into consideration.

Suicide by Scientists/Research Scholars

7799. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scientists/Research scholars who committed suicide in various research organisations of his Ministry during the last three years department/organisa-

tion wise;

(b) whether any investigation was made into each case; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Nil.

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

**Procurement of Brushes by
Chittaranjan Locomotive
Works**

7800. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Asansol, West Bengal; has been importing various kinds of items including the carbon brushes to meet its requirements;

(b) whether the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works has been also procuring various kinds of other brushes containing bristles and other chemical/nylon fibres for heavy industrial jobs;

(c) whether these brushes are imported or procured from indigenous sources;

(d) whether these brushes are manufactured in public sector also;

(e) if so, the facts thereof; and

(f) the efforts being made to procure these materials from Public Sector organisations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Chittaranjan Locomotive Works are importing only few hardcore and sophisticated items to meet their requirements. As regards Carbon

Brushes, these are procured from indigenous sources only except one time import in 1988 which was made from Japan under Technical Collaboration Agreement.

(b) to (e). Various types of brushes are procured from indigenous sources only. Except Diesel component Works, Patiala, which is Railways' own Production Unit, no other Government Company is known to manufacture brushes required by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works.

(f) Procurement of Carbon Brushes is done by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works through advertised tenders for value, above the specified limit, wherein the Public Sector Undertakings, if any, have the opportunity to quote for their products.

Compensation for Damages to Passengers on IC 173 Flight

7801. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras bound passengers booked on IC 173 of December, 1989 have claimed compensation for damages from the India Airlines;

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

(c) whether Government have conducted nay enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government against the defaulting officers for causing unnecessary hardship to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No legal show cause notice was received by Indian Airlines. However, a written complaint signed by 123 passengers of IC-173 of 28th of

December, 1989 was received by Indian Airlines regarding progressive delay to the said flight, and subsequent postponement to the 29th of December, 1989. In the letter it was also asked as to why the said passengers could not proceed against the Indian Airlines for damages/loss of business/set-back in their health, etc.

Passengers were, however, informed of the delay on account of the fog conditions in the northern Indian airports. They were provided hotel accommodation, transportation and were served dinner.

(c) and (d). The matter has been investigated by the Indian Airlines. The passengers were kept informed of the delay which was on account of fog conditions in the northern part of India which resulted in disruption to the flight schedule and shortage of crew.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Scrap by Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

7802. SHRI PIYUS TIRADKY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a case of large scale bungling in weighing and sale of scrap by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi has been detected recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the sale of scrap in the last three years;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (e). No case of large

scale bungling in weighing and sale of scrap by the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi has been detected recently. As no such case has been detected, no enquiry was conducted into the sale of scrap in the last three years.

Occupation of Quarters of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

7803. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of quarters in the housing colony of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi are unauthorisedly occupied by some people;

(b) if s, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Heavy Engineering Corporation to get the unauthorised occupation vacated during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). About 128 nos. of HEC quarters are unauthorisedly occupied by different categories of people, such as Police personnel, Unions/Clubs, ex-employees, widows of ex-employees and outsiders etc.

(c) The company has taken various steps such as regularisation in respect of the working employees on attaining entitlement, and eviction under the law with the help of concerned authorities etc.

[*English*]

Irregularities in Execution of Kota-Chittoor Project

7804. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities, particularly the use of black cotton soil and flaky and soft stone ballast, has been noticed in the execution of Kota-Chittorgarh broad gauge railway line project;

(b) whether any enquiry is being conducted in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). some complaints regarding irregularities in earth work and use of flaky ballast have been received recently and investigations are in progress.

Black-Marketing of 1000 CC Maruti Cars

7805. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "1000 CC MUL Car-allottees encash lotteries" appearing in the the 'Economic times' dated 2 April, 1990;

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

(c) the effective measures Government propose to take to forestall large scale black-marketing in these cars?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is no legal ban on resale of cars or allotment letters. Apparently, the only measure which can reduce

the premium on such sales is higher production.

Difference in Wholesale Price Index

7806. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wholesale price index for all commodities on March 31, 1990 is at new high;

(b) if so, how it compares with the wholesale Price Index of the same period last year; and

(c) the difference in the prices of high speed diesel, petrol gur, rice bran oil, khandsari, solvent extracted groundnut oil, cotton seed oil, cigarettes, straw mill board, tyres, rubber, plastic, fire works, polystyrene, lead, pig. iron, bloms, billets, slabs skelp (or mild steel tensile plates) angles, channels & sections, joints & roles, heavy/light structurals, sheet & tin, diesel locomotives, car chassis, arhar, coffee, urad, gram, condiments, copra, gingelly seed, saf flower, raw tobacco, refrigerators & airconditioners during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Wholesale Price Index (base: 1981-82=100) for all commodities stood at 170.7 (provisional) for the week ending 31.3.1990. At that level, the all commodities wholesale price index had acquired a new height.

(b) The Wholesale Price Index for the corresponding week last year, namely, week ending 25.3.1989 stood at 156.9.

(c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT**WEEK ENDING**

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>31.3.1990</i>	<i>25.3.1989</i>	<i>% Variation</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1.	All commodities	170.7	156.9	+8.8
2.	High Speed Diesel Oil	139.4	119.8	+16.4
3.	Petrol	167.9	145.2	+15.6
4.	Gur	153.7	136.0	+13.0
5.	Rice Bran Oil	225.0	210.3	+7.0
6.	Khandsari	140.5	106.6	+31.8
7.	Solvent Extracted Groundnut Oil	190.7	139.8	+36.4
8.	Cotton Seed Oil	219.1	187.7	+16.7
9.	Cigarettes	282.2	245.7	+14.9
10.	Straw & Mill Board	165.2	152.8	+8.1
11.	Tyres	150.9	139.8	+7.9
12.	Rubber & Plastic Products	162.7	156.4	+4.0
13.	Frire Works	211.7	174.8	+21.1
14.	Polyetyrene	150.6	144.6	+4.1
15.	Lead	262.7	219.8	+19.5
16.	Pig Iron	279.1	262.1	+6.5
17.	Blooms	204.5	197.2	+3.7
18.	Billats & Slabe	175.8	163.7	+7.4
19.	Skelp	225.7	219.3	+2.9
20.	Ore-Mild tensile Steel Plates	264.9	257.9	+2.7

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>31.3.1990</i>	<i>25.3.1989</i>	<i>% Variation</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
21.	Angles, Channels & Sectons	203.5	188.8	+7.8
22.	Joists & rolls	245.3	238.7	+2.8
23.	Heavy/Light Structural	250.9	245.9	+2.0
24.	*Sheets	206.5	201.3	+2.6
25.	Tin	139.4	126.2	+10.5
26.	Diesel Locomotives	235.3	194.7	+20.9
27.	Car Chassis	184.5	166.8	+10.6
28.	Arhar	213.8	198.2	+ 31.5
29.	Coffee	213.8	198.2	+7.9
30.	Urad	265.6	216.9	+22.5
31.	Gram	192.9	187.7	+2.8
32.	Condiments & Spices	232.8	228.5	+1.5
33.	Copra	178.9	185.0	-3.3
34.	Gingelly Seed	207.9	135.1	+53.9
35.	Safflower	175.8	147.3	+19.3
36.	Raw Tobacco	188.2	197.2	_4.6
37.	Refrigerators	148.2	131.9	+12.4
38.	Air conditioners	199.6	170.5	+17.1

[*Translation*]

Allotment of LPG Agencies in Raigarh

7807. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no L.P.G. agency within the radius of 100 Kms. in Patthal Village Assembly Constituency in District Raigarh;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to open L.P.G. agencies in the area to re-

move the difficulties of the people;

(c) if so, the names of places where these agencies are likely to be opened and when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present Government have no proposal to open new LPG distributorships in that area.

(c) does not arise.

(d) LPG facility has already been introduced in Raigarh town. LPG connections are given in towns and cities with a population of 20,000 and above in a phased manner, depending upon the availability of LPG. None of the other locations have been found viable for establishing a LPG distributorship.

[English]

Gasturbine Project for Goa

7808. SHRI GOPALRAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to set up a gas turbine project to generate adequate electricity has been taken by Union Government from Goa Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which clearance is proposed to be given?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

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

G. S. I's Survey in Godavari Valley

7809. SHRI BASAVAPUNNAIAH SINGAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India (GSI) conducted survey for coal and lignite in Godavari Valley in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting regional exploration for coal in the Godavari Valley of Andhra Pradesh on a continuous basis. At present, GSI is engaged in regional exploration for coal in the Godavari coalfields in seven sectors as below:-

1. Palampet - Venkatapur
2. Govindrapet - Rangapur - Pasra
3. Punukulchilka - Marigudem
4. Keyagudam - Kachinapalli
5. Malkapalli - Amaravaram
6. Dip extension area of Kothagudam mining block
7. Sattupalli.

A total of 4446 metres has been drilled so far in these sectors during the current field season till March, 1990.

Railway Safety Funds

7810. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fund collected during last five years under the head "Railway Safety Fund";

(b) the procedure adopted for the collection of this fund;

(c) how the funds so collected are allocated to various Zonal Railways;

(d) whether any review has been made regarding its utilisation; if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any change of procedure is contemplated to increase Railway Safety Fund;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The contribution to the Railway Safety Works Fund is made by the Railways, from out of their net Revenue by way of additional dividend payment. The Fund is maintained by Ministry of Finance. The contribution made during the last 5 years was as under:-

1984-85	—	Rs.	2.76 crores
1985-86	—	Rs.	1.55 crores
1986-87	—	Rs.	2.36 crores
1987-88	—	Rs.	2.20 crores
1988-89	—	Rs.	3.21 crores

(c) The amounts paid into the Railway Safety Works Fund are allocated to the states in the same ratios as recommended by the respective Finance Commissions for the disbursement of the payments made by the Railways to the General Revenues in lieu of

the repealed passenger fare tax.

(d) The position is reviewed from time to time and State Governments addressed to step up utilisation. The procedure for reimbursement to the State Governments has been simplified in 1984. Under the simplified procedure, claims of the State Governments are reimbursed by the nominated FA & CAOs of the Zonal Railways direct and the same are met from from Fund by the Ministry of Finance to the Railways subsequently.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g). The present simplified procedure is working satisfactorily.

Passenger Amenities at Delhi Railway Stations

7811. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the construction of terminal buildings, platforms, station buildings proposed on the various railway Stations in Delhi during the current and next two years:

(b) the further amenities and facilities to be provided for the passengers on these railway stations; and

(c) the number of over bridges to be constructed by the Railways during the next five years, the details of the places and the phased programme of the completion of each railway bridge in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). A statement is given below:

STATEMENT

(a) Details of works of terminal buildings etc. which are in progress & future proposals.

- (i) At present work of provision of (I) additional passenger platforms at New Delhi by shifting washing lines/sick lines to Hazart Nizamuddin and (II) additional passenger platforms & maintenance facilities at Hazart Nizamuddin is in progress at an estimated cost of Rs. 26.64 crores. Phase I of the work has since been completed & phase II of the work is in progress.
- (ii) There is a proposal to develop future passenger terminals at Anand Vihar, Holambi Kalan & Bijwasan at a cost of Rs. 14.73 crores. Arrangements are in hand for acquisition of land.

(b) Details of amenities & facilities proposed to be provided for passengers on Railway Stations in the Capital.

Provision of additional amenities is a continuous process and the same is done based on volume of traffic dealt with. Following additional passenger amenities/facilities

are being proposed to be taken up in future works programmes of the Railways subject to availability of funds;

- (i) Provision of platform shelter on platform Nos. 1 and 2 at Vivek Vihar.
- (ii) Provision of foot-over bridge at Nangloi.
- (ii) Provision of Passenger shelter on UP and DN platform and provision of 2M wide foot-over bridge at Naya Azadpur.
- (iv) Provision of 2nd Entry to Nizamuddin Railway Station, subject to acquisition of land.

(c) Details regarding over bridges to be constructed by Railways in Delhi during the next 5 years.

- (i) Proposal for construction of Road Over Bridge/road Under Bridge in Delhi area are sponsored by Delhi Administration/Municipal Corporation of Delhi either on cost sharing basis or on deposit terms. Presently work on 7 Road Over Bridge/Road Under Bridges is in progress. Their details are as under:-

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Whether on cost sharing basis or on deposit terms	Tentative date of completion
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi : Widening and Rebuilding of Queens Road and Pul Mithai R.O.B.	Cost Sharing	12/90
2.	Okhla : Provision of ROB	Cost Sharing	3/91
3.	Tughlakabad : Provision of RUB	Cost Sharing	12/91
4.	Delhi : Widening of Lohtian Bridge	Cost Sharing	12/90
5.	Delhi - Delhi Shadhara: RUB near Old Yamuna Bridge	Deposit Work	Railway portion of work completed
6.	Zakhira-Delhi : Widening of RUB	Deposit Work	3/92
7.	RUB, in lieu of level crossing no. 14. A, on	Cost Sharing	Preliminary arrangements being made. Target

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Description of Work</i>	<i>Whether on cost sharing basis or on deposit terms</i>	<i>Tentative date of completion</i>
1	2	3	4

Delhi Avoiding Lin
near Wazirpur Industrial
Area.

Yet to be fixed.

Proposals for the construction of ROBs/RUBs at the following locations are under correspondence with Delhi Administration/MCD

- | | | | |
|----|---|--------------|---|
| 1. | Construction of Sub-way near Hazrat Nizamuddin station. | Deposit Work | Delhi Administration is yet to deposit the estimated cost |
| 2. | Road over bridge in replacement No. 2-C on Shahdra-Shamli-Saharanpur section. | Deposit Work | Delhi Administration is yet to deposit the estimated cost |
| 3. | Widening of Road under bridge at | —do— | M.C.D. is yet to deposit the |

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Whether on cost sharing basis or on deposit terms	Tentative date of completion
1	2	3	4
	Kishangani.		estimated cost
4.	Widening of Deshbandhu Gupta Road (Road Over Bridge).	—do—	—do—
5.	Construction of RUB in replacement of L-Xing No. 156-B at km. 8/16 Vivek Vihar on Delhi-Ghaziabad Section.	On cost sharing	Firm proposal is yet to be received from MCD.

These works will be programmed for construction depending upon the priority fixed by Delhi Administration/Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

These works will be programmed for construction depending upon the priority fixed by Delhi Administration/Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Production Targets of WCL

7812. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the target set by the Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) for coal production during the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether the target has been achieved;

(c) if so, the details of coal produced by Western-Coal Fields in the Plan period;

(d) whether WCL has got higher target for coal production during Eighth Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed by WCL to increase coal production?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The figures of yearwise targets and actual production from the Western Coal fields Ltd. (WCL) during the Seventh plan period are given below:-

(Million Tonnes)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual Production</i>
1985-86	17.51	18.17
1986-87	19.00	19.34
1987-88	20.70	21.20
1998-89	21.86	22.06
1989-90	22.70	23.01

(d) and (e). The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised. The Annual Plan target for coal production in the Western Coalfields Ltd. for the year 1990-91 is 23.60 million tonnes. The increase in coal production would be achieved from the on-going projects, reconstruction of some of the existing mines and by opening new mines.

Use of Helicopters in Railway Accidents

7813. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

SHRI R. N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to use helicopters for providing relief to passengers in the event of an accident; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The General Managers of the Zonal Railways and the Divisional Railway Managers have already been empowered to requisition aeroplanes/helicopters for reaching the site of a serious accident quickly and for evacuating injured and dead from the site of accident.

[Translation]

Akola Railway Station

7814. SHRI BHAUSAHEB PUNDLIK PHUNDKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the renovation of Akola railway station in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) 67 stations including Akola, have been selected to be developed as Model Stations on Indian Railways. Its development is estimated to cost Rs. 74.39 lakhs. As a part of modernisation scheme, works relating to provision of lavatory blocks on Narrow Gauge platform, cover over platform in gaps, various improvements to circulating area, provision of benches/chairs in waiting hall/platforms, rest shelters for licensed porters, etc. have been completed in the year 1989-90 at a cost of Rs. 13.36 lakhs. Works estimated to cost Rs. 53.03 lakhs relating to extension of cover over platforms No. 1, 2, & 3, widening of existing Foot Over Bridge, widening of Up platform, provision of rest house facilities etc. are in progress. For this, a sum of Rs. 24.95 lakhs has been provided in the year 1990-91. New works relating to improvements to station building, roads and platform surface, modernisation of furniture in station building and provision of retiring room etc. are proposed to be taken up in the year 1990-91 at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.00 lakhs. All these works are likely to be completed by the middle of VIII Five Year Plan, subject to availability of funds.

[English]

Setting up of BHEL Unit at Chandaka In Orissa

7815. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd. propose to set up a unit at Chandaka in Orissa to manufacture Bowl Mill Accessories;

(b) whether Orissa Government has handed over the land for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken to implement the project and the final state of the project?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). In the Sixth Plan, BHEL had proposed to set up a plant at Chandaka in Orissa for the manufacture of Mill accessories and for this purpose, an industrial plot was ear-marked. The proposal was, however, not pursued further because of the shrinkage in the order book position of BHEL, particularly for Boilers. The Company have decided to utilise the surplus capacities in their existing plants for the manufacture of these items.

Electrification of Kharagpur-Khurda Road Section

7816. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for electrification of Kharagpur-Khurda Road section of South Eastern Railway; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in Wages of Casual Employees in Indian Airlines

7817. **SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the daily wages paid by the Indian Airlines to their casual employees;

(b) whether the Indian Airlines propose to increase their wages to bring them at par with the regular employees: and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Indian Airlines pays at the rate of Rs. 42.70 and Rs. 47.00 per day to the casual employees and drivers, respectively.

(b) and (c). There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

Funds for Pending Railway Projects in Punjab

7818. **SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have asked the Punjab Government to contribute funds for completion of the pending railway projects in the State;

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

(c) the details of projects in Punjab which are still incomplete?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Construction on the following new line railway projects is in progress:

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Project & length	Rs. in crores				Remarks
		Anticipated cost	Expr. upto 3/90	Allocation in 90-91		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	Nangal Dam-Talwara (84 km) and taking over siding from Mukerian to Talwara (29 km) (Year of approval: 81-82)	100.00	19.04	5.00	Only 22 km in Punjab in 2 Patches	
2.	Beas-Goindwal (27km) (Year of approval: 89-90)	21.13	0.25	2.00	—	

Production Loss in BCCL

7819. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise production loss due to the absence of miners in Bharat Coking Coal Limited during the last three years;

(b) the year-wise production loss due to the absence of face and other working arrangement for the miners resulting in payment of fall back wage for the same period and the amount paid as fall back wages; and

(c) the reasons for simultaneous surplus and deficit of miners in BCCL collieries and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Production loss due to the absence of miners in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, during the last three years has been as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated loss of production (in lakh tonnes)</i>
1987-88	0.91
1988-89	0.68
1989-90	4.20

(b) The amount paid as fall back wages during the last three years has been as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Fall back wages paid (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1987-88	240.80
1988-89	249.84
1989-90	362.09

The yearwise loss of production due to reasons of power failure, heavy rains, breakdown and other miscellaneous factors are as follows:

	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>(in lakh tonnes) 1989-90</i>
POWER	4.56	3.56	6.18
RAINS	0.48	0.39	1.62
Breakdown of machinery	2.19	1.85	1.84
Miscellaneous	1.49	0.78	2.14

Most of the cases of payment of fallback wages arise due to interruptions in power supply. Fallback wages have increased in 1989-90 consequent upon revision of wages.

(c) There is by and large no surplus of miners/loaders in Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

[*Translation*]

Financial Performance of Industries

7820. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of profit earned by the entire industry, basic chemical industries, machine tools etc., coffee, rubber, tobacco, metal and drug industries in 1960-61, 1965-66, 1970-71, 1980-81, 1984-85 and 1989-90;

(b) whether profit graph in respect of certain industries was erratic; and

(c) the reasons for such growth and the steps being taken by Government to check such aberration?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). According to C.S.O.,

the information on profit as given in the publication "Annual Survey of Industries" is available only from the year 1978-80 onwards. A statement giving the net profits along with the profit as percentage of value added and value of output for the entire manufacturing sector, basic chemical industries, machine tools, coffee, rubber, tobacco, metal and drug industries for the years 1980-81 and 1985-86 (the year for which the latest ASI is available) is given below. There has generally been increase in the percentages of profit figures both in terms of value added and value of output.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Industry	Net profit (Rs. Crores)		Profit as percentage of Value of Output		Profit as percentage of Value added	
		1980-81	1985-86	1980-81	1985-86	1980-81	1985-86
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Basic Chemicals Industry	48.3	27.9	1.5	4.2	10.5	25.4
2.	Machine Tools	12.6	24.5	4.3	3.9	14.3	10.5
3.	Coffee	1.9	5.0	9.0	11.8	37.6	45.7
4.	Rubber	27.1	193.4	2.5	9.0	14.7	43.1
5.	Tobacco	43	75	5.5	5.6	27.9	27.4
6.	Metal	238.4	354.9	3.3	2.5	19.3	15.1
7.	Drug	107	190.4	8.3	7.3	32.2	29.4
8.	Manufacturing	2230	4679	4.0	4.3	21.7	23.6

Solar Power Plants In Bihar

7821. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a power plant based on solar energy in Gaya and Bodhyaga in Bihar was approved by Union Government in January, 1985;

(b) whether the power plant constructed at a cost of about Rs. 60 crore has been handed over by the Bihar State Electricity Board to Union Government which will generate 30 M.V of power based on solar energy;

(c) whether Government have received any representations in this regard during 1988 and 1989; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No such project has been approved by the Central Government.

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

[English]

Safety Measures and Relief Work

7822. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Transportation Safety Board had made any specific recommendations regarding better safety measures and relief work on railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the same?

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

(b) A statement giving the details of the main recommendations is given below.

(c) While some recommendations have already been implemented, other accepted recommendations are pending mainly due to the time-lag involved for upgrading technology and developing new technical devices.

STATEMENT

List of the main recommendations made by the National Transportation Safety Board on Railway Sector

Sl. No.	Text of the Recommendations
1	2
1.	Derailments due to rail fractures—Commissioning of a study to bring down the number of derailments due to rail fractures in relation to number of rail fractures.
2.	Additional precautions to be taken during shunting of LPG Tank Wagons.
3.	Provision of emergency exits in Railway coaches.
4.	Provision of fire-resistant upholstery in railway coaches.
5.	Provision of radio communication facilities on train engines as a safeguard against collision with infringements on the adjacent line on a double line section.
6.	Review of the Red Tariff of the Railways for movement of hazardous goods in the light of latest developments in this area.
7.	Pre-planned use of helicopters for relief operations in case of serious railway accidents

Text of the Recommendations

Sl. No.

1

in isolated areas through preparation of a master plan in this connection pertaining to each station.

-
8. Introduction of anti-climber coaches on Indian Railways to minimise the chances of their telescoping in the event of an accident.
9. Provision of automatic door closing system in railway suburban coaches.
10. Provision of Shelf Couplers, Head-Shields and Thermal Insulation to Tank Cars carrying hazardous materials.
-

Registration of Large Units

7823. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA
MUNDA:
SHRI D. AMAT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether large units beyond the limit of registration under DGTD cannot be put up within 50 KM radius of metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether there are any exceptions to this rule; and

(d) if so, the details of applications where such exception have been granted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

(d) Details of applications where Letters of Intent have been granted to units for locations within 50 KM of metropolitan cities are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Locational policy of the Government was laid down vide Notification No. 629(E) dated 30th June, 1988 is applicable to units which can be registered with DGTD and Secretariat for Industrial Approvals. Location is considered to be permissible if the unit is not proposed to be set up within:

Category — I 50 Kms. of cities with population above 25 lakhs.

Category — II 30 Kms. of cities with population between 15 and 25 lakhs.

Category — III 15 Kms. of cities with population between 7.5 and 15 lakhs.

Category — IV standard urban area or municipal limits of other cities and towns.

Relaxation from Locational Policy is available if:

(i) the investment is less than Rs. 5 crores;

(ii) the industry is non-polluting; and

(iii) the undertaking is being set up in an industrial area developed prior to 30th June, 1988 by the State Governments or their agencies or the undertaking is graduating from the small scale to the medium scale or not less than 2/3 of the work force employed by the undertaking consists of women or handicapped persons. Letters of intent can be considered for large units beyond the limit of registration under DGTD within 50 Km. radius of metropolitan cities. These proposals are considered by the appropriate approval Committee and decided on merits.

Foot Bridge at Muzaffarnagar Station

7824. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a pedestrian foot bridge at Muzaffarnagar station (N.R.) connecting the city area with New Mandi; and

(b) if so, when the above foot bridge is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. Foot over bridges for use by general public are constructed as and when the same is sponsored by the local body or the State Government. No such proposal for providing a foot over bridge to connect city area with New Mandi at Muzaffarnagar has so far been received.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SC/ST Employees in Energy Ministry

7825. SHRI CHHABIRAM ARGAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees working in his Ministry category wise and the percentage of SC/ST employees among them;

(b) the number of posts reserved for SC/ST lying vacant for the last three years, category-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to fill up these posts by carrying them forward; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The relevant information is given below:-

	<i>No. of Employees in the Ministry of energy</i>	<i>% of SC/ST Employees</i>
GROUP 'A'	677	12
GROUP 'B'	487	14
GROUP 'C'	1397	18
GROUP 'D'	570	37

(b):

	<i>No. of posts reserved for SC/St lying vacant for the last three years.</i>
GROUP 'A'	1
GROUP 'B'	1
GROUP 'C'	22

(c) and (d), One post in Group 'A' will be filled by direct recruitment by the SC/ST candidate and for the remaining posts re-

served for SC/ST categories, the Department of Personnel and Training have been requested to nominate SC/ST candidates.

[English]

Railway Land In Rayagada Municipality Area

7826. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to utilise the railway land lying unutilised in Rayagada Municipality Area:

(b) if so, the details of development plan prepared by the Railways:

(c) whether there is any proposal to relinquish some portion of railway land to Rayagada Municipality for use of bus stand and other public purposes; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard?

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

(b) The Railway land lying unutilised in Rayagada Municipal area is proposed to be utilised for construction of staff quarters and service buildings.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Express Train From Kumarghat to Guwahati

7827. SHRI K. B. K. BED BURMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a pressing demand from the people of Tripura for introducing a direct express train from Kumarghat to Guwahati; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and when the said train is likely to be introduced?

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

(b) For resource and operational constraints it is not immediately possible to introduce this train.

Developments of Tracks In Eighth Plan

7828. SHRI KUSIM KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electrification of tracks on three trunk routes (Delhi-Madras, Delhi-Bombay and Delhi-Calcutta) has been completed:

(b) if not, the portions which remain to be electrified yet and the reasons for delay, if any;

(c) the details of the track-expansion and track renewal/replacement programmes envisaged to be undertaken during the Eighth five Year Plan;

(d) whether Government have received any proposals in this regard from State Governments, particularly from Andhra Pradesh Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). (i) DELHI-MADRAS:- This route has been electrified upto Itarsi from Delhi end and upto Nagpur from Madras end. Electrification works on the remaining Itarsi-Nagpur section are in an advanced stage of completion. The section will be commissioned during the year as soon as new technology opticfibre communication system gets stabilized.

(ii) DELHI-BOMBAY (via Western Railway Route): Already completed.

(iii) DELHI-BOMBAY (via Central Railway Route): This route has been electrified upto Itarsi from Delhi end and upto Bhusawal from Bombay end. Electrification on the remaining Itarsi-Bhusawal section is in progress and will be completed within target.

(iv) DELHI-CALCUTTA:- Already completed.

(c) Specific new line and gauge conversion projects to be taken up in the VIIIth Plan have not been identified. A target of 22, 350 Kms. has been laid down for track renewal during the VIIIth Plan Period.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Development of Anti-Arthritis and Anti Inflammatory Drug by I.D.P.L.

7829. SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Hyderabad has developed anti-arthritis and anti-inflammatory drug;

(b) the amount spent for developing drug and whether it has been put in the market;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the staff associated with this research work has been rewarded; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRIBHAJAMAN BEHERA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Daily Poona-Delhi Flight

7830. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the daily flight between Poona-Delhi and back has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons for having the flight only on four days in a week; and

(c) when the daily Poona-Delhi flight will be restored?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Due to suspension of operations of Airbus A-320 aircraft operating capacity of Indian Airlines was substantially reduced and, therefore, the daily frequency of Delhi-Poona flights had to be reduced to four days a week with effect from 5.3.1990.

Macheda Station (SER)

7831. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have chalked out a plan for renovation of Macheda railway station on South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Reservation Between Nagda and Kota
In Doon Express**

7832. SHRISATYANARAYANJATIYA:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation facilities for passengers travelling by Dehradun Express (9019 Dn and 9020 Up) have been discontinued from Nagda to Kota since 16 April, 1990 and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the alternative facilities of reservation provided between these two stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Due to re-scheduling of one of the two Indore-Dehradun 2nd Class Sleeper coaches to run from Kota to Dehradun, the reservation quota at Nagda has been reduced by 9019 Dehradun Express from 8 berths to 6 berths from 16.4.90. The reservation quotas allotted to stations between Nagda and Kota have been transferred to Kota-Dehradun coach with facility of reservation at those Stations itself against that quota. There is no change in quotas by 9020 Up.

(b) The stations between Nagda and Kota have been allotted quotas in the Kota-Dehradun coach with facility to seek reservation at their stations itself. Short journeys between Nagda and Kota can be performed in unreserved coaches.

Theft of Coal in Samastipur Division

7833. SHRI BHOGENDR JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been received against theft of coal at Jainagar station in Samastipur Division of North East-

ern Railway;

(b) If so, whether the theft of coal is still going on at Jainagar, Khajolli, Nirmli, Sakari, Permanga Station etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes Sir. One complaint was received during the current year.

(b) and (c). No case of theft at these stations has come to notice. Even the allegation made in the complaint referred to in part (a) above, could not be substantiated during the enquiry. However, the following measures are being taken to prevent theft of coal:

1. Intensive beat patrolling in the yards and other vulnerable sections.
2. Conducting raids on receivers of stolen coal and deployment of crime intelligence staff.
3. Surprise checks are being conducted in vulnerable section and bad spots to catch the criminals.
4. Dog Squads are also deployed for preventive and detective duties.
5. Close co-ordination between the RPF and GRP is maintained at various levels to deal with criminals and receivers of stolen coal.

**Parcel Bookings at Char Bagh
(Lucknow)**

7834. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of parcel and

luggage handling and transshipment at Char Bagh Lucknow station of Northern Railway is of permanent nature;

(b) the number of parcels handled at Char Bagh, Lucknow station during 1987, 1988 and 1989; and

(c) the year-wise income through parcel booking at the station during this period?

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

(b) Total number of packages handled year-wise at this station is as under:-

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
	1119820	1309620	1387365

(c) Year-wise earnings (in Rs.) is as under:-

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
Outward Parcels	5316125	5554680	5313796
Inward Parcels to Pay	3033315	2920178	3096018

[English]

Vacancies For Loaders/Helpers In Indian Airlines

7835. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of loaders/helpers in the Engineering Department of the Indian Airlines in its Northern Region;

(b) the number of vacancies reserved for SC/ST and of general category separately;

(c) the steps taken for filling up these vacancies; and

(d) the time by which these vacancies would be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The

number of vacancies of Helpers in the Engineering Department in the Northern Region of Indian airlines and the breakup of the vacancies reserved for SC/ST and for general categories is as follows:-

Total number of vacancies	=	14
reserved for SC	=	3
reserved for ST	=	1
General Category	=	10

There is no category of Loaders in the Engineering Deptt. of IA.

(c) With effect from the 19th of February, 1990, at Delhi, Indian Airlines has commenced interviews for filling up the posts of helpers which are likely to continue till the end of May, 1990.

(d) It is expected that all the vacancies at Delhi and at outstations will be filled up by the end of June, 1990.

Payment of Provident Fund and Gratuity to Retired Employees of Air India

7836. SHRI JANAKRAJ GUPTA:
SHRI KIRPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees retired from the Air India during the last six months from Delhi Station category-wise.

(b) whether Provident Fund and Gratuity etc. have not been paid to these employees;

ity etc. have not been paid to these employees;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(d) when the dues would be paid to those retired employees?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Nine employees retired from Delhi Station during the period 1st October, 1989 to 31st March, 1990. Category-wise details are given below:-

Station Superintend	—	two
Head Cleaner	—	one
Accounts Officer	—	two
Asst. Manager-Network Operations	—	one
Dy. Manager-Flight Despatch	—	one
Foreman	—	one
Senior Operator	—	one

(b) Provident Fund and Gratuity etc. have been paid to these employees.

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

Direct Train Between Delhi and Goa

7837. SHRI SUBEDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a direct train between Delhi and Goa is proposed to be introduced for the convenience of the people;

(b) if so, whether the train timings will be so adjusted that it passes between Miraj and Vasco during day time only to enable the

tourists to enjoy the scenic beauty of Goa; and

(c) if not the reasons thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Availability of path and schedule of other trains enroute. Besides a day service already exists between Miraj and Vasco.

Gas Based Power Projects

7838. SHRI BALVANT MANVAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given clearance to the proposal for gas based power projects in the various States;

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

(c) the latest position about gas supply to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). In the recent past, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have techno-economically appraised the various proposals regarding the setting up of the gas based power projects in various States. The details are given below:—

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. lakhs)	Status of Gas Linkage
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Combined Cycle Power plant at Lakwa.	Assam	280	20117	Gas linkage not yet confirmed.
2.	Waste heat recovery unit at DESU GT sets.	Delhi	3 x 30	7692	—
3.	GT sets at Rokhia.	Tripura	10 x 7.5	7140	Gas linkage confirmed.
4.	Anta Si. II Combined cycle project of NTPC	Rajasthan	3 x 100 GT + 1 x 130 ST	33994	Not yet confirmed.
5.	Amguri Combined cycle project	Assam	3 x 30 GT + 4 x 30 ST	40827	Gas linkage confirmed.
6.	Karil Kallappal GT	Tamil Nadu	1 x 5	1000	—do—
7.	Combined cycle plant at Karaikkal	Pondicherry	3 x 5 GT + 1 x 7.5 ST	4950	—do—
8.	Gandhar Combined cycle project	Gujarat	615	57373	Not yet confirmed.

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)	Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. lakhs)	Status of Gas Linkage
1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Pipavav Combined cycle project	Gujarat	615	58745	Not yet confirmed
10.	Gandhar Combined cycle project of NTPC	Gujarat	615	57717	—do—
11.	Godavari combined cycle project of NTPC	Andhra Pradesh	400	43677	—do—
12.	Faridabad Combined cycle project of NTPC	Haryana	800	86036	—do—
13.	Bawana Combined cycle project	Delhi	800	92548	—do—

[*Translation*]

Appointment of New General Sales Agent in USA by Air India

7839. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is contemplating to appoint a new General Sales Agent in USA; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies in Ghazipur Uttar Pradesh

7840. SHRI JAGDISH SINGH KHUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allot more petrol pumps and LPG agencies in Ghazipur district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) are envisaged at the following locations in Ghazipur District of Uttar Pradesh:

Nandganj

Mohammedbad

Sadat

Dhulepur Bazar

Thana Birno

These are at various stages of either selection of dealers or commissioning of outlets.

There is no proposal at present to establish new LPG distributorship in this District.

Irregularities in Allotment of Petrol/Diesel and LPG Agencies

7841. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gross irregularities in the allotment of petrol/diesel retail outlets and L.P.G. agencies have been reported during the last three years;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into these complaints and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). Selection for LPG distributorships and Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships is done by specially constituted Oil Selection Boards (OSBs) headed by retired High Court Judges. No gross irregularities have been reported during the last 3 years. However, any complaint received against selection of dealerships/distributorships is duly investigated and remedial action taken, wherever found nec-

essary.

**Appointment of General Sales Agent by
Air India in London**

7842. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received
any complaints regarding appointment of
General Sales Agent by the Air India at
London;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Air India
had received a complaint from 31 travel
agents in UK after the appointment with
effect from 1.11.86 of the present General
Sales Agent, namely, Gimvale Limited
(Welcome Travels). The complaint alleged
that the agent was in existence for less than
12 months, the owners and the directors had
no experience in the travel trade, the agent
had no proper premises or trained staff etc.
Air India had explained its position to these
agents. Appointment of General Sales Agent
is based on commercial considerations and
Government has no role to play in this mat-
ter.

**Consumption of Diesel in Lalmatiya
Coal Project**

7843. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will
the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the average daily consumption of
diesel in the Lalmatiya coal project;

(b) whether Government have received
any complaints about pilferage of huge

quantities of diesel from the project, thereby
causing loss in production there; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to
be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The average
consumption of diesel per day in the project
is 14,000 litres over the period from April '89
to Feb. '90 of which 5000 litres is for Diesel
Generating Sets and the balance is for Heavy
Earth Moving Machinery and other vehicles.

(b) A complaint was received by ECL
that huge quantity of diesel was being pilfered
from Rajmahal project in connivance
with the employees. Preliminary enquiry
conducted by Vigilance Department of the
Company had revealed certain irregularities
which are being further investigated.

(c) Close monitoring of issue of diesel
and other PCL and their consumption has
been enforced at the Project and some
executives are assigned responsibility for
the job.

[English]

Under Weight Coal Wagons

7844. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN-
DEYA:
DR. BENGALI SINGH:
SHRI A.K. ROY:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased
to state:

(a) whether coal sent by the Coal Ltd. in
wagons is considerably underweight by the
time these reach the factories especially in
Northern India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of action taken against the persons responsible for it;

(d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether re-weighment of wagons is allowed at the time of taking delivery by the consumers; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Some complaints have been received from coal consumers regarding shortage of coal in wagons received by them.

(b) Shortages may be on account of loss and theft while in transit.

(c) and (d). Claims prevention machinery and security forces of the Railways carry out checks against pilferage and theft in sensitive areas and initiate action against the culprits. Railways have also introduced movement of coal in block rakes with very fast transit to minimise chances of pilferage/theft while in transit.

(e) and (f). Reweighment of coal consignments is not permitted by Railways at destination as a matter of course. Reweighment is, however, permitted in exceptional cases where heavy shortage is suspected. Coal by rail is generally carried on owner's risk rate under which liability of railways is limited.

[*Translation*]

Johila Colliery (Madhya Pradesh)

7845. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an enquiry was conducted into the malpractices and irregularities committed in Johila colliery, Norojabad, district Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh in the purchase of stationery;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An enquiry was conducted by the Vigilance Department of the South Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(b) and (c). It emerged from the enquiry that a consignment of stationery was delivered by a Party without any formal supply order and therefore the consignment was returned and no payment was made. However a steno of the General Manager's office who was indirectly connected with the matter has been transferred.

[*English*]

Filling up Posts of SCs/STs in I.A.A.I.

7846. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates in each category filled by general candidates in the International Airports Authority of India on the condition that the candidates promoted/recruited against the reserved posts will be reverted after SC/ST candidates are available; and

(b) the efforts made by the International Airports Authority of India to fill up the reserved posts by SC/ST candidates?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) As on date, only one general category candidate is working in the post of Private Secretary. This post is reserved for Scheduled Caste category, but due to non-availability of an eligible candidate, it has been filled up by a general candidate on an ad-hoc basis.

(b) This post will be filled up by promotion of a reserve category candidate as soon as an eligible departmental candidate belonging to SC/ST category becomes available.

Short Supply of LPG in Muzaffar Nagar, Meerut and Ghaziabad

7847. SHRI HARPAL SINGH PANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been short supply of LPG in the districts of Muzaffar Nagar, Meerut and Ghaziabad, especially in Kairana, Barot, Shamli and Trans Hindon areas during the last six months and consumers are not getting their gas cylinders even after two to three weeks of placing the order; and

(b) if so, the reasons for short supply and/or delayed supply and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove the shortage and delay in gas supply in Western U.P. and especially in the above mentioned areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). A shortage in supply of LPG refills had developed temporarily in the districts of Muzaffar Nagar, Meerut and Ghaziabad on account of increase in demand during the winter and shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from transportation problems. With the measures already taken, the situation has since improved.

Efforts are being made to maximise LPG availability. The situation is being closely monitored with a view to ensuring regular supplies to the consumers.

LPG Quota For MPs.

7848. SHRI JAGPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down for the issue of L.P.G. connections from M.Ps. quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any instructions have been issued for quick delivery of letters to consumers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some specific instances of delayed delivery of LPG sanction letters to the consumers or non-delivery by the IOC have come to his notice; and

(f) if so, the number of such instances reported during the last three months and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). 24 LPG connections can be released on priority basis in a year on the recommendations of each Member of Parliament. Such requests are consolidated and forwarded by this Ministry to the oil companies for release of LPG connections on priority basis. Priority letters are issued to the concerned individuals by Regional/Area Offices of the oil companies by registered A.D. letters. Oil companies have issued instructions to their Regional/Area Offices for issuance of such letters without delay.

(e) and (f). During December, 1989 to February, 1990 approximately 491 duplicate priority letters were issued by Indian Oil Corporation in response to reports of non-receipt of original letters.

Snag in Hydraulic System in Airbus A-320

7849. SHRI L.K. ADVANI:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 4 August, 1989, a Bombay bound airbus A-320 (IC 805) developed sparking problem in its engine when it was about to take-off from Delhi:

(b) whether two airbus A-320s (IC 803 and IC 807) had to be grounded for more than 12 hours in Bangalore and Bombay due to snags in hydraulic system; and

(c) if so, the cost incurred on their repair and also the time taken to make them airworthy?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Casual Labourers in BPCL

7850. SHRI M. SELVARASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to regularise the casual labourers working in the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, LPG plant at Peelamedu, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu for the

last three years or more;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). No casual labourer has been engaged at this LPG Plant and POL Installation continuously for the last few years. 26 persons sponsored by employment exchange were empanelled since 1986 for casual engagement as and when required. Of these 26 casual workers, 9 have been selected and appointed as general workmen in the services of the Corporation with effect from February 15, 1990. The question of confirmation in purely casual and intermittent jobs does not arise.

Exchange of Areas between BCCL and ECL

7851. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some areas of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (West Bengal) that is Bajna area, Capasora area and Lalmatia area are situated in Bihar and some area of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. that is area Number 12 namely Victoria Waste and Bengunia Colliery are situated in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to exchange the areas lying in Bihar to Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. and the areas lying in West Bengal to Eastern Coalfields Ltd.;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this direction; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). There is no proposal to transfer the mines in Bihar referred to from Eastern Coalfields Limited to Bharat Coking Coal Limited; these mines produce non coking coal. Victoria West and Begunia are coking coal mines which are located in West Bengal, there is no proposal to transfer them from Bharat Coking Coal Limited to Eastern Coalfields Limited.

[*Translation*]

Services of Railway Porters

7852. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide uniforms to licensed railway porters;

(b) whether there is any proposal to classify their status as was done earlier or declare them Class IV employees;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The licensed porters are supplied two sets of uniforms every year, the cost of which is to be met from the licence fee collected from them. If requested by them they are permitted to arrange uniforms on their own as per prescribed pattern and quality.

(b) to (d). The licensed porters were never given nor there is any proposal to give them the status of Class IV railway employees because they are licencees and earn their livelihood by carrying passengers' luggage on charging porters directly from the passengers.

Conversion of Purva Khera Halt into a Flag Station

7853. DR. S.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to convert Purva Khera Halt on Chandoli-Bareilly branch line of Northern Railway into a flag station;

(b) if so, whether it has since been implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). The proposal for conversion of Purva Khera halt into a flag station has been examined but not found financially justified.

[*English*]

Payment of Claims for Work at Kiul Station

7854. SHRI L.V. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether handling contract for parcel good as Kiul Junction was awarded to Licensed Porters' Shramik Sahyog Samiti Ltd. run since 1967;

(b) whether the claims/dues for handling such contract from November, 1985 to January, 1987 was submitted by the Samiti to Divisional Office, Dinapur for payment; and

(c) if so, the reasons for non-payment of above claims so far?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As the Samiti had not submitted labour payment certificate and work done vouchers duly countersigned by the competent authority and as the bills were time barred, the same were returned to the Samiti unpaid.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of New Industries In Gujarat

7855. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposals for setting up new industries in Gujarat in the joint sector in collaboration with Gujarat Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether these proposals have been cleared by Union Government; and

(c) the number of persons likely to get employment in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). During the years 1987 to 1990 (upto 30.4.90), only one Industrial Licence application for joint sector venture in Gujarat was received. This proposal

was approved and the Letter of Intent granted on 21.12.88 to Bonded Fabrics in Bharuch (Gujarat) generating an additional employment of about 100.

Joint Ventures with Japan, France and Britain

7856. SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to set up joint ventures with Japan, France and Britain; and

(b) if so, the fields in which the joint ventures have been set up with these countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Steps for setting up joint ventures are taken by entrepreneurs. Government grant approvals for such collaborations between foreign companies and Indian enterprises after due examination.

A statement indicating the fields in which approvals have been granted for foreign collaboration involving financial participation by Japan, France and Britain with Indian enterprises during the last three years, is given below.

STATEMENT

Statement showing field in which approvals have been granted for foreign collaboration involving financial participation in Indian Enterprises by companies from Japan, France and Britain during the years 1987, 1988 & 1989

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Japan	1987	1. Deep sea fishing 2. Hydraulic Excavators and Wheel Loaders 3. Electronic Ignition system for two wheelers 4. Instant food 5. Electric Rice Cooker 6. Rubberwood bases plywood 7. Toners 8. Payphone/public phone 9. Ibuprofen

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4
			10. Shrimp culture
			11. Technical manofilaments
			12. Plastic products, Bumpers etc.
			13. Precision Non-ferrous castings
			14. Soya Deverages etc.
			15. Ceramic Crockerries.
		1988	1. Food Processing
			2. Car Seats.
			3. Industrial Process Pumps
			4. Cathetars
			5. Disposable needles

Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration

Year

Country

Sl. No.

4

3

2

1

6. Ceramic Glazed Tile
7. VCR/VCP and Video Tape Deck Mechanism
8. Relaxing Machine etc.
9. Polybutene bases Traps for insects.
10. Precision Rubber products
11. Flocculants of non-ionic and cationic type (PAAM)
12. Glaze shells for Black & White TV picture tube.
13. PFY
14. VCR/VCP
15. Glass shells Colour TV Picture Tubes
16. Garments

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

- 1989
1. High Energy Aquaculture Feeds
 2. Matrix Printers
 3. Carburetors & Fuel pumps
 4. Colour Picture Tubes
 5. Cut and Polished granite monuments and tomb stones
 6. Organic Pigments
 7. Instant Processed Food
 8. Portland cement (White)
 9. Biovitine/Multi Biovitine Seed Eggs.
 10. Spun Silk Yarn

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

• 11. Paper, Paper Boards, Filter papers.

2. France 1987
1. Performing Geophysical activities and allied services to oil industry.
 2. 35 mm 3-Dimensional Stareoscope viewers and stereoscope cords etc.
 3. Transformer Bushings Tapechanging switches and Rotary selector switches.
 4. Animal Husbandry for cattle Breeding, Cross Breeding Artificial insemination Embryo Transfer technology forzen semen Bank and vitaminiseec cattle food.
 5. Sewing and Embroidary Thread and ball making
 6. Cotton embroidery and Handicraft Threads.
 7. Beg De dusting equipment Electronic franking machines, electronic postal stamp cancelling machine etc.
 8. Rubber Parts/profile making machinery.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4
			9. Slic & spiral grove drill cooler, stablizer Bodies, Steeves, Reamer cutters. 10. Rock & Panel connectors. 1988 1. Main Frame Computers 2. Equipment for water recycling units 3. Aseptics Packing Machine—Type S-2 4. Designing, planning and constructing medium rate Hotels. 5. Polymeric chemical Additives. 6. Services for Petrameum Industries 7. High Protein Calorific cattle feed 8. Construction of pipeline systems. 9. Uninterruptible power supply systems.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4
			10. Day old Broiler Chicks.
			11. Circuit breakers etc.
			12. Computer Software
			13. Two for one twister for spun yarn
		1989	1. Turn key projects
			2. Measles Vaccine, polio vaccine etc.
			3. Medical X-Ray Equipment
3.	U.K.	1987	1. Consultancy in Sugar Sector and allied Industries.
			2. Civil Engg. Work particularly Road construction
			3. Nylon Waste reprocessing and Nylon Monomer castings.
			4. Electronic Grade chemicals

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

5. Food processing extruded snacks etc.
6. Off shore surveying
7. Products used in points sprary shops
8. Electronic Data Processing.
9. Ethylene Propylene HDPE, E.O. EG, Acrydomtrile Butidiane etc.
10. Hotels and Restaurants.
11. Modems, Errors connectors.
12. Leather shoe uppers.
13. Glass Reinforced composite products.
14. Polyols.
15. Spiral welded steel pipes.

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration
1	2	3	4

16. Equipment and systems.
17. Wedgo Wire Screens
18. Geophysical services.
19. Electrification of Indian Railways.
20. Blades and shaving systems.
21. Exclusive Designer Sarees.
22. Pure Instant Coffee.
23. Electronic Mechanical pace-maker etc.
24. Material handling equipment.
25. Instant Molecular Energy Repair Process.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

26. Wet Processings, Energy Conservation and Effluent treatment in Textile Mills

27. Connectors.

1988

1. Diesel Generating sets.
2. Providing mud engineering services for onshore & offshore.
3. Geophysical and Geological Data Acquisition for exploration of Oil & Natural Gas.
4. UHF/VHF Systems and Radio relays, Mini Computers, Micro Processor based system.
5. Coating of Polyester Film etc.
6. Health food/processed food.
7. Welding & cutting equipment, accessories and systems.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

8. Mineral Sizers & conveying equipment.
9. Compressor Air/Oxygen Breathing Apparatus.
10. Bullet Resistant & Fragmentation Vests/Jackets.
11. Mineral & Moulding compounds.
12. Industrial Valves.
13. Computer Software
14. Consultancy in sugar sector.
15. Mineral & Moulding compounds.
16. Vacuum cleaners.
17. Electrostatic Powder Coating equipment
18. Solar photovoltaic modules and systems.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

19. Specialised friction welding equipment and accessories.
20. Paper sizing chemicals.
21. Portable Energy Conservation & Pollution Monitors.
22. Mini/Micro Processor based computers.
23. Business services.
24. Tyre puncture sealant
25. Hybrid circuits.
26. Sewing & Embroidery Thread.
27. Oil Field equipment.
28. Air Oil separators etc.
29. Sewing Needles.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4

30. Construction of coal and mineral beneficiation plant.
31. Specialised conveying systems for medium and long distances.
32. Mould coating etc/Dressings.
33. Polymer Alloys
34. Electrical Equipment and Accessories/entrapping equipment.
35. Adhesive Tapes for Electrical & Electronics applications.
36. Air Brakes for Railway.
 1. Turnkey projects.
 2. Anacrobic cabinets.
 3. Air Blaster System.
 4. Security Printing Project.

1989

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration
1	2	3	4
			5. Rotary Discharge Machine.
			6. Marine Pumps, Steam Turbines etc.
			7. Fibreglass reinforcement and textiles.
			8. Electrical Heat Tracing cables etc.
			9. Soyabean Oil
			10. Computer software and services.
			11. Computer software.
			12. Oil Field Chemicals.
			13. Bioaxially oriented polypropylene film project.
			14. High wet modulus cellulosic fibres.
			15. Readymade garments.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Field for which approvals have been granted involving financial collaboration</i>
1	2	3	4
			16. Guides & Discount cards for Tourists.
			17. Multifuel Portable generators.
			18. Lubricating/Diesel Oil Filtration Systems.
			19. Ladies Hand Bags, etc (Leather Goods)
			20. Intrinsic safety Batteries.
			21. Computer software.

[*English*]

Licence for Slitting and Confectioning of Photo-sensitised Material

7857. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd. are carrying on the activity of Slitting and confectioning of Photo-sensitised materials;

(b) if so, whether Company has been issued the licence for this activity as required under Notification No. S.O. 428 (E) dated July 18, 1986 issued under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJITSINGH): (a) to (c). M/s Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF) have been permitted by the Government to carry out the activity of slitting/confectioning of photo-sensitized materials within their overall licensed capacity for the manufacture of various photo-sensitized materials for which they hold Industrial Licence No. L/20 (1) (1) -NU/Ch. 1/61 dated 20.2.61.

[*Translation*]

Catering Service in Rajdhani Express

7858. DR. KHUSHAL PARASHRAM BOPCHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Railway has imposed restrictions on the serving of certain food items in the Rajdhani Express;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether passengers of Rajdhani Express have requested for reintroducing

the sale of such banned items; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to make arrangements for the sale of these items?

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

(b) Only such items as have sufficient demand from passengers are included in the a-la-carte menu. Even though chicken was not on a-la-carte menu, it was being served without authorisation, and therefore, its service was stopped. Instead, other popular items such as patties, samosas, etc. are being served.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Short Distance Travellers

7859. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of government to discourage short distance travel by passengers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative available to the short distance travellers?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). Various expert Committees appointed by the Government have generally observed that railway is a more suitable mode of transport for long distance and medium distance travel, and for heavy commuter traffic in metropolitan areas and other dense corridors and, that roads are more economical and suitable

for short distance passenger transport. The Railways, therefore, accord higher priority to long and medium distance intercity transport.

[*Translation*]

Project to Manufacture Aromatics and PTA at Saleempur In U.P.

7860. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a letter of intent has been issued for setting up of a project for manufacture of Aromatics and PTA at Salempur in Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh:

(b) if so, when the work on this project is likely to start: and

(c) by what time this project is likely to be completed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The company has informed that they have taken necessary steps towards acquisition of land, site testing, tie-up of water, power, action for getting environmental clearance, selection of technology, financing of project etc. The party is yet to come up for approvals for foreign collabora-

tion and import of equipments etc. Normally it takes 4-5 years in completion of the project after getting all Government clearances.

[*English*]

Withdrawal of Subsidies

7861. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Railways Minister has issued a status paper on Indian Railways on 1 March, 1990 regarding some issues and options:

(b) whether there is any proposal to give up all subsidies, particularly on second class travel and reduce progressively the gross subsidy on freight to reduce escalation in cost of essential commodities: and

(c) what would be the gain to the Indian Railways in all the existing subsidies and concessions are given up and services are maintained cost based, service-wise?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The financial effect of social obligations on Indian Railways for 1989-90 has been estimated as under:

		<i>Rs/Crores</i>
Loss on Coaching Service	:	1763.47
Loss on low rated commodities	:	216.05
Total	:	1979.52

If the Railways are compensated for these social obligation, the Railways would get a relief of Rs. 1979.52 crores.

Order for National Instruments Limited

7862. SHRI BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the financial performance of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to restore its viability particularly by arranging to place orders from public undertakings:

(c) whether a Rupees five crore order

placed by the Defence Ministry on the National Instruments for the production of night vision goggles and binoculars has been suspended;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to restore the order?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The financial performance of national Instruments Limited during the last 3 years is:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	<i>Gross Loss (before interest on Government loan, Depreciation and Development Expenses written-off)</i>	<i>Net Loss</i>
1	2	3
1987-88	(-) 151.96	(-) 444.34
1988-89	(-) 118.44	(-) 516.52
1989-90 (Provisional)	(-) 92.85	(-) 542.52

(b) Various steps taken by Government and the company inter-alia include a letter to all State Governments and Central Public Sector Undertakings to extend utmost consideration to meet their requirements of surveying equipment from National Instruments Limited, product-mix diversification with a view to reduce over dependence on single sector, etc.

(c) to (e). Orders valued Rs. 5.75 crores for manufacture and supply of night vision goggles and binoculars by National Instruments Limited have been suspended by

Ministry of Defence on price consideration to explore possible supplies at lesser prices from other sources. The matter has already been taken up with Ministry of Defence.

[Translation]

Land acquired by Heavy Engineering Corporation

7863. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi is in possession of substantial area of acquired land;

(b) whether acquired land has been allotted by the Heavy Engineering Corporation to some outsiders and outside institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited Ranchi are in possession of land to the extent of about 7187 acres. Allotment of some land has been made to various agencies such as, Railways, Public Sector Undertakings Schools and Social Institutions, etc.

[English]

Clearance to Mahadai Project

7864. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTAI AH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sent proposal for Mahadai power project to Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the time by which the project is proposed to be cleared by Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

Land for Dimapur Airport

7865. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether land for the construction of airport infrastructure at Dimapur has been taken over;

(b) if so, when the construction work is likely to start; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The land needed for the extension of the runway by 1500' has been handed over by the State Government. However, the land required for construction of the Terminal Building, Technical Block, Fire Station, Car Park, Cargo Complex Airlines Offices, residential quarters, etc. is still in possession of Assam Rifles Training Centre (ARTC) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). These works can be started when the land is handed over to the National Airports Authority by ARIC and CRPF.

[Translation]

Cost of Liquor Manufacture from Mahua and Molasses

7866. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the cost of liquor manufactured from Mahua and Molasses respectively;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to fix the prices of liquor manufactured from Mahua; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is no statutory control on liquor prices by Central Govt. As such, the question of fixing the prices of liquor manufactured from Mahua does not arise.

[English]

Installed Capacity of Power Generation in Southern Region

7867. SHRI VENKATA KRISHNA REDDY KASU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the planned growth of installed capacity for power generation during the Eighth Plan for the Southern Region as compared to the All India average and for other regions;

(b) whether Andhra Pradesh would be worst affected due to lower projection for that State:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to have a fresh look and correct these imbalances?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) It is tentatively envisaged to install additional generating capacity of about 38,369 MW in the country during the Eighth Plan. Region-wise anticipated additions is given below:

	(MW)
Northern Region	9561.3
Western Region	10899.7
Southern Region	7906.5
Eastern Region	8307.4

North-Eastern Region	:	1694.5
Total All India	:	38369.4

(b) No, Sir.

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

Newsitem Captioned "Death ride on Air India Airbus"

7868. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:
SHRI SUDARSAN
RAYCHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn a newsitem captioned "Death ride on Air India Airbus" appeared in the Indian Express, Bombay of 30 September, 1989:

(b) whether Government had ordered any enquiry into the incident:

(c) if so, the details of the report of the said enquiry and the action taken thereon; and

(d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The incident was enquired into by the Controller of Airworthiness, Civil Aviation Department who found that the Aircraft Maintenance Engineer was blame-worthy for perfunctory inspection resulting in damage to the main landing gear axle of aircraft. The AME concerned has been punished by the competent authority. This

snag could not have caused risk of life to the passengers.

Programme for Improvement of Operations of Damodar Vally Corporation

7869. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRIMATI BASAV-
ARAJSWARI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Damodar Valley Corporation has decided to gear up its operations to regain its position as one of the country's best run generating agencies;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed plan; and

(c) to what extent, the cost cut has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). A plan has been formulated for gearing up of the operations of the Damodar Valley Corporation incorporating activities e.g. revamping of the organisational set-up at corporate and plant levels with decentralisation of power, adoption of modern techniques for project monitoring implementation of computerised operations and maintenance schemes, effective renovation and modernisation of the existing and old thermal units, and better manpower utilisation etc., which is expected to yield substantial cost-effectiveness in the long run.

D.A. Formula for Public Sector Undertakings

7870. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJES-
WARI:
SHRI YASHWANTRAOPATIL:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SARJUPRASAD SAROJ:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Trade Union Organisations including the INTUC and AITUC have urged Union Government to reconsider that decision over the dearness allowance formula to the employees of public sector undertakings and to resume negotiations afresh;

(b) if so, whether these Organisations held a meeting with Union Government recently and if so, the details of the participants therein;

(c) the outcome of the discussion held?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On 21.4.1990, representatives of Central Trade Union Organisations attending the Indian Labour Conference met the Union Labour Minister separately and made a request for arranging a meeting with the Union Finance Minister on the question of Dearness Allowance for employees of public sector enterprises. Formal meeting is likely to be fixed shortly.

More Container Freight Stations

7871. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of container freight stations functioning presently in the country;

(b) whether the Standing Committee for Promotion of Exports by Shipping has recently proposed for establishment of some more container freight stations in the country; and

(c) if so, the cities at which these stations are likely to be established and when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Nine.

(b) and (c). Standing Committee for promotion of exports by Shipping has suggested establishment of Container Freight Stations at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Pune and Madurai. Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Pune Container Freight Stations are expected to become operational during the current year.

Recruitment Rules in Public Sector Undertakings in Punjab

7872. BABA SUCHA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rules for recruitment of employees in public sector undertakings and boards of Punjab Government;

(b) whether these rules have been followed in recruitment of ad-hoc or daily wage employees during the last three years; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Majority of the public sector undertakings in the State of Punjab have framed their own rules for recruitment of employees based on Model Punjab Government Rules. A few are following the Punjab Government rules.

(b) Public sector undertakings are expected to follow these rules in respect of *ad-hoc* recruitment also. No case of violation of rules has come to the notice of Government.

Daily wage employees are engaged according to daily requirement and are not governed by any separate rules.

(c) Does not arise.

Concessional Passes to Railway Board Officials

7873. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of officials of Railway Board's office have been issued suburban/monthly season passes at concessional rates for their daily journeys between their place of work and residence;

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

(c) whether some such beneficiaries have been allotted government accommodation in Delhi and were enjoying this facility by furnishing false information; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard;

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

(b) 85 officials were issued monthly suburban tickets at concessional rates during the month of March, 1990. The category-wise break up is as under:

(i) Group 'B' —	4
(ii) Group 'C' —	54
(iii) Group 'D' —	27

(c) and (d). One such case of a Group 'C' employees has come to notice. Department disciplinary action has been initiated against the employee concerned.

[*Translation*]**Collieries in Madhya Pradesh**

7874. SHRI LARANG SAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several collieries in Sarguja, Bilaspur and Shahdol districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of collieries in each said district along with the name of the colliery and the quantity of coal extracted daily from each colliery;

(c) whether the coal companies pay some royalty to State Government and if so, the rate thereof; and

(d) the amount paid by each colliery from January, 1985 to October, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) South Eastern Coalfields Limited is operating 25 collieries in Sarguja District, 11 collieries in Bilaspur and 39 collieries in Shahdol districts of Madhya Pradesh. The names of the collieries and the quantity of coal extracted daily from the collieries are given in Statement-I below.

(c) Royalty rates payable to the State Government on different grades of coal are as follow:

<i>Grade of Coal</i>	<i>Rate of royalty (per tonne)</i>
1	2
Non Coking Coal Gr. A	Rs. 6.50
Non Coking Coal Gr. B	
Non Coking Coal Gr. C	Rs. 5.50
Non Coking Coal Gr. D	
Non Coking Coal Gr. E	Rs. 4.30
Non Coking Coal Gr. F	
Non Coking Coal Gr. G	Rs. 2.50

(d) Area-wise royalty paid by South Eastern Coalfields Limited since its formation, from April '86 to December, 1989 is given in Statement-II below. For the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 Western Coalfields

Limited paid a royalty of Rs. 1157.65 lakhs and Rs. 1188.84 lakhs respectively in respect of mines in M.P. transferred to South Eastern Coalfields Limited.

STATEMENT***SURGUJA DISTRICT***

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Daily Average production during April, 1990 (Tonnes)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	North Jhagrakhand	120
2.	South Jhagrakhand (old)	146
3.	South Jhagrakhand (new)	246
4.	West Jhagrakhand	796
5.	B. Seam	627
6.	Korea	669
7.	Kurasia	
	(a) Kurasia UG	539
	(b) Kurasia OC	1867
8.	Sonawani	313
9.	Duman Hill	1084
10.	West Chirimiri	1258
11.	N.C.P.H.	1433
12.	North Chirimiri	962
13.	Chirimiri UG	944
14.	Chirimiri Opencast	1027
15.	Bhatgaon	1577
16.	Jainagar (Old)	808
17.	Jainagar (new)	538
18.	Kuamda (old)	481

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Daily Average production during April, 1990 (Tonnes)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
19.	Kumda (new)	680
20.	Balrampur Indine	240
21.	Bisrampur Opencast	2000
22.	Dugga Opencast	187
23.	Churcha	2038
24.	Churcha West	2000
25.	Kathona	654

BILASPUR DISTRICT

1.	Banki	1154
2.	Surakachhar (Main)	885
3.	Surakachhar 3 and 4	459
4.	Sura Kachhar 5 and 6	118
5.	Balgi	923
6.	Rajgamar	942
7.	Manikpur opencast	4667
8.	Gevra opencast	29833
9.	Dipka opencast	5667
10.	Kuomunda opencast	11167
11.	Laxman opencast	5167

SHAHDOL DISTRICT

1.	Burhar No.	612
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<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Daily Average production during April, 1990 (Tonnes)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
2.	Dhanpuri UG	510
3.	Subhash Incline	376
4.	Burhar No. 3	513
5.	Chachai UG	769
6.	Vivak Nagar Incline	222
7.	Rungta Colliery	565
8.	Amlai UG	462
9.	Bangwar	103
10.	Rajendra	—
11.	Navgaon	—
12.	Dhanpuri opencast	1500
13.	Sharda opencast	1167
14.	Amlai opencast	534
15.	Birsinghpur	432
16.	Norozabad	868
17.	Umaria	410
18.	Pali ,	707
19.	Pinoura	63
20.	Jamuna 1 and 2	423
21.	Jamuna 9 and 10	168
22.	Jamuna 11 and 12	108

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Mine</i>	<i>Daily Average production during April, 1990 (Tonnes)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
23.	Kotma West	914
24.	Kotma	308
25.	Govinda	2154
26.	Bhadra	315
27.	Jamuna opencast	1562
28.	Rajnagar	423
29.	New Rajnagar	538
30.	Rajnagar 7 and 8	1231
31.	Ramnagar	423
32.	Jhimar (old)	769
33.	South Jhimar	462
34.	Malga	423
35.	Bijuri	1254
36.	Baherabandh	400
37.	Rajnagar opencast	2667
38.	Dola opencast	200
39.	Palkimara	38

STATEMENT-II**South Eastern Coalfields Limited***Royalty Payment Area-wise from April 1986 to December, 1989.**Rs. in lakhs*

Particulars	Rs. in lakhs									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Korba (East)	Korba (West)	Chirimiri	Baikunthpur	Hasdeo	Sohagpur	Jamuna Kotma	Johilla	Total	
April 86 to March 87	374.75	Area not formed	216.16	150.82	190.03	132.91	88.13	—	1152.80	
April 87 to March 88	119.61	291.52	240.91	200.05	200.29	141.42	101.75	—	1295.55	
April 88 to March 89	113.41	346.72	249.60	211.56	222.00	160.51	108.83	—	1417.63	
April 89 to December 89	100.07	330.87	174.31	168.82	171.96	87.07	95.41	22.67	1151.18	New area

N.B. Accounts of South Eastern Coalfields Limited are prepared from 1.4.86.

Taping of Collieries in Bihar

7875. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to tap more collieries in the country;

(b) if so, whether some more collieries are likely to be tapped in Bihar;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. During 8th Plan about 40 new and re-organisation coal projects may be taken up in Bihar. The starting of operations will inter-alia, depend on the factors like techno-economic feasibility, availability of land and other necessary clearances.

[English]

Technology for Coal Mining

7876. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the technology being employed by the nationalised coal mines to have quantum jump in their coal mining operations; and

(b) the coal production projections upto 2000 A.D.?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to meet the rapid increase in demand for coal in the country, the coal companies are employing modern technology in their mining operations as follows:

(i) In mine planning and development, advanced technologies are being introduced such as electrical resistivity surveys, magnetic surveys, gravity surveys, in-seam seismic surveys, radio imaging etc.

(ii) In coal extraction, open cast mines of 5 to 10 million tonnes capacity per annum are being opened with higher capacity equipment and greater mechanisation. In underground mining also, there is a progressive application of modern technology through deployment of mechanised long-wall equipment, introduction of gallery blasting method, shield mining method etc.

(iii) In coal handling, mechanised coal handling plants are being set up. These would ultimately handle all the coal produced by the coal companies.

(iv) In the field of communications better communication facilities are being introduced such as micro-wave circuit, Satellite-based communication network through earth station, computer net-working and electronification of under ground mines.

(b) The Govt. have not yet taken a decision regarding the coal production targets to be set upto the year 2000 A.D. However, a production of 418 million tonnes of coal by the year 1999-2000 has been projected tentatively.

[*Translation*]

Air Services between Delhi and Aurangabad

7877. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of air services being operated for Ajanta-Ellora, the famous tourist centre;

(b) whether Government propose to start daily flights between Delhi and Aurangabad; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Aurangabad is the nearest airport to Ajanta and Ellora caves. Indian Airlines operates a daily Boeing-737 service on the sector Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Aurangabad-Bombay and back. Besides, Vayudoot is operating the following services to and through Aurangabad:

- Four day a week Dornier Services on the route Bombay Aurangabad-Nanded and back (Mondays Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays);
- Three day a week Dornier service on the route Bombay-Aurangabad-Akola and back (on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays).

(b) and (c). Indian Airlines is already operating a daily service between Delhi and Aurangabad.

Foreign Investment Policy

7878. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has reiterated in no uncertain terms India's policy regarding foreign investment on own terms;

(b) whether the Prime Minister has also made it clear that India will not adopt Open Door Policy in this regard;

(c) whether U.S. Government had expressed resentment in this regard and differences have cropped up between Indian Government and U.S. Government as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). In his Inaugural Address to the National Meeting on India organised jointly by the World Economic Forum and the Confederation of Engineering Industry, on 9th April, 1990, the Prime Minister had, inter alia, stated that India recognised the important contribution which foreign investment could make to the country's efforts to modernise its industry, to make the Indian industry more competitive internationally and give it competitive marketing links in the highly world markets. The Prime Minister had further indicated that the country would welcome foreign investment in priority areas of interest. The Prime Minister, however, made it clear that the country did not propose to follow an open-door policy of eliminating all restriction on foreign investment and that the country would continue to be selective in regard to foreign investment.

(c) and (d). In the recent Indo-U.S. Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission Meeting held in April, 1990, the U.S. delegation had expressed the view that a fair and equitable treatment for foreign investors would serve India's interest. The Indian side presented the current status of the Government's policy on foreign investment and reiterated that the foreign investment policy

had sufficient flexibility to meet the requirements according to national priorities. It was also explained that the foreign investment policy of India formed a part of and also reflected the industrial, economic and social policy of the country. The Indian side further made it clear that India's policy was non-discriminatory and provided favourable environment to the foreign investors to operate.

Overbridge at Bharuch Station

7879. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an overbridge near Bharuch railway station on Western Railway;

(b) if so, the time by which the construction work is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). The Railway can take up the work, only after the State Government sanctions its portion of expenditure for the work.

[English]

Promotion of Coir Industry

7880. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote coir industry in Kerala;

(b) the welfare measures taken for the coir workers; and

(c) the assistances given to Kerala Government for the modernisation of coir

industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Following programmes, Financial Assistance, Technical Support, Training and Extension facilities have been extended by the Coir Board/Govt. for promoting the development of the coir industry in Kerala:

1. Central Scheme of Cooperativisation.
2. Rebate Scheme for Market Development.
3. Cash Compensatory Support on Exports.
4. Foreign Publicity Programmes and Market Development Missions under ITC/SIDA project.
5. Assistance to organised sector for Construction/Renovation of Workshops.
6. Research and Development Programmes for Improving Productivity, Upgrading Quality and Improving Skills of Coir Workers.
7. Collection and Compilation of Statistics relating to Coir Industry in Kerala.

(b) the welfare measure taken for the coir workers of Kerala are:

1. Model Coir Village Scheme is being implemented in 53 villages of Kerala at a cost of Rs. 140 lakhs approximately, wholly funded by the Central Government. The Scheme includes provision of houses of SC/ST coir

workers, sanitary latrines, fuel efficient smokeless choolas, sheds, community halls/rest rooms, drinking water schemes, bunds etc.

2. Medicare Scheme—the scheme is being implemented in Kerala at a cost of Rs. 200 lakhs (shared by Central Government and Kerala Government on 50:50 ratio). The scheme provides for supply of medicines, vitamins and minerals, medical caps and treatment of occupational diseases and construction of hospital blocks in existing hospitals for in-patient treatment of coir workers.
3. The Coir Board has extended assistance @ Rs. 20,000/- for construction of permanent buildings for anganwadis. Assistance for 39 such buildings have been extended so far.

(c) The assistance given to Kerala Government for modernisation of coir industry are as under:

1. Assistance @ Rs. 3,000/- for construction/modernisation of workshops of small scale coir manufacturing units given to 293 units.
2. During the 7th Plan period, a total of Rs. 187 lakhs was sanctioned to the Govt. of Kerala under Co-operativeisation scheme for strengthening coir cooperatives including scheme for strengthening coir cooperatives including modernisation of their operations.
3. Training has been imparted by the Coir Board to the workers of 85 coir societies, for upgradation of quality.

Under Weight Coal Wagons

7881. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI
AHER:
SHRI A. CHARLES:
SHRI YADVENDRA DATT:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether small scale industries are put to heavy financial losses because of pilferage, theft, accidental spillage of coal on the way and short weight coal wagons;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted as to the extent of shortages and how far the small scale industries suffer on this account, and

(c) the measures Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Some complaints have been received from coal consumers regarding shortage of coal in wagons received by them.

(b) and (c). No specific study has been conducted to ascertain the extent of shortages of coal in transit and the loss suffered by small scale industries on this account. Claim prevention machinery and security Department of Railways carry out checks against pilferage and theft in sensitive areas and initiate action against the culprits. Railways have also introduced movement of coal in block rakes with very fast transit to minimise chances of pilferage and theft enroute. Coal companies generally do not load coal in defective wagons to avoid spillage while in transit. Coal companies have also installed weigh-bridges to weigh coal wagons before despatch.

[*Translation*]

**Revival of Cement Plant at Sawai
Madhopur**

7882. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the cement plant of Jaipur Udyog Lt.J., Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan is lying closed;

(b) the steps taken so far to revive it;

(c) whether the workers have sent a proposal to the State Government or the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to run the cement on cooperative basis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). M/s. Jaipur Udyog Limited, having a cement plant at Sawai Madhopur was afforded working capital facilities by the State Bank of India on the basis of a guarantee extended by the State Government. The Bank operations, however, have been closed since 1.7.1988, as the guarantee has not been renewed. On a reference by the state government as well as the company, the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) appointed Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) as the operating agency to prepare a rehabilitation scheme. After considering the scheme prepared by IRBI and all the relevant facts and circumstances of the case, the Special Bench of the Board in their hearing held on 30th January, 1989, came to the prima-facie conclusion that M/s. Jaipur Udyog Ltd. cannot be made viable under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provi-

sions) Act, 1985, and it is just and equitable that it is wound up. A show cause notice inviting suggestions/ comments/objections from all concerned had accordingly been ordered to be issued fixing 5.4.1989 as the next date of hearing.

in the meantime, the Order passed by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction on 30th January 1989, regarding winding up of the unit, was challenged before the Appellate Authority for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction by one of the promoters of the unit. The Appellate Authority by its order dated 12.6.1989 had remanded the matter to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for examination in the light of observations made by it.

The BIFR by its Order of 25th July, 1989, had directed the IRBI to prepare a fresh scheme in the light of the observations made by the Appellate Authority and Submit its report to the Board by 15.9.1989. The IRBI has since submitted its revised report to the BIFR who had fixed 30th April 1990 for passing the order. Final views of the BIFR have not been received.

[*English*]

Allotment of LPG Agencies in Delhi

7883. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no new LPG distribution-ship has been commissioned in Delhi since 1987 even though 25 distributors belonging mainly to widows, physically disabled, ex-servicemen categories have been selected and are waiting for a period of five years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when these agencies are going to be allotted and commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). No, Sir. 36 LPG distributorships have been commissioned in Delhi since 1987. However, some distributorships for which Letters of Intent have been issued are yet to be commissioned mainly due to delay in the allotment/taking possession of land. They would be commissioned as soon as land is available and other requirements are completed.

Utilisation of Natural Gas

7884. DR. VISWANATHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to divert the natural gas from West Godavari to industrially backward areas like Srikakulam;

(b) whether any commitment for supply of gas to some gas based power plants in coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh has also been made; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). 4,00,000 cubic metres per day of natural gas has been committed for a 3 x 33 MW Power Plant to be set up by the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board at Vijeswaram. Availability of gas has been indicated for a large plant in Kakinada.

Central Investment in Power Sector in Eastern Region

7885. SHRI P. NARSA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inadequate Central investment in the Power sector in the East-

ern region which is a major cause for poor availability of electricity; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The total installed capacity in the Central Sector which was 630 MW in the Eastern Region at the end of the 7th Plan will increase to 4030 MW at the end of the 8th Plan as per the tentative programme of incremental capacity addition. It is estimated that energy deficit in the Region will reduce from the present 14.15% to 2.3% at the end of the Eighth Plan.

[*Translation*]

Introduction of 'Palace of Wheels'

7886. SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives for introducing 'Palace on Wheels' train and the success achieved by Government in this regard; and

(b) the amount spent so far on running this train and the profit earned during last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) 'Palace on Wheels' train was introduced to promote International tourism in India and to increase country's foreign exchange earnings. In 1988-89, the occupancy of this train was 93.4% and the total foreign exchange earnings were US Dollars 12.55 lakhs.

(b) The cost and profit/loss earned/incurred by the Railways in running this train during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
1. Cost			
(a) Fully Distributed	101.25	113.76	128.82
(b) Direct	70.80	77.52	81.44
2. Earnings (Railway's share)	65.00	91.25	121.80
3. Profit/Loss			
(a) On the basis of Fully Distributed Cost	(-) 36.25	(-) 22.51	(-) 7.02
(b) On the basis of Direct Cost	(-) 5.80	(+) 13.73	(+) 40.36

[English]

Delay in Refund of Security to Railway Employees

7887. SHRI RAM SAGAR (SAIDPUR): Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways take security from some categories of its employees in the shape of Pass Book of Savings Account etc.;

(b) if so, details thereof as also the reasons therefore;

(c) whether Railways take lot of time in returning the security amount to the family of the deceased employees or to the retired pensioners; and

(d) in how many cases the security amount is yet to be returned by the Northern Railway giving details of steps taken to expedite the same?

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

(b) As per extant rules, Railway servants entrusted with handling Cash/Stores are required to furnish a security, deposit receipt, guarantee bonds and demand drafts of State Bank of India, deposits in the post office savings bank/NSC etc. to safeguard Railways interests in the event of possible losses occurring in the course of handling of Cash/Stores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The information is being collected from Northern Railway and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Corruption Cases Against DESU Staff

7888. SHRI KALPNATH SONKAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of corruption cases lying pending against the officers and subordinate staff with the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking;

(b) since when these cases are pending; and

(c) the steps being taken to dispose of these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) According to the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, about 540 cases mostly involving charges of corruption/mis-appropriation of money were pending against the officers and staff of the Undertaking as on 30.4.1990.

(b) and (c). 31 cases pertain to the period 1977-1982 and the remaining 509 cases were registered during 1983-1990. DESU has advised the vigilance staff to finalise the pending cases expeditiously.

[*English*]

Promotions for SC/ST in Public Sector Undertakings

7889. **SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of public sector undertakings have switched over to time-bound promotions, thereby abolishing the SC/ST employees reservation rosters;

(b) if so, the action being taken to redress the grievances of SC/ST employees, who have been consequently denied relaxation in the eligibility criteria keeping in view the enhanced period for time-bound promotions; and

(c) how Government propose to achieve

the aim of the reservation policy to ensure that the representation of SC/ST is brought upto the level of their proportion in the population?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). As per information available, 18 public sector undertakings have adopted Time-Bound Promotion Scheme for their employees. Instruction have been issued by the government that those undertakings who have adopted the Time-Bound Promotion Scheme should ensure that the scheme is not violative of the instructions on reservation in promotion afforded to employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(c) Various steps have been taken to ensure proper representation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Public Sector Undertakings from time to time. These include, relaxations and concessions with regard to age limit examination fee, reimbursement of travelling expenses for attending interviews, separate interviews for candidates belonging to SC/ST inclusion of a member belonging to SC/ST in DPCs/Selection Committees, relaxations in standard and experience, etc. Dereservation in direct recruitment has been banned in public sector undertakings. Special Recruitment Drive has been launched to wipe out the backlog vacancies in the public sector undertakings.

Assistance to States for Bio-Gas Plants

7890. **SHRI D. AMAT:** Will the Minister of **ENERGY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been providing financial assistance to State governments for the development of bio-gas plants;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance given for setting up bio-gas plants during the last three years; State-wise; and

(c) the number of bio-gas plants set up so far in various States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have been providing financial assistance, inter-alia, to State governments and State nodal agencies, for Central subsidy, service charges or staff support, turn-key job fee, training course, repair charges etc. under the National Project on Biogas Development.

(b) During the period of last three years,

i.e. 1987-88 to 1989-90, a total sum of over Rs. 139.38 crores has been released to different State Governments, Union Territories and State nodal agencies under the National Project on Biogas Development. State-wise details are given in Statement-I below.

(c) Over 11.87 lakh family type biogas plants are reported to have been set up in different States and Union Territories during the different States and Union Territories during the period the period 1981-82 to 1989-90 (upto February, 1990) as per the State-wise details given in Statement-II below.

STATEMENT-I

Statewise details of Funds Released to State Governments/Union Territories/State Nodal Agencies during 1987-88 to 1989-90 under the National Project for Biogas Development

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/Government/Union Territories</i>	<i>Total Funds released during 1987-88 to 1989-90</i>
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	476.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.62
3.	Assam	222.83
4.	Bihar	360.50
5.	Goa	15.89
6.	Gujarat	1048.44
7.	Haryana	218.79
8.	Himachal Pradesh	437.11
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	20.77
10.	Karnataka	913.54

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/Government/Union Territories</i>	<i>Total Funds released during 1987-88 to 1989-90</i>
		<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
11.	Kerala	234.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	311.66
13.	Manipur	18.30
14.	Maharashtra	4853.66
15.	Meghalaya	3.30
16.	Mizoram	16.72
17.	Nagaland	0.02
18.	Orissa	693.15
19.	Punjab	189.41
20.	Rajasthan	359.88
21.	Sikkim	17.11
22.	Tamil Nadu	1314.56
23.	Tripura	0.02
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1488.31
25.	West Bengal	717.28
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	2.35
27.	Chandigarh	0.32
28.	Delhi	2.49
Grand Total		13938.20

STATEMENT-II

Number of Family Type Biogas Plants set up in different State/Union Territories during 1981-82 to 1989-90 (upto Feb., 1990) under National Project on Biogas Development

<i>Sl No.</i>	<i>State/Union Territories</i>	<i>Total number of Plants set up</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	88777
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24
3.	Assam	7717
4.	Bihar	56741
5.	Goa	1361
6.	Gujarat	87553
7.	Haryana	17716
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18393
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	708
10.	Karnataka	63865
11.	Kerala	22061
12.	Madhya Pradesh	34882
13.	Maharashtra	357247
14.	Manipur	268
15.	Meghalaya	107
16.	Mizoram	567
17.	Nagaland	124
18.	Orissa	42450
19.	Punjab	14588
20.	Rajasthan	34195

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State Union Territories</i>	<i>Total number of Plants set up</i>
1	2	3
21.	Sikkim	314
22.	Tamil Nadu	122430
23	Tripura	83
24	Uttar Pradesh	176547
25.	West Bengal	37659
26	Andaman & Nicobar	98
27.	Chandigarh	72
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	126
29.	Delhi	561
30	Pondicherry	443
Grand Total		11,87,677

Conversion of Hubli-Hospet Line

7891 SHRI D.K. NAIKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand from the people of Karnataka for conversion of meter gauge into broad gauge from Hubli to Hospet; and

(b) if so, the present stage of the project?

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

(b) Due to inadequate traffic prospects and constraint of resources, there is no proposal for conversion of Hubli Hospet MG

rail line into BG at present.

Additional Flights from Delhi To Jeddah

7892. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Haj pilgrims have demanded additional flights from Delhi to Jeddah to cope with the rush of passengers; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir. Adequate number of flights have already been sched-

uled by Saudia and Air India.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Vayudoot Service from Forbesganj to Guwahati etc.

7893. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to re-open the Forbesganj airport in Bihar and introduce Vayudoot services from there to Guwahati, Patna and Calcutta;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The aircraft capacity with Vayudoot Limited is fully stretched with no scope for induction of any more stations in its network. Therefore there are no plans at present to airlink Forbesganj.

Waiting List for LPG Connections in Bhopal and Indore

7894. SHRIMATI SUMITRAMAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the year upto which the waiting list for new LPG connections in Bhopal has been cleared;

(b) whether the waiting list for LPG connections in respect of Indore has been cleared upto 1982 only;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in clearing the waiting list; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to make up this delay?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) As on 1.4.90 the waiting list for LPG connections in Bhopal has been cleared upto 1987 in the case of IOC and HPC distributors and upto 1988 in the case of BPC distributors.

(b) As on 1.4.90 waiting list for new LPG connections is pending in Indore since 1982.

(c) and (d). New LPG connections are released in a phased manner all over the country through the distributors operating below the ceiling limit subject to availability of product, equipment and facilities. In addition to the existing facilities, the oil industry has proposed to set up 4 new LPG distributorships in Indore for the period upto the Marketing Plan 1987-88.

[*English*]

Running of Additional Shatabdi Express/Rajdhani Express

7895. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL:
SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the areas for running of additional Shatabdi Express/Rajdhani Express;

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

(c) when such super fast trains are likely to be introduced?

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

(b) Tatanagar-Howrah and Secunderbad-Vijayawada sections.

(c) No firm date can be fixed up for the introduction of Shatabadi type trains on these sections due to resource constraints.

Trains Between Surat and Vadodara

7896. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation to start an intercity train between Surat and Vadodara: and

(b) if so, the action taken to start the said train?

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

(b) Not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

[*Translation*]

Raids on Petrol/Diesel Pumps in Uttar Pradesh

7897. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of raids conducted in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years on the petrol/diesel pumps for adulteration and samples collected:

(b) the number of samples and the particulars of the laboratories where the samples were tested and the outcome thereof:

(c) the number of persons against whom action has been taken and the number of

those who were acquitted of the charges: and

(d) whether the rules in this regard are proposed to be made more stringent to save the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Kerala Express

7898. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the average capacity utilisation of the Kerala Express:

(b) the number of passengers travelling in this train daily during the months of April, May and June:

(c) whether Government propose to start an additional train to cope with the rush during these months: and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The accommodation in 2625/2626 Kerala Expresses is generally utilised in full.

(b) Train-wise details are not maintained.

(c) and (d). Special train was provided on 24.4.90 Ex-Mangalore to Jammu Tawi and on 27.4.90 Ex-Jammu Tawi to Mangalore. A new weekly express train has been introduced between Mangalore-New Delhi and Jammu Tawi from May, 1990.

Manufacture of CFC

7899. SHRI N.J. RATHAVA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a joint sector unit with the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation as a co-promoter, has started manufacturing chloro fluorcarbon (CFC) refrigerant gases, which contributed in depleting the ozone layer and disturbing the ecological balance;

(b) if so, the details in this regard:

(c) whether the manufacture of Chlorofluorcarbon is banned in the U.S. and other countries:

(d) if so, whether the Gujarat Pollution Control Board has issued a 'No Objection Certificate' to this joint sector unit and the reasons therefor:

(e) whether Government has decided to re-consider this decision: and

(f) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). M/s. Gujarat Fluoro chemicals Ltd., jointly promoted by M/s. SMS Udyog Private Ltd., and M/s. Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation, a wholly owned Corporation of Government of Gujarat, has commenced commercial production of chlorofluorocarbon Refrigerant Gases (CFC) with effect from the 1st October, 1989.

(c) Manufacture of CFC has not been totally banned in the USA and other countries.

(d) Gujarat Pollution Control Board has issued No Objection Certificate to M/s. Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd., for the manufacture of Chlorofluorocarbon gases.

(e) and (f). There is no proposal to re-consider the project.

[Translation]

Air Services in Hilly Areas

7900. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce air services at reduced fares in hilly areas of the country to promote domestic flights in consultation with the Planning Commission; and

(b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to make available air services within the reach of general public in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Subsidised air fares are already available in the North Eastern Region. There is no proposal for further extension of subsidised air fare due to higher operational cost of the airlines.

Change of Names of Railway Stations

7901. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether names of railway stations in the country which are after the names of the British people and their lackeys:

(b) whether the names of such railway stations on Northern Railway are proposed to be changed;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There are a few old stations with British names.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per extant procedure any change in the existing name of Railway station can be made only on the recommendations of the State Government concerned duly con- firmed in by the Ministry of Home Affairs. At present no such proposal from the State Government is pending with the Northern Railway.

[*English*]

Separate Zone for Karnataka

7902. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka State is split among three railway zones;

(b) whether there is a persistent demand to end the triple administrative control and carve out a separate Karnataka railway zone with headquarters in Bangalore;

(c) whether the Railway Reforms Committee had recommended the creation of a South Western Railway zone with headquarters in Bangalore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir

(d) Due to severe financial constraints, the Railways are not considering the crea- tion of any new zone for the present.

Production of quality paper by Khadi and Village Industries

7903. SHRI P. PENCHALAIAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to pro- duce good quality paper by Khadi and Vil- lage Industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUS- TRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUS- TRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b). the Quality of Handmade paper under Khadi and village Industries is being continuously improved through Research and Develop- ment Institutions like Handmade Paper Research Project and Experimental Hand- made Paper Unit at Dehradun. During 1988- 89 a cylinder mould vat of specific capacity was introduced so as to improve productivity and quality. A process was successfully developed for the use of agro-wastes like paddy straw, wheat straw, Arhar sticks and Bamboo as raw material.

Production Performance of Public Undertakings

7904. SHRI ERA ANBARASU:
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been improve- ment in production performance of public sector undertakings during the last quarter

ending on 31st march, 1990; and
(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI
AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). There has been

improvement in production in some of the major Central Public Sector Enterprises from whom the figures have been received for the quarter ending March, 1990. Details are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of Public Sector Enterprise	Product	Unit	Production		
				Quarter ending December 1989	Quarter ending March 1990	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	Saleable & Ingots	Th. T	4053	4362	
2.	National Thermal Power Corporation	Generation	MUS	9179	12219	
3.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission	Crude Oil Natural Gas	MMT MM ³	7.905 2254	7.919 2356	
4.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.	Crude Processed	'000MT	1843	1848	
5.	Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.	LDP	MT	20224	23024	
6.	Coal India Ltd.	Raw Coal	LT	460	570	

Sl. No.	Name of Public Sector Enterprise	Product	Unit	Production		
				Quarter ending December 1989	Quarter ending March 1990	Quarter ending March 1990
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7.	Kudremukh Iron Ore	IronOre Concentrate	MT	1,350	1,467	
8.	Manganese Ore India Ltd.	Manganes Ore	Th. T	135	148	
9.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Penicillin	Th. BU	195	1125	
10.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	Thermal Sets Boilers & Valves	Nos. MT	1T + 1G 35440	8T+9G 52326	
11.	Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels	Fertilizers & Chemical Equipments	MT	4015	6286	

Sl. No.	Name of Public Sector Enterprise	Product	Unit	Production	
				Quarter ending December 1989	Quarter ending March 1990
1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Electronic Corporation of India Ltd.	All Products	Rs. in lakhs	7510	8506
13.	HMT Ltd.	Machine Tools Tractors	Nos. Nos.	518 4353	1002 4871
14.	Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	All products	Standard Man Hours in Lakhs	58.4	64.7
15.	Maruti Udyog Ltd.	Passenger Vehicles	Nos.	28790	29972
16.	Hindustan Paper Corporation	Writing/ Printing Paper & Newsprint	Th. MT	53.8	64.4

[*Translation*]

BG Rail Link Between Lalgarh and Bikaner

7905. SHRI BEGA RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the train running between Suratgarh and Bikaner terminates at Lalgarh which is only 5 km from Bikaner;

(b) whether Government propose to construct broad gauge rail line from Lalgarh to Bikaner in view of difficulties being faced by the public;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. This has been included in the Railway Budget for 1990-91 as part of Gauge Conversion from Lalgarh to Jodhpur via Merata Road.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Refund Booking Deposit by A.P. Scooters Ltd.

7906. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations from the depositors about the delay in refund of scooter booking deposits by Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd.; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken against the company to safeguard the inter-

est of the depositors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) There have been some complaints about the delay in refund of advance money by M/s. Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd. against cancellation of booking. Such complaints are forwarded to the manufacturer for remedial action.

(b) The acceptance of advance money against booking is considered a contractual obligation between the customer and the company. However, with a view to safeguarding customer's interest, Government have issued revised guidelines for acceptance and deployment of advance money by the automobile manufacturers.

[*Translation*]

Trains Between Saharsa-Sonepur Vanmankhi

7907. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of Madhepura district in Bihar are facing great inconvenience due to non-availability of railway facility there;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to divert Harihar Nath Express, going from Saharsa to Sonepur, from Vanmankhi to Sonepur via Murliganj, Madhepura and Saharsa;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The services available at stations in Madhepura district are considered adequate to cater the present level of traffic.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Rail Link Between Jhansi and Manikpur

7908. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lalitpur, Teekamgarh, Chatarpur, Khajuraho, Kharda situated between Jhansi and Manikpur junctions are proposed to be connected with Jhansi and Manikpur in phases; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). A survey for a new BG line between Lalitpur and Singrauli has been approved in 1989-90 at an estimated cost of Rs. 33.00 lakhs with the proposed alignment passing through Lalitpur, Tikamgarh, Chattarpur and Khajuraho. A provision of Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been made during 1990-91 for this survey.

Revision of Pay Scales in Scooters India Ltd.

7909. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pay scales of the employees of the Scooters India Ltd., Lucknow, have been revised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) when the pay scales are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). The revised wage agreement proposal covering 2459 non-executive Unionised employees of Scooters India Limited for the period from 1.7.86 to 31.12.91 has been approved by Government on 20.4.90. As per Government's approval dated 20.4.90, an agreement has to be prepared and entered into with the Union after which pay fixation of the individual workman in the revised pay scales will be done by the Management.

With regard to the non-unionised employees such as supervisors and executives, BPE have issued guidelines dated 4th April 1990 as Scooters India Limited has now to formulate proposals regarding revision of the scales of pay of these employees on the basis of the parameters indicated in the BPE guidelines dated 4.4.90 and submit such proposals for approval of Government

Allotments of Sheds on Hire Purchase Basis

7910. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial sheds initially given on rental basis are being converted into hire-purchase basis;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation in respect of the flats allotted by them;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

(d) whether Government have issued some guidelines in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Yes, Sir. According to Delhi Administration decision to convert industrial sheds initially given on rental basis to hire-purchase basis is taken from time to time in respect of each scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A survey was conducted in the year 1988-89 to ascertain the Occupancy position of the sheds. Out of 840 sheds, 142 sheds were found subletted during the survey.

(d) and (e). The guidelines on land management already exist in DSIDC. Industrial sheds initially given on rental basis are being converted to hire-purchase basis. DSIDC is also allowing transfer of the sheds in favour of present occupants on nominal charges payable @ Rs. 50/- per sq. ft.

Vayudoot Aircraft on Charter Basis

7911. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vayudoot aircraft is given on charter basis:

(b) if so, the number of times Vayudoot aircraft were chartered on confirmed basis during 1989:

(c) the flying time taken by these chartered aircraft and the time actually involved: and

(d) whether payment was made on the basis of actual time involved?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the year 1989, Vayudoot Limited operated 151 charters involving total flying of 587:40 hours.

(d) As per the laid down policy, the rentals were charged with reference to the flying hours involved as well as time for which the aircraft were detained.

[Translation]

Mining in Chandrapur, Maharashtra

7912. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of coal mining in Bandarkhan (Khadsingi), Tehsil Chimmor, district Chandrapur (Maharashtra) has not been done for the last 3-4 years;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the work in the above mine so far;

(c) the time by which work in the mine is likely to be started: and

(d) the expenditure incurred on this mine upto December, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). Coal mining in Bandarkhan (Khadsingi) has not started so far. Presently detailed exploration is in progress and an expenditure of Rs. 83.21 lakhs has been incurred by CMPDI on exploration till December, 1989 in Bander Block. The Commencement of mining operation will inter-alia, depend upon good coal deposits being found and project feasibility being positive.

Power Share of Rajasthan

7913. SHRIGULABCHAND KATARIA:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan has lagged behind industrially due to non-availability of adequate power supply;

(b) whether Rajasthan Government had represented to Union Government that the State is not getting its share of power;

(c) if so, the action taken by Union Government is this regard; and

(d) the names of schemes under the consideration of Government to ensure adequate supply of power to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Industrial production is dependent on several factors and adequate supply of power is only one of them. There was a power shortage of about 2.8% in Rajasthan during 1999-90.

(b) and (c) During 1989-90, as against the entitlement of 3973 Million Units from the Central Generating Stations, the actual drawal was 4191 Million Units, thereby resulting into overdrawal of 218 Million Units.

(d) It is tentatively envisaged to add 223.41 MW capacity in Rajasthan during the 8th Plan depending upon availability of financial resources and other inputs. In addition, the state would also get its due share from the Central Projects which are being set up in the Northern Region. The details of the schemes which are expected to be commissioned in the 8th Plan in Rajasthan are as under:

<i>Name of the Schemes</i>	<i>Capacity (MW)</i>
1	2
Charanwala & Pugal (H)	2.70
Ramgarh (G)	3.00
Birsalpur & Mahi RMC (H)	1.71
Etawah (H)	0.50
Jhakham (H)	5.50
Kota U.S.	210.00
	223.41

[English]

Prior Approval for Incorporation of Companies

7914. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has recently issued a clarification stating that for incorporation of a company, prior approval of the Union Government must be obtained by the person of the authority incorporating such a company; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As per section 22 read with section 2(v) of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, incorporation of a new company amount to establishment of an undertaking and requires prior approval under section 22 of the Act. Certain instances of violation of this provision have come to the notice of the Government. In order to explain these provisions of the Act to the trade so as to remove

any doubt, it was felt desirable to issue a clarification.

Restoration of Passenger Trains on Badnera-Amravati Section

7915. SHRI SUDAM DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of passenger trains on Badnera-Amravati section of Central Railway have been suspended since September 1989 and timings of two trains have been changed since January/February, 1990:

(b) whether discontinuation and change of timing of these trains has resulted in very serious hardships and inconvenience to the travelling public:

(c) whether representations were made to the Divisional Superintendent, Central Railway, Bhusaval on 3rd January, 1990 for restoration of trains and revert to old timings; and

(d) if so, whether it is proposed to restore all the passenger trains and the old timings on this section?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Representation was made to the Divisional Railway Manager, Bhusaval on 4th February, 1990 mainly for change in the timings of 1676 Amravati-Badnera Passenger.

(d) Restoration of cancelled trains not found justified. Timings of 1676 Amravati-Badnera Passenger (re-numbered as 1648 Up) have been changed with effect from 1.5.1990.

Distilleries in Maharashtra

7916. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of distilleries in Maharashtra with their sanctioned capacity;

(b) the number of new units with their capacity sanctioned during the last three years;

(c) whether applications for sanction of more distilleries in the private, public or joint section in Maharashtra are pending before Union Government;

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(e) the reasons for delay, if any, and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) As per available information, there are 38 molasses based distilleries in Maharashtra with a total installed capacity of 3740.15 lakhs litres per annum.

(b) Government has not sanctioned any Letter of Intent for new distillery unit in the last three years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). The pending applications are at various stages of consideration.

Under the policy guidelines, proposals for new sugar mills for setting up of attached distilleries would be given favourable consideration.

[*Translation*]**Kanchkos and Ghachna Bridges on Radhikapur-Maniharighat Section (NEFRLY.)**

7917. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kanchkos railway wooden bridge between Radhikapur and Maniharighat (NEFR) which was the only exist, has been closed by levelling it;

(b) whether the width of Ghachna bridge near Kachna railway station between Radhikapur and Maniharighat is not sufficient to facilitate the flow of water underearth; and

(c) whether the wooden bridge of Kanchkos and pucca bridge of Ghachna which belong to railways will be made serviceable in public interest by removing the earth and adding two more columns in the width respectively and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Kata Kosh (not Kanchkos) Railway bridge was closed in the year 1986 on the advice of the State Flood Control Department, after necessary flood protection measures were undertaken by the State Government.

(b) Existing width of the Dhachna (not Ghachna) bridge, near Kachna Railway station is considered adequate to facilitate the flow of water.

(c) does not arise in view of the reasons stated in reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

[*English*]**Look out in Establishment of I.D.P.L. in West Bengal**

7919. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., declared lock-out in its establishment in West Bengal in 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the justification for issuing press statements by IDPL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRIBHAJAMAN BEHERA): (a) and (b). Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited was compelled to lock-out its establishment in West Bengal from 20th August, 1989 to 20th November, 1989 on account of unprecedented violence and hooliganism committed inside its premises by persons claiming to be members of FMRAI and WBMSRU.

(c) The company had to advertise in the Press explaining the circumstances leading to the lock-out for the information of the medical profession, stockists, retails chemists and the consumers.

Allocation of Power of Kerala From Central Power Stations

7920. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government received any request from Kerala Government for upward revision of allocation of power from central power stations to the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Kerala has been allocated the following share of power from various Central power station:

- i) Remagundam STPS
245 MW
- ii) Neyveli Lignite Corporation -II
63 MW
- iii) Madras Atomic Power Station
25 MW

At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for the upward revision of the allocation of power to Kerala State.

Coal to Raichur Thermal Power Station

7921. SHRI RAJA AMBANNA NAYAK DORE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground stock of coal at Raichur Thermal Power Station has been exhausted and power position in the Karnataka has become very critical;

(b) whether due to inadequate coal supply to Raichur Thermal Power Station, the generation of power is going to be paralysed;

(c) whether Union Government propose to take any immediate steps to make available coal to Raichur Thermal Power

Station and to improve power position in the Station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Though the ground stock of coal at Raichur Thermal Power Station (TPS) has exhausted at the end of March, 1990 but this power station has received 100% of its linked coal in April, 1990.

(c) and (d). The coal supply to various thermal power stations in the country, including Raichur TPS, is continuously mentioned by the various concerned agencies and necessary remedial measures are taken.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Bombay-Marathwada Line

7922. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the scheme to convert the Bombay-Marathwada metre gauge line into broad-gauge was formulated;

(b) the estimated cost of the project;

(c) the place upto which this work has been completed;

(d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken for expeditious completion of this project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Details of gauge conversion project approved in Marathwada are as under:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Year of Approval</i>	<i>Estimated cost</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1.	Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani-Parli vaijnath conversion.	1973-74	Rs. 140.00
2.	Parbhani-Purea and Mudkhed-Alilabad conversion & Purna-Mudkhed Parallel BG line.	1984-85	Rs. 107.42

(c) and (d). Work on Manmad-Aurangabad section of item 1 above (114 k.) is in progress and upto 31.3.90 an expenditure of Rs. 31.36 crores has been incurred.

(e) During 1990-91, a higher outlay of Rs. 14.00 crores has been approved for item 1 and Rs. 9.5 crores for item 2. Completion of these projects depends on availability of funds in the coming years.

Losses in Barauni Refinery Due to Flaring

7923. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Barauni Oil Refinery in Bihar is suffering heavy losses due to flaring of gas;

(b) whether Government propose to make adequate arrangements for proper channelisation of this gas being flared at present;

(c) if so, when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d). No, Sir. The flare

system is provided in the refinery basically as a safety requirement for safe disposal of hydrocarbons released from safety valves in case of excess pressure during unit emergencies. The pilot burner of flare is always kept burning with refinery fuel gas (after LPG recovery) so as to ensure that any hydrocarbons released during emergencies are safely disposed of by burning. Since the quantity of gas flared is insignificant, there is no proposal to change the present system.

Conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad Line

7924. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey to convert metre gauge rail line from Delhi to Ahmedabad via Jaipur and Ajmer into broad gauge was conducted by Government;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The length of MG line to be con-

certed was 1066 km and the cost of conversion was estimated at Rs. 120.05 crores at the then prevailing rates.

(c) Due to constraint of resources, it has not been possible to undertake the conversion.

[English]

Guidelines for Air Taxi Services

7925. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines for the proposal Air Taxi services in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent the usage of second hand and unsafe planes as air taxis?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The licence for operating air taxi is given by Director General of Civil Aviation only after ensuring all the conditions for safe operation. The operator will have to comply with the guidelines issued by D.G.C.A. and they will have to submit to periodic inspection by D.G.C.A.

[Translation]

Declaration of Dhopur as Industrially Backward District

7926. SHRI THAN SINGH JATAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare Dhopur district in Rajasthan as an industrially backward area:

(b) if so, when it will be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). Backward districts/ areas were identified by the Central Government on the basis on the criteria laid down by the Planning Commission. As district Dhopur did not fulfil the criteria laid down, it was not declared as a backward area. There is no proposal to declare any more districts including Dhopur as backward.

[English]

Summer Special Trains

7927. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-
THALA:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start some special trains to cope with the summer rush in the months of April to August, 1990 in the country and especially on Delhi-Kashmir line; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A pair of summer specials was run between Mangalore-Jammu Tawi on 24.4.90 ex. Mangalore and 27.4.90 ex. Jammu Tawi. From May '90 Time Table a new weekly Express service has been introduced between these two stations.

A statement giving details of special trains running on various routes is given

below:

[*Translation*]**STATEMENT****Share of Power of Madhya Pradesh
from Southern Grid**

1. Bombay — Pune
2. Bombay VT — Varanasi
3. Bombay VT— Gorakhpur
4. Bombay Central — Nizamuddin
5. Ahmadabad — Varanasi
6. Bombay Central — Ahmadabad
7. Bombay Central— Hapa
8. Bombay Central — Gandhidham
9. Howrah —Delhi
10. Howrah — Dehradun
11. Madras — Trivandrum
12. Madras — Tirunelveli
13. Madras — Calicut
14. Bangalore — Ernakulam
15. Bombay VT — Hyderabad
16. Bombay VT— Trivandrum
17. Hyderabad — Howrah
18. Secunderabad — Madras
19. Secunderabad — Tirupati
20. Mangalore — Jammu Tawi.

7928. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh is entitled to have 15 megawatts of power from Maharashtra from the Southern Grid under the State Reorganisation Act, 1956;

(b) whether sufficient power is being supplied to the Southern Grid by Maharashtra;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board is supplying its share of power to Madhya Pradesh, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Maharashtra provides assistance to Karnataka mainly during off-peak hours depending on availability.

(c) and (d). The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board is part of the Northern Grid and Madhya Pradesh does not have any share of power from the Central Stations in the Northern Grid.

[*English*]**Manmad-Indore Rail Link**

7929. SHRI UTTAMRAO
LAXMANRAO PATIL:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR
MAHALE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide a rail link between Manmad and Indore via Dhule and Nardana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and at what stage the matter stands at present; and

(c) how long it will take to complete this project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Trains from Ram Nagar to Delhi and Lucknow

7930. SHRI RAMESH BAIS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no direct trains from Ram Nagar station of North Eastern Railway for Delhi and Lucknow;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that passengers coming to Delhi from Moradabad and those going to Ram Nagar from Lucknow have to wait for one to three hours;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to make some arrangements to remove the difficulties of these passengers; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) A direct service namely 4055A/4056A in conjunction with 4055/4056 between Delhi and Ram Nagar and another such service namely 4065A/4066A in conjunction with 4265/4266 between Ram Nagar and Lucknow is already available.

(b) In order to link/delink the coaches on these services on journey towards destination, operational requirements involve delay of one or two hrs. at Moradabad.

(c) and (d). Not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

[*English*]

Naming a Railway Station after Late Shri Kamraj Nadar

7931. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent public demand to name a railway station in Tamil Nadu after Late Shri Kamraj Nadar;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Some representations were received by Southern Railways for naming a new passenger halt between Katankulathur and Singaperumal Kovil stations as 'Shri Kamraj Nadar'. As per existing procedure, Railway administration is guided by the recommendations of the State Government in the matter of naming a new station. Accordingly, the matter was taken up with the Tamilnadu Government who in turn have approved the name of the said halt as 'Mairaimalai Nagar'.

Passenger Facilities in Kerala Express

7932. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the facilities and introduce library facilities to travelling passengers in Kerala Express;

(b) whether it is also proposed to increase the number of coaches in Kerala Express;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Upgradation of Facilities/amenities is a continuous process. However, there is no proposal to introduce library facilities in Kerala Express.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Resource and operational constraints.

Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Line

7933. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted a survey for laying rail line between Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the rail line is likely to be laid; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The survey conducted in 1984 revealed that the estimated cost of the 63km. long BG Line at then prevailing price level would be Rs. 28.70 crores, with negative rate of return. Due to constraint of resources and heavy commitments on hand, there is no proposal to take up this line at present.

Fare for Trivandrum-Dubai Flight of Air India

7934. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the flying distance between Trivandrum and Dubai and chargeable fare of the Air India on this sector;

(b) the flying distance between Bombay and New York and chargeable air fare therefor;

(c) whether there is disparity in chargeable fare per k.m. on both sectors; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The flying distance, Economy Class air fares & fare per kilometer between Trivandrum and Dubai on one hand and Bombay and New York on the other hand is given below:

Particulars	Sectors				
	From Trivandrum to Dubai	From Dubai to Trivandrum	From Bombay to New York	From New York to Bombay	
1	2	3	4	5	
Flying Distance	2952 k.m.	2952 k.m.	12678 k.m.	12678 k.m.	
Economy class one way fare	Rs. 4454	Rs. 8407*	Rs. 18762	Rs. 26118*	
Rate per kilometre	Rs. 1.51	Rs. 2.85	Rs. 1.48	Rs. 2.06	

*Local Currency fare converted into INR at the prevailing Banker's Buying Rate.

The rate per k.m. between Bombay and New York is lower than the rate between Dubai and Trivandrum. This is not unusual, as, in most cases the rate per kilometre for short distances is higher than the rate for long distance as the cost per k.m. is higher. The following table amplified:

Sector	Distance in kms	Economy class one way fare	Rate per k.m.
1	2	3	4
Dubai-Djibouti	2004	Rs. 7907	Rs. 3.94
Dubai-Copenhagen	4873	Rs. 16869	Rs. 3.46
Dubai-Baghdad	1395	Rs. 4780	Rs. 3.43
Dubai-Trivandrum	2952	Rs. 8407	Rs. 2.85
New York-London	5565	Rs. 24753	Rs. 4.45
New York-Bombay	12678	Rs. 26118	Rs. 2.06
Frankfurt-Paris	465	Rs. 4151	Rs. 8.92
Frankfurt-Bombay	6569	Rs. 23644	Rs. 3.60

The fares are fixed by International Air Transport Association (IATA) and not by individual airlines.

Sale of Drugs by I.D.P.L.[*Translation*]

7935. SHRI T. BALA GOUD:
SHRI B. N. REDDY:
SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of drugs manufactured by the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited has considerably decreased viz-a-viz the drugs manufactured by other companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) year-wise details of the sale of the main products of the IDPL during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the steps proposed to be taken to boost the sale of IDPL products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRIBHAJAMAN BEHERA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Total Sales of IDPL during the last three years were as under:

(Rs. in crores)

1987-88	135.31
1988-89	163.76
1989-90 (Prov.)	177.10

(d) The company has taken steps for re-enforcing and revitalising its marketing organisation to boost its sales.

Gas Based Power Plants in Madhya Pradesh

7936. SHRI PHOOLCHAND VARMA:
KUMARI UMABHARATI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas based power plants in Madhya Pradesh and the locations thereof;

(b) whether there is any provision to set up more such plants in the State during the current and the next Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) There is no Gas based Power plant in operation at present.

(b) and (c). The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board forwarded the project reports for Gwalior, Guna, Jhabua and Rajgarh gas power plants of 450 MW (3 x 100 MW Gas Turbine + 1 x 150 MW Steam Turbine) capacity at each location in October, 1988.

The proposals could be approved by the Central Electricity Authority after the availability of all essential inputs, including the confirmation of supply of gas, on a sustained basis, and environmental clearance etc. are obtained by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board.

[*English*]**Rail Link Between Bhadrachalam and Rajahmundry (A.P.)**

7937. KUMARI KAMALAJI KAREDULA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to provide a direct rail link between the pilgrim towns of Bhadrachalam and Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether a scheme has been drawn up in the matter; and

(c) when the rail link is expected to be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Production of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.

7938. SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. is producing paper and pulp as per its installed capacity; and

(b) the installed capacity, production and cost per ton of paper and pulp produced by HPCL. plants during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is given below:

STATEMENT

The details of installed capacity, production and cost per tonne of paper of the Mills of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited during the last three years is as follows:-

The Millwise Details	Capacity	Actual C.U. production (%)	Cost per tonne of paper	Remarks
	M T P A	M T	Rs.	
1	2	3	4	5
A. NEWSPRINT				
1. Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.				
1987-88	80,000	81,513	102	9496
1988-89	80,000	78,660	98	10,131
1989-90	80,000	86,842	109	10,620
B. WRITING & PRINTING PAPER				
2. Nagaon Paper Mill				
1987-88	1,00,000	64,584	65	*5,763

The Millwise Details	Capacity	Actual C.U. production (%)	Cost per tonne of paper	Remarks
	M T P A	M T	Rs.	
1	2	3	4	5
1988-89	1,00,000	58	17,923	
1989-90	1,00,000	69	18,182	
3. Cachar Paper Mill				
1987-88	—	—	—	Commissioned in April 1988
1988-89	1,00,000	37	23,915	
1989-90	1,00,000	47	25,575	
4. Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.				
1987-88	16,500	59	17,063	
1988-89	16,500	60	22,929	

The Millwise Details	Capacity	Actual C.U. production (%)	Cost per tonne of paper	Remarks
	M T P A	M T	Rs.	
1	2	3	4	5
1989-90	16,500	14,451	19,951	
5. Nagaland Pulp & Paper Company Ltd.				
1987-88	33,000	5675	46,714	
1988-89	33,000	2180	1,21,562	
1989-90	33,000	1059	2,39,526	(Provisional)

C.U.—Capacity Utilisation.

Assistance to Andhra Pradesh Government

7939. SHRI RAJAMOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposal under consideration of Union Government to provide assistance to Andhra Pradesh Government to meet the acute power shortage during the Eighth Plan; and

(b) the assistance likely to be given during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). It is tentatively envisaged to set up power projects of a total capacity of 1991 MW in Andhra Pradesh during the Eight Plan. During 1990-91, a generating capacity of 179 MW is programmed to be added. In addition, Andhra Pradesh will get its share from the existing as well as planned Central generating stations in the Southern Region. Assistance from neighbouring systems/ States is also provided to the State to the extent possible to meet the power shortage.

Gas Based Power Plant in Visakhapatnam

7940. SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up a gas based power plant in Visakhapatnam to meet the power shortage; and

(b) if so, whether the process of infra-structural facilities has been finalised?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vacancies Under Director General of Civil Aviation

7941. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of both technical and non-technical posts and the time for which these have been lying vacant, category-wise, under the Director General of Civil Aviation;

(b) the main reasons for such a situation;

(c) the various adverse effects on the working of the Directorate due to long unfilled vacancies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The information regard the number of vacancies and since when lying vacant is given in the statement below.

(b) The vacancies have arisen mainly due to retirements, resignations, non-availability of SC/ST candidates, deputation of officers abroad, non-availability of eligible officers in the feeder grade, from open market through Union Public Service Commission, etc.

(c) and (d). Existence of vacancies causes additional burden on individual officer who have to perform duties of vacant posts in addition to their own. This has in general weakening effect on the regulatory mechanism of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation. A drive has been undertaken to ensure that the vacancies are filled expeditiously.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Category-wise vacancies	Number of vacancies	Time for which lying vacant
1	2	3	4
TECHNICAL POSTS			
1.	Deputy Director General	1	March, 1990
2.	Director of Information & Regulation	1	January, 1989
3.	Director of Training & Licensing	1	September, 1986
4.	Inspector of Flying	1	February, 1988
5.	Examiner of Personnel	1	September, 1988
6.	Deputy Director (Flight Crew Standards)	1	October, 1981
7.	Director of Airworthiness	4	3 posts-1988; 1 post-1989
8.	Senior Airworthiness Officer	7	1 post-1987; 6 posts-1990
9.	Airworthiness Officer	19	7 posts-1987; 12 posts-1990
10.	Deputy Director/Regional Controller of Air Safety (Engg)	2	1990

Sl. No.	Category-wise vacancies	Number of vacancies	Time for which lying vacant
1	2	3	4
11.	Deputy Director of Air Safety (O)	1	1979
12.	Assistant Director/Senior Air Safety Officer (Engg)	3	1 post-1985; 1 post-1988 1 post-1990
13.	Air Safety Officer (Engg)	2	1 post-1985; 1 post-1989
14.	Senior Gliding Instructor	1	October, 1988
15.	Instructor In-charge, Gliding	1	—
16.	Gliding Instructor	1	November, 1987
17.	Scientific Officer	1	1 post-1989
18.	Senior Technical Assistant (Aero)	6	1 post-1985; 2 posts-1986 2 posts-1987; 1 post-1989
19.	Senior Technical Assistant (Lab)	1	February, 1990
20.	Senior Technical Assistant (Testing)	2	February, 1990

Sl. No.	Category-wise vacancies	Number of vacancies	Time for which lying vacant
1	2	3	4
21.	Junior Technical Assistant (Testing)	5	4 posts-1988; 1 post-1989
22.	Junior Technical Assistant (Lab)	1	1985
23.	Draftsman (Artist)	1	—
24.	Senior Carpenter	2	1987, 1988
25.	Carpenter Grade II	1	May, 1989
26.	Fibre Glass Mech. Grade I	1	March, 1989
27.	Fibre Glass Mech. Grade II	2	May, 1988
28.	Aircraft Maintenance Engineer	1	October, 1988
NON-TECHNICAL POSTS			
1.	Library Assistant	1	September, 1989
2.	Caretaker	1	March, 1988

Sl. No.	Category-wise vacancies	Number of vacancies	Time for which lying vacant
1	2	3	4
3.	Ledger Poster	1	April, 1984
4.	Senior Computer	2	Feb/April, 1990
5.	Laboratory Attendant	1	July, 1986
6.	Senior Clerk	2	—
7.	M.T. Drivers	4	March, 1989
8.	Daltry	2	—
9.	Peon	6	—
10.	Traffic Hand	2	—

[*Translation*]

Calcutta Metro

7942. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work for completion of Calcutta Metro railway project is behind scheduled;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for its expeditious completion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) i) Delay in the acquisition of plots of land by the State Government of West Bengal.

ii) Labour problem being faced by the contractors, which are hampering the progress of work.

(c) Assistance of the State Government of West Bengal has been sought for immediate acquisition of the remaining plots of land and for sorting out the labour problems.

[*English*]

Kawas Project

7943. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to newspaper reports regarding Kawas Thermal Power Project being awarded to the multinational OGEE Alsthom;

(b) whether Indian technical knowhow was not available to undertake this project; and

(c) whether Government have ensured that there is no middlemen involved in this deal and no kickback has been paid?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The contract for Kawas gas based power project of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been awarded to M/s. GEC—Alsthom, S.A. by the NTPC against international competitive bidding floated under the World Bank procurement procedure.

Electricity Disconnection by DESU

7944. SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether notices for disconnection has been served on the consumers by the Delhi Electric Supply undertaking authorities in the first week of April, 1990;

(b) if so, the number of such notices issued together with the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of cases in which the electricity supply has been disconnected;

(d) whether some complaints have been received by the DESU authorities about the gross irregularities committed in this regard;

(e) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (f). The informa-

tion is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Import of Butadiene & Styrene

7945. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Butadiene and Styrene chemicals are being imported; and

(b) if so, the price at which these chemicals are imported?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Current indicative prices of Butadiene & Styrene are as follows:

Butadiene	:	620-640 FOB US\$/T
Styrene	:	1015-1020 FOB US\$/T

[*English*]

Transportation of Gas

7946. SHRI D. PANDIAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantity of gas is being flared up every year for want of adequate compression facilities for transportation of gas to the consumers;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to procure sophisticated equipment to tap the wasting gas for gainful purposes;

(c) whether Government have any plan for transshipping the gas to the proposed thermal power stations on the coastal lines in

the Southern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). Presently about 13.66 million cubic metres per day of natural gas is being flared in the Western Offshore area on account of lack of adequate compression and transportation facilities. Additional facilities are proposed to be created so that the gas can be compressed and transported onshore and supplied to consumers.

(c) and (d). An inter-ministerial Committee has been appointed to examine the various issues pertaining to the establishment of a Gas Grid for transporting natural gas from the Western Offshore Region to the Southern States.

Allocation of Power to Kerala

7947. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the actual electricity quota allotted from Central Pool to Kerala;

(b) whether Kerala is given the daily quota of power regularly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the shortage of supply from the Central Pool?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). During 1989-90, the actual entitlement of Kerala was 1594 Million Units from the Central

sector stations against which the actual supply was 1130 Million Units.

(c) The main reasons for short supply to Kerala from the Central Stations during 1989-90 were underdrawal by Kerala during the monsoon period because of its comfortable power position, system constraints like outage of 400 KV Cuddapah-Bangalore line owing to cyclone, etc.

(d) Steps have been taken to improve the frequency conditions and the grid discipline by resorting to adequate land management in the Southern Region to ensure supply of entitled share to all the beneficiary States including Kerala.

Air Strip at Perunthural in Tamil Nadu

7948. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for constructing an air-strip at Perunthurai near Erode in Tamilnadu is pending finalisation with Government;

(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be taken and;

(c) the time by which the necessary engineering/commercial survey are likely to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Frequent Railway Accidents in Bihar, Bengal and Assam

4949. SHRI RAJ MANGAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail accidents occur frequently on Eastern Railway in Bihar, Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check these accidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). The accident statistics are maintained railway-zone wise and not State-wise. Eastern Railway serves mostly States of West Bengal and Bihar and parts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Assam does not fall on Eastern Railway. The number of accidents on Eastern Railway has come down from 96 in 1985-86 to 70 in 1989-90.

The following are some of the important steps taken to reduce the incidence of accidents:

1. Campaign against carriage of inflammable and dangerous goods by passenger trains.
2. Monitoring performance of critical drivers' category.
3. Improving the out-turn from workshops.
4. Intensive inspections of track and railway installations identified as vulnerable.
5. Inspection of signals to ensure proper lighting and functioning.
6. Conducting educative propaganda among the user public.
7. Surprise check at level crossing gates to monitor working of Railway staff and educate road users.

Under Ground sub-Way at Patparganj Crossing

7950. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in train accidents at Patparganj railway crossing;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from public for the construction of an under ground sub-way at this railway crossing; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) There has been no train accident at this level crossing gate during the last three years ending 1989-90.

(b) Yes, Sir. A few representations have been received in this regard.

(c) The Railway can take action in the matter, only after the Municipal Corporation, Delhi sponsors necessary proposal for the facility duly consenting to bear the cost thereof, as per rules.

Dieselisation of Trains of Bakhatiyarpur-Rajgir Route

7951. SHRI R.S. PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steam locomotives are still being used in trains running between Bakhatiyarpur and Rajgir in Bihar (ER) taking more time in covering the distance; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce diesel engines on these trains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) 2 trains between Bakhatiyarpur

and Rajgir are running with diesel engines.

(b) The remaining pair of trains of this section will also be considered for dieselisation as and when more diesels become available. Railways as a matter of policy have decided to replace steam traction with diesel/electric traction by the 2000 A.D.

[English]

Book Shops at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi

7952. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of highest bid accepted for the book-shops allotted at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi;

(b) the procedure followed for the award of such shops alongwith period of contract; and

(c) the parties who were awarded the book-shop at this Airport since its commissioning and the amount recovered from them?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) On commissioning of the New International Terminal of IGI Airport, the contract for a stall for traveller requisites including books has been awarded to M/s ITR (International Travellers-Requisites) shop, on the basis of open tenders, for a period of five year effective from 15.5.86 for an amount of Rs. 21,311 p.m. subject to escalation at the rate of 10% compound for subsequent years.

(c) The existing contract with the above party is valid upto 14.5.91. At present a licence fee of Rs. 31,200 p.m. is being recovered from the party for the said stall.

Replacement of Coaches of Kerala Bound Trains

7953. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old and dilapidated coaches are attached to Kerala bound trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to replace old and dilapidated bogies from trains to Kerala?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Coaches are condemned on age cum condition basis and replaced. It is, however, ensured that only those coaches which fully comply with the safety and passenger amenity standard are retained in service.

Regularisation of Casual Workers of Instrumentation Ltd. Kota In Bokaro

7954. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual workers working in Bokaro under Instrumentation Ltd. (Kota) for more than 260 days facts in details giving the period of their service;

(b) whether they are getting different wage and amenities from the permanent workers while doing the same job violating the provision of the Industrial Dispute Acts constituting usual labour practice;

(c) whether the workers kept as casual for year, are agitating for becoming permanent, as per law; and

(d) if so, the facts in details and the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Instrumentation Ltd., Kota has, at present, 172 temporary workers having more than 260 days on the roll of its Bokaro site office. The period of their services range from 7 years and above.

(b) They are paid all benefits and privileges as per the tripartite settlement entered into in 1987.

(c) and (d). Taking into consideration the demand of the workers, the company has offered regular pay scales to 100 workers, amongst those who had applied and balance have been given temporary status. Even after availing the benefits under the settlement, majority of the workers have filed writ petitions which have been admitted by the Patna High Court.

Computerisation of Passenger Reservations in Punjab

7955. SHRI KRIPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide computerised passenger reservations in Jalandhar, Ludhiana and other big cities of Punjab

(b) if so, when and the places where it is proposed to be provided; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) So, far, passenger Reservation System have been computerised only in

nine cities viz., Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Secunderabad, Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Bhopal and Lucknow. Nine more cities viz., Pune, Guwahati, Jaipur, Patna, Gorkhapur, Trivandrum Jammu Tawi, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack will be covered during the current year. These cities have been selected on the basis of their reservation workload and their importance. Other cities, including those in Punjab, would be considered in their turn. However, a few reservation terminals linked to the Delhi System have been installed at Amritsar on experimental basis.

[*Translation*]

Encouragement for Capital Investment in Punjab

7956. S. ATINDER PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated or propose to formulate any special scheme to encourage capital investment, especially in Punjab by Non-Resident Indians; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). A number of incentives are offered to NRIs for setting up enterprises in the country. These are briefly listed below:

- i) NRIs have been given the benefit of repatriation of capital investment and the income earned thereon to the extent of 40% of the total paid-up capital of the project.
- ii) In priority industries, the benefit of repatriation on capital invested and income earned thereon is permissible to the extent of 74% of the

total paid-up capital of the project. In non-priority industries also the same repatriation benefits on capital investments are available, provided the item is not reserved for small scale sector the unit undertakes export obligation of a minimum of 60% of the output and a minimum of 75% of the output in the case of items reserved for small scale sector.

- iii) NRIs have also been given incentives for import of capital goods, components and raw materials for setting up industrial units in accordance with the Import and Export Policy, 1990-93.
- iv) NRI investments are allowed in all activities except real estate business, agricultural and plantation activities.

The above incentives are available to NRIs for setting up industrial units in Punjab also. Besides these, the Government of Punjab's Industrial Policy, 1989 has provided more favourable fiscal incentives to NRIs than to others to encourage investments in Punjab by the NRIs. 5% reservation has also been given to the NRIs in the allotment of industrial plots in the focal points developed by the Punjab Government/Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation.

[*English*]

Exploration of Mineral Oil

7957. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for the exploration of mineral oil in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). Exploration for hydrocarbons through geo-scientific surveys and exploratory drilling has been going on in the various sedimentary basins falling within the States of:

Assam	
Nagaland	Punjab plains and Haryana
Tripura	Himachal Pradesh
Mizoram	Jammu and Kashmir
Meghalaya	Rajasthan
Arunachal Pradesh	Gujarat
West Bengal	Madhya Pradesh
Bihar	Andhra Pradesh
Bihar	Tamil Nadu
Uttar Pradesh	Eastern Offshore and Western Offshore

Based on these efforts, a number of hydrocarbon bearing structures/fields have been discovered and production is already being obtained from Structures/fields in Gujarat, Assam, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and from Bombay High offshore area.

Railways Line Between Angamali and Aryankavu

7958. **SHRIPALAIK.M. MATHEW:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demand from the people of Kerala for the construction of a new railway track from Angamali to Aryankavu connecting Angamali, Perumpavoor, Kothamangalam, Muvat-tupuha, Thodupuzha, Palai, Pathanamthitta, Ranny, Konny, etc.,

(b) whether Government propose to construct this railway line; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

New Station at Dakania Talab (Kotah)

7959. **SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct new station and a large platform at Kakania Talab to ease the over-crowding at Kotah station; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Adequate facilities, as per norms based on volume of traffic exist at Kota Jn. However, in order to modernise Dakania Talab station, works to improve the circulating area and to provide water huts, latrines and urinals, on platforms, costing Rs. 3 Lakhs are in progress.

[*English*]

Issue of Letters of Intent

7960. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BAN-
ERA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent have
been issued in Bhilwara district in Rajasthan
during 1989; and

(b) out of these how many units have
been set up and those which are yet to set
up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI
AJIT SINGH): (a) No letter of intent for set-
ting up of industries in Bhilwara district of
Rajasthan was issued during 1989.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Quota of Berths at Allahabad

7961. SHRI R.N. RAKESH: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of seats reserved in
each train at Allahabad railways station;

(b) whether Government propose to
increase the present reservation quota;

(c) if so, when and the train-wise details
thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY
SINGH): (a) A statement showing the reser-
vation quotas available at Allahabad in vari-
ous trains is given below.

(b) There is no such proposal at pres-
ent.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to limited availability of accom-
modation in trains and heavy demand at
various stations.

STATEMENT

Train No.	Ist ACC	Ist Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	II Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2311	—	—	—	—	3	—
2312	4	2	8	—	10	—
3003	2	8	—	—	50	—
1108	—	8	—	—	48	12
3004	—	2	4	—	64	—
6040	—	14	10	—	84	—
(Upto Secunderabad)	—	—	—	—	40	—
(Upto Bangalore)	—	—	—	—	24	—

Train No.	1st ACC	1st Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	II Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3005 Howrah- Amritsar Mail	—	7	—	—	36	—
3008 Toofan Exp.	—	—	—	—	24	—
3011 Howrah- Delhi Exp.	—	—	—	—	101	—
4270 Triveni Exp.	—	2	—	—	6	—
3012 Delhi-Howrah Express (Upto Patna)	—	—	—	—	142	—
(Upto Howrah)	—	—	—	—	5	—
1028 Allahabad- Dadar Exp. (Upto Dadar)	—	4	—	—	83	—

Train No.	Ist ACC	Ist Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	II Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(Upto Pune)	—	—	—	—	19	—
(Upto Surat)	—	—	—	—	30	—
3039 Janta Exp.	—	—	—	—	56	—
3040 Janta Exp.	—	—	—	—	4	—
2381 A.C. Exp.	—	—	—	7	20	—
2382 A.C. Exp.	—	—	32	4	6	—
2522 N.E. Exp.	—	2	4	—	24	—
2417 Prayag Raj Exp.	8	—	68	—	499	50
2456 Tinsukhia Mail	—	—	4	—	71	—
4260 Durg Exp.	—	4	10	—	35	—

Train No.	Ist ACC	Ist Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	II Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7490	—	2	—	—	18	—
Varanasi- Cochin Exp. (Upto Cochin)						
(Upto Tirupati)	—	2	—	—	36	—
8101	—	—	—	—	7	—
Muri Exp. (Upto Hatia)	—	—	4	—	00	—
(Upto Tata)	—	2	—	—	8	—
(Upto Barkakana)	—	—	—	—	6	—
4163	—	12	—	—	189	55
Sangam Exp. (Upto Meerut Cantt)						
(Upto Dehradun)	—	4	—	—	128	—

Train No.	Ist ACC	Ist Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	I/Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1094 Mahanagri Exp. (Upto Bombay)	—	—	8	—	199	—
(Upto Satna)	—	—	—	—	36	—
351 Saharanpur Exp.	—	10	—	—	12	55
4007 Mughalsarai— Bareilly Passenger	—	5	—	—	51	25
390 Allahabad— Itarsi Exp. (Upto Itarsi)	—	10	—	—	75	—
(Upto Jabalpur)	—	8	—	—	—	—
4011 Nauchandi Exp. (Upto Meerut Cantt)	—	8	18	—	125	—

Train No.	1st ACC	1st Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car		II Class	
				Berth	Seat	Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	7
(upto Bijnor)	—	—	—	—	26	—	—
4011 (Upto Chandausi)	—	—	—	—	52	—	—
2816 Superfast Exp. (Upto Puri)	—	2	4	—	72	—	—
(Upto Kharagpur)	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
2415 Ganga Gomti Express	—	—	—	40	—	—	330
4017 Unchahar Express	—	2	—	—	4	—	—
2166 Varanasi- Bombay V.T. (Upto Bombay V.T.)	—	6	—	—	68	—	—
(Upto Pune)	—	—	—	—	20	—	—

Train No.	Ist ACC	Ist Class	AC-2 Tier	AC Chair Car	II Class	
					Berth	Seat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(Upto Surat)	—	—	—	—	18	—
1171 Sipra Express	—	—	—	—	17	—
4084 Mahananda Exp. (Upto Kathihar)	—	—	—	10	—	—
7492 Varanasi— Tirupaty Exp. (Upto Tirupaty)	—	6	—	—	68	—
(Upto Secunderabad)	—	2	—	—	12	—
(Upto Madras)	—	—	—	—	20	—

[English]

Price of Petrochemical Raw Material

7962. SHRI KAMALUDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether international prices of petrochemical raw materials for synthetic industry have fallen considerably;

(b) if so, what has been the quantum of fall in respect of paraxylene, MEG, DMT and PTA in the last one year;

(c) the present ruling prices of these items in the international market and in the country; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the indigenous industry?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Prices of petrochemical commodities do fluctuate in international market.

(b) and (c). Comparison of prices of paraxylene, MEG, DMT and PTA last year and this year as well as current prices are as follows:

(US\$/T)

	Jan. '89	Jan '90
Paraxylene	900-950	500-510
DMT	850-900	600-650
PTA	685-715	680-715
MEG	1400-1500	485-507

(d) Interest of indigenous industry is safeguarded with help of import policy and

tariff mechanism.

Railways Network in Tripura

7963. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no proper railway facilities in Tripura State;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to expand the railways network in Tripura for its speedier economic development; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Railway facilities in Tripura are adequate to meet the present volume of rail traffic in the State.

(b) and (c). Final location Survey for extension of the Railways line from Kumarghat to Agartala has been taken up.

[Translation]

Order for Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

7964. PROF. SHAIENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi is getting adequate orders for modernisation of steel plants; and

(b) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to improve the order book position of the company?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ranchi have got some orders in connection with modernisation of

steel plants. In order to augment its order book position, Government are assisting the company by inter-action with the concerned user sectors.

Industrial Development of Ravine Areas of U.P.

7965. SHRI KESHARI LAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has sent any proposal for industrial development of ravine areas of river Yamuna from Etawa district to Fatehpur district; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Price of Coke

7966. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of coke is fixed by Government;

(b) if so, the wholesale and retail prices thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to provide coal to the general public at fixed rates?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The pithead price of hard and soft coke are fixed by the Central Government as follows:

(Basic price Rs. per metric tonnes)

1.	B.P. Hard Coke Premium	Rs. 1100.00
2.	B.P. Hard Coke Ordinary	Rs. 1000.00
3.	B.H. Hard Coke Premium	Rs. 830.00
4.	B.H. Hard Coke Superior	Rs. 730.00
5.	B.H. Hard Coke Ordinary	Rs. 500.00
6.	Soft coke for domestic use	Rs. 175.00
7.	Soft coke for industries	Rs. 300.00

The above pithead prices are exclusive of State and Central taxes and levies. Wholesale and retail prices are within the purview of State Governments and vary from places to place. The following are the prices notified in the Union Territory of Delhi: Wholesale price of soft coke sold by Delhi State Civil

Supplies Corporation; Rs. 882.95 per Metric tonne exclusive of sales Tax. Retail price of Soft Coke exclusive of Sales Tax Rs. 1039.95 per metric tonne, Rs. 103.99 per quintal, Rs. 41.60 for 40kg., Hard Coke Wholesale B.H. superior Rs. 1628.13 per metric tonne. B.H. Premium Rs. 1731.13 p.m.t. By product

Premium Rs. 2009.23 p.m.t. The above prices effective from 1.4.1990.

(c) Coal is largely distributed through a system of sponsorship whether by road or by rail in accordance with requirements of actual users indicated by sponsoring authority in the State and the Central Government. For small consumers Coal India is extending the facilities of supply of coal from stock yards in a number of places in different parts of the country.

Soft coke is allocated to State Governments which arrange for procurement and distribution.

[English]

Availability of Gas In Gujarat

7967. SHRI PRABHAT SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gas available in Gujarat for power and domestic purposes;

(b) whether there are proposals for making available more gas for these purposes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) About 2.80 MMCMD gas has been committed for various power projects in Gujarat State. Gas has also been committed for domestic supply in Baroda, Ankleshwar-Bharoch and Surat cities.

In addition, supply of gas for the power project of GEB at Paguthane and of NTPC at Gandhar as also for a power project at Pipavav has been committed in principle subject to investment approvals for the concerned gas development projects.

(b) and (c). Further allocation of gas for power and domestic purposes in Gujarat will depend upon requirements of gas for different sectors and for different regions.

Promotion of Industries in Hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh

7968. SHRI C.M. NEGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 13 March, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 231 regarding industrially backward districts in Uttar Pradesh and state:

(a) the number of letters of intent issued for the district of Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttarkashi, Dehradun and Tehri Garwal during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether some specific incentives are being given or contemplated for promotion of industries in these districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The number of letter of intents issued to the districts of Pauri Garhwal, Dehradun and Tehri Garhwal for the last three years are given below. No letters of intent were issued for setting up of industries in the districts of Uttarkashi and Chamoli during the last three year.

District

No. of letter of intent issued

	<i>No. of letter of intent issued</i>		
	<i>1987</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
Pauri Garhwal	1	1	Nil

<i>District</i>	<i>No. of letter of intent issued</i>		
	<i>1987</i>	<i>1988</i>	<i>1989</i>
Dehradun	6	4	5
Tehri Garhwal	1	Nil	1

(b) and (c). Entrepreneurs setting up industries in backward areas are eligible for a number of incentives such as priority in the grant of industrial licences, concessional finance etc. In addition, the Finance Minister during his budget speech has announced that the Government propose to introduce a Central Investment Subsidy for small scale units in rural areas and backward regions.

[*Translation*]

Rail Bridge Over Ganga in Patna

7969. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated for the construction of railway bridge over Ganga river at Patna during 1990-91; and

(b) the total amount estimated to be spend on this project and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for a rail bridge across river Ganga near Patna has been taken up. It is difficult to state at this stage the amount likely to be spent or the time of its completion.

[*English*]

Image Building by Air India

7970. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to project Air India as a world class International Airline as against the previous image of one of the better airlines of the third World; and

(b) the expenditure incurred in various stages of this image building on advertisements, renovations of interiors of aircraft, improving customer service at airports abroad, etc.,?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Air India has taken steps to project itself as a world class airline by:

- i) Changing the Corporate identity through new design and colour schemes;
- ii) Modernising aged equipment;
- iii) Improved customer service; and
- iv) Advertisement of new image.

Expenditure incurred by Air India in projecting the new image does not only involve change in the corporate identity but also Section 41 mandatory technical modifications to boeing 747 aircraft which have completed 16,000 to 19,000 cycles and

modernisation of aged and outdated equipment on board like seats, panels, upholstery, toilets, etc.

Expenditure involved in the image improvement programme is given below:

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>		
	<i>Total Expenditure</i>	<i>Amount spent during 1989-90</i>
1. Image re-design	1.53	1.53
2. Modernisation of equipment	57.34	19.63

An amount of Rs. 11.05 lakhs has been spent on advertisements relating to corporate identity programme, which is a part of the total publicity budget for the year 1989-90.

[*Translation*]

Soron Railway Station (UP)

7971. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soron Railway Station, district Etah in Uttar Pradesh is a second class Railways Station:

(b) whether there is no facility of public address system there; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Soron is a 'B' class crossing station open for booking of passengers, luggage and parcels.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The present level of traffic at this station does not justify provision of Public Address System there.

Expansion of Air India

7972. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of Air India during 1990;

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) the extent of improvement in the position of Air India after the implementation of the proposed schemes; and

(d) the details of revenue earned and expenditure incurred during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Air India will be acquiring two Airbus A-310 aircraft in 1990 at an estimated cost of Rs. 217.81 crores.

(c) Air India proposal to deploy these aircraft on the India-USSR, India-Japan, India-Thailand and India-gulf routes and it is expected that during 1990-91, Air India will earn an operating profit of R. 6.25 crores as

a result of induction of these aircraft.

(d) The details of revenue earned and expenditure incurred during the last three years are given below:

	<i>(Rupees in crores)</i>		
	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1986-87</i>
Operating Revenue	1150.85	995.87	890.32
Operating Expenditure	1084.26	1001.90	843.78
Operating Profit	66.59	(6.03)	46.54
Total Revenue	1205.11	1023.95	925.46
Total Expenditure	1161.80	1067.36	895.30
Net Profit/(Loss)	43.31	(43.41)	30.16

Running of 5547-48 Express Train

7973. SHRI HUKEMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 5547-48 Express train which was earlier running up to Pehle Jaghat, now runs between Narkatiaganj and Samastipur only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this train is proposed to be diverted via-Chhapra-Varanasi-Allahabad; and

(d) if so, when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to poor occupation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Small Scale Plastic Industries

7974. SHRI RAVI NARAYAN PANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plastic industries in the small scale sector; and

(b) the policy of Government to promote the plastic industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) There were 25,709 small scale units registered perma-

nently upto 31.3.81, under the major industry group of "Rubber and Plastics".

(b) Besides Central/State incentives available to small scale sector, Government policies to promote small scale Plastic industry include reservation for exclusive manufacture/government store purchase programme for selected items; ensuring adequate raw materials and training of manpower in Plastic-Processing. Government of India is setting up tool rooms at different places to help the industry.

[*Translation*]

Suspension of Local Trains in Bhopal, Baroda and Ahmedabad

7975. SHRI HEERA BHAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether local trains in Bhopal, Baroda and Ahmedabad have been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to restore these local trains to solve the problem of the poor daily commuters; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) The erstwhile 111/112 Vadodara-Bhopal Passenger was cancelled in February, 1988.

(b) To create capacity for running 1269/1270 Bhopal-Rajkot Express introduced in April, 1988.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not feasible due to operational and resources constraints.

[*English*]

Paper Industry Development Fund

7976. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the all India Small Paper Mills Association have urged Government to create a paper industry development fund for small paper mills;

(b) whether small paper mills are facing hardships and are on the verge of closure; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to save the small paper mills?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) In their Pre-Budget Memorandum to the Government, The All India small Paper Mills Association have, inter-alia, requested to provide soft loan and allow import of capital equipment at reduced customs duty for modernisation and expansion of paper manufacturing units.

(b) and (c). Small Paper Mills, like other paper mills, are facing problem such as inadequate supply of raw materials and power and technological obsolescence. Various Policy initiatives are taken by the Government to resolve these problem, from time to time. Some specific measures undertaken in this behalf are:

i) Small Paper Mills with capacity upto 24,000 tonnes per annum are charged excise duty at a concessional rates;

ii) Large/medium/small paper mills using agro-residue and other non-conventional raw materials at least upto 50% are charged excise duty at concessional rates;

- iii) Paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from bagasse, raw jute and mesta is exempt from excise duty;
- iv) Import of wood pulp, wood chips, logs and waste paper has been allowed under OGL at a nominal or low rate of customs duty;
- v) The Paper and Paper Board Industry, based on agricultural residue has been brought under the scheme of Minimum Economic Capacity, which has been fixed at 33,000 TPS; and
- vi) The paper and Paper Board industry has been extended the facility of broad-banding.

[*Translation*]

Indore-Dohad Railway Line (M.P.)

7977. SHRI DELEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked during 1989-90 for construction of Indore-Dohad railway line (M.P.);

(b) the progress made so far in this regard and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the target fixed for laying this railway line;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) For the Godhra-Dahod-Indore and Maksi-Dewas BG link a sum of Rs. 1 crore was allotted in 1989-90.

(b) Final Location Survey is being started. Land Plans and Schedules are being

prepared. Tenders for earthwork in Dewas yard finalised. Tenders for earth work in Maksi yard and quarters at Indore under finalisation.

An expenditure of Rs. 1 lakh (Approx) was incurred upto 31.3.90.

(c) Target date of completion depends upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

[*English*]

Divisional Offices at Nanded (Maharashtra)

7978. DR. VENKETESH KABDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Divisional Railway office of South Central Railway has been sanctioned to be set up at Nanded in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to complete this work expeditiously?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. At the first instance an extra divisional office has only been sanctioned at Nanded.

(b) Certain formalities in regard to commencement of the work are on hand.

Acquisition of Land for New Railway Lines In Himachal Pradesh

7979. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land acquired for construction of new railway lines in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken to rehabilitate/ Compensate the people displaced as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) The State Government has handed over the land upto Km 17.325 upto which Railway line has since been laid.

(b) Full compensation has been paid by the State Government as per provisions laid down in Land Acquisition Act to persons whose land had been acquired. No complaint from any person whose land has been acquired has been received by the Railways for non-rehabilitation or non-payment of compensation by SDM-cum-Land Acquisition Officer of State Government.

Electrification of Railway Line between Lucknow and Kanpur

7980. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of the project for electrification of Lucknow-Kanpur railways line;

(b) whether it also includes the conversion of this line into broad gauge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Cost-cum-feasibility survey for electrification of Lucknow-Kanpur section is in progress and the estimates for the work have not been drawn so far.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Cement Factory in Madhya Pradesh

7981. SHRIYAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether lime-stone is found in abundance in Chauraghat hills and its surrounding areas in Tehsil Hanuman of Rewa district in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to issue licences to set up a cement factory in this most backward area to utilise these lime-stone reserves?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) "The National Inventory of Cement Grade Limestone Deposits in India" compiled by the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, indicates 33.29 million tonnes of measured and indicated category of limestone deposits in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh.

As a result of investigations carried out by Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mine, as on 1.1 1980, a total reserve of 469.38 million tonnes of all grades of limestone was estimated in Rewa District.

(b) At present, no proposal for setting up of a cement plant in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh is pending consideration of the Government. However there is one existing cement plant of M/s Jai Prakash Industries Ltd. with a licensed capacity of 10.00 LTPA in district Rewa of Madhya Pradesh. The company have also been granted a Letter of Intent on 29.3.1988 to further expand their capacity to 29.00 LTPA at their existing location.

[English]

Fire Alarm in Engine of Boeing Aircraft

7982. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any probe has been conducted into the persistent fire alarm in the engine of the Boeing 737 aircraft operating on the IC 596 Bombay-Coimbatore flight on the 31 March, 1990:

(b) whether the experts of the Boeing manufacturers were also associated with this enquiry;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken particularly in the context of the Boeing Manual on the aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The fire warning alarm was false and caused due to a defect in the indication system which has been rectified.

[Translation]

Pay Scales of Staff Nurses in Central Coalfields Limited

7983. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether pay scales and other facilities of the staff nurses working in the Central Coalfield Limited are much less in comparison to other employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the

reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to review their pay scales etc;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The unionised employees in Coal Industry are in 8 grades namely, 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F', 'G', and 'H'. The Staff Nurses are in Grade 'C' viz. Rs. 1222-60-1702-66-2230 and there are five categories of employees below them. They are also provided free uniforms with washing allowance, company's accommodation on nominal rent and various other benefits available to other employees of the coal companies. The pay scale and other facilities allowed to Staff Nurses cannot, therefore, be said to be less in comparison to other employees.

(c) to (e). The pay scales and various other allowances/perquisites of all the employees of Coal Industry including those of Staff Nurses were finalised by Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry and National Coal Wage Agreement was signed in July, 1989 and it would remain operative upto 30.6.1991. There is, therefore, no question of reviewing their pay scales at present.

Shaheed Suraj Halt in Bihar

7984. SHRI DEVENDRA PHASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up 'Shaheed Suraj Halt' in Bihar (NER) in the memory of martyr Suraj Narayan Singh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal for opening of a halt station at Shaheed Suraj between Sakri and Tarsarai stations has been examined but not found financially justified.

[English]

Pension to Employees of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

7985. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of former employees of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation have sought pension from Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). As per provisions of the liberalised pensionary benefits, announced by the Government in 1967, such of the Central Government employees, who got absorbed in Central Public Sector Undertakings after 16.6.1967, became eligible to prorata pension and gratuity for the period of their service under the Central Government. The Scheme does not, however, provide relief to such employees who were absorbed in Central PSUs before 16.6.1967. There are in all 46 such employees who were absorbed by the NLC on different dates much before the aforesaid date of 16.6.1967. As such, they are not entitled to liberalised pensionary benefits. Some of these employees had represented

to the Central Government for extension of the aforesaid benefits to them as well. Their cases were examined by the Central Government, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare, and were found unacceptable. This has been communicated to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Beautification of Heavy Engineering Corporation Colony, Ranchi

7986. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi has recently spent considerable amount on the beautification of Heavy Engineering Corporation colony and the installation of statue of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru opposite FFP gate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd. have recently not spent any amount on beautification of its colony. They have, however, incurred an expenditure amounting to about Rs. 21 lakhs on the installation of the statue of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in front of Foundry Forge Plant Main Gate including development of the area and the Park.

Cement Research Institute

7987. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Anusandhan Adhikari Ki Manmani" appearing in the 'Sunday Observer' dated 4 March, 1990;

(b) if so, the number of scientists who have left the Cement Research Institute during the last three years; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the action taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eleven scientists have left National Council for Cement and Building Materials (formerly called Cement Research Institute of India) during the last three years.

(c) Except one scientist who reported that he had resigned for taking up appointment in the Ministry of Environment and another who expired in a rail accident, all other scientists left National Council for Cement and Building Materials for personal/family reasons.

[English]

Foreign Exchange for Panchet Dam

7988. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commissioning of the Panchet Dam of the Damodar Valley Corporation is now likely to be delayed due to the Corporation being unable to pay the Austrian experts working on the site in foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to tide over this situation; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange involved and the difficulties in arranging the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The spin-

ning of the second unit of the reversible pump generating unit of 40 MW at Panchet was achieved on 31st March, 1990; however, the tail pool dam necessary for the reversible operation of the unit is yet to be completed due to problems in land acquisition.

Energy Requirement for Rural Areas in Eighth Plan

7989. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Government have formulated their policy on energy requirements for rural areas in Eighth Plan Period?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): The Eighth Plan is yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Purchase of Equipment by DESU

7990. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem published in 'Jansatta' dated 30 March, 1990 wherein it has been stated that loss of crores of rupees has been incurred by DESU due to the burning of important equipments of 30 grid sub-stations during the last one year;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure purchase to good quality equipments in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Thermal Power Plant in Bihar

7991. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
SHRIRAMESHWAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a thermal power plant at Madhubani, Darbhanga or Sitamari districts in Bihar;

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

(c) the number of Thermal and Hydel Power Plants in Bihar at present?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Eight (6 Thermal + 2 Hydel).

[*English*]

Coaches with Large Windows

7992. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to build coaches having a number of large windows which can be opened from inside in the event of accident;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether safety of passengers in normal times will be kept in view while making such coaches?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a trial measure the windows on some of the existing coaches have been modified by removing the safety bars and improving the inside looking system, to be used as exits in the event of an emergency.

A design of wider windows on coaches is also under consideration.

(c) The design of emergency openable windows will be adopted after establishing the efficacy of the design and safety of passengers.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Gas to Power Plants in Madhya Pradesh

7993. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of gas pipeline in kilometres passing through Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has asked for supply of gas for the gas based power projects and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken by Government on the request of State Government;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) About 535 Kms. of the HBJ gas pipeline passes through Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Requests have been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for allocation of gas for four gas based power stations of 450 MW each, proposed to be set up at Jhabua, Rajgarh, Guna and Gwalior.

(c) to (e). Allocation of gas for the power projects in Madhya Pradesh would have to be considered taking into account the overall availability of gas, the requirements of other priority sectors as also the requirements of other power projects. Allocation of gas to various users and sectors will have to be taken after the VIIIth Plan outlays are decided.

[English]

Train between Guwahati and Ranchi via Barauni

7994- **SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received from the public to start a new train between Guwahati and Ranchi via Barauni; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) A few representations have been received from the public to start a new train between Guwahati and Ranchi;

(b) Not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

ICI-NALCO Chemicals Joint Venture

7995. **SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether two proposals under the ICI-NALCO Chemicals joint venture to produce special chemicals for the core sector like steel, oil, sugar etc. in West Bengal are pending with Union Government for quite some time;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in clearing the same; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present and how long more will it take to clear them?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). There is no proposal from the ICI-NALCO Chemicals Joint Venture to produce special chemicals in the State of West Bengal pending with Government. However, one proposal of M/s. IEL Ltd. for setting up of a new undertaking in collaboration with M/s. NALCO Chemicals Co., USA for the manufacture of speciality chemicals etc. in the State of West Bengal was received in the year 1986. The proposal was approved and a letter of intent was granted in 1988. Later on, the name of the implementing Agency for the above letter of intent was changed to M/s. NALCO Chemicals India Ltd. The letter of intent has since been converted into an Industrial Licence.

Employment on Compassionate Grounds in Air India

7997. **SHRI AMAL DATTA:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dependents of deceased employees who were given permanent employment on compassionate grounds

by the Air India in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of such applications pending for employment; and

(c) when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Number of dependents of deceased employees given permanent employment on compassionate grounds in the last three years by Air India is as under:—

1987	—	13
1988	—	9
1989	—	12

(b) 105 applications are pending for employment on compassionate grounds.

(c) Most of the dependents applying for employment are women and the applications relate to lower categories of posts where heavy manual work is involved. It is not always possible to appoint ladies for such work. However, with a view to assist the widows to earn their livelihood, Management of Air India has encouraged formation of a society called Air India Employees Dependents Industrial Producers Co-operative Society Limited. 60 persons are at present working in this Society, which has been provided with accommodation, capital equipment, etc. This Society has been given the work of cleaning of headsets, sorting and repacking of cabin stores, sales of canteen coupons, stitching of towels etc.

Benefits to Indian Airlines Engineers

7998. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India had arrived at a Memorandum of Settlement with the Air India Aircraft Engineers Association on 6 April, 1989;

(b) whether the benefits under this settlement had been approved by the Board of Directors and Government;

(c) if so, on which date;

(d) whether Government propose to extend the same benefits to the Indian Airlines engineers also; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding was reached between the management of Air India and Air India Aircraft Engineers' Association on the 6th of April, 1989, for wage increase for the period 1st of October, 1985 to 31st August, 1990.

(b) and (c). The Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the Board of Air India on the 26th of May, 1989 and the approval of the Government was conveyed on the 13th of July, 1989.

(d) and (e). The Aircraft Maintenance Engineers in Air India and Indian Airlines are represented by two separate Associations and each of the Associations raises and settles its charter of demands with the respective management.

Railway Projects

7999. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new railway projects pending with Government and are likely to

be started in near future, State-wise; and

(b) the new projects to be taken up during the current financial year itself?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). The details of new Railway projects and on-going projects are given Railway-wise and Plan head-wise in the Book 'Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programmes of Railways for 1990-91', which forms part of Budget documents supplied to Hon'ble Members at the time of introduction of Railway Budget 1990-91.

Chamrajnagar-Sathyamangala Mettupalayam Line (T.N.)

8000. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR:
SHRI JANARDHANA
POOJARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a growing demand for providing railway connection between Chamrajnagar in Mysore District with Sathyamangala Mettupalayam of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the proposal; and

(c) whether it is proposed to be included in the Eighth Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Survey was carried out for the construction of a BG line between Chamrajnagar and Mettupalayam with an alternative alignment from Chamrajnagar to

Coimbatore via Sathyamangala and the Report submitted by the Railway in 1986 revealed that the proposal was financially unremunerative. Hence it was not taken up.

(c) Specific new line proposals for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Plan have not been identified.

Open Cast Mining by CCL

8001. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Coalfields Limited had a proposal to take up the extraction of coal from some open cast coalfields;

(b) if so, the number of open cast coal mines under Central Coalfields Limited at present;

(c) whether production has started in those open cast mines; and

(d) if so, the achievement made in coal production in those open cast coal mines in 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) is producing coal both from opencast as well as underground mines. The number of working opencast coal mines as on 31.3.90 in CCL is 42, from which coal production of 23.86 million tonnes has been achieved during 1989-90.

Gas Based Power Plants in Eighth Plan

8002. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up some gas-based power plants during in

Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the number of gas based power plants proposed to be set up during the Eighth Plan;

(c) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been entrusted this task; and

(d) if so, the specific steps taken by NTPC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The de-

tails of the proposals of the gas based power projects which are targetted for yielding benefits during the Eighth Plan period are given in the statement below.

(c) and (d).. The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have submitted new project proposals for the setting up of Anta Gas Based power project (GPP) Stage-II (430 MW), Gandhar GPP (650 MW), Godavari GPP (400/800 MW), Faridabad GPP (800 MW) and Dadri GPP Stage-II (408 MW). These projects are scheduled to yield benefits during Eighth Plan period and beyond.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Installed capacity (MW)	Benefits during the 8th Plan (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
I.	CENTRAL SECTOR			
1.	Dadri CCGT	Uttar Pradesh	4 x 131.2 + 2 x 146	817.2
2.	Kathalguri CCGT	Assam	6 x 30 + 3 x 30	270
3.	Anta CCGT Extn	Uttar Pradesh	3 x 100 + 1 x 130	430
4.	Gandhar CCGT	Gujarat	650	650
5.	Godavari CCGT	Andhra Pradesh	800	800
6.	Faridabad GPP	Haryana	4 x 130 + 2 x 240	800

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Installed capacity (MW)	Benefits during the 8th Plan (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
7.	Tripura CCGT	Tripura	500	500
	Sub Total			4267.20
II. STATE SECTOR				
1.	Ramgarh	Rajasthan	1 x 3	3
2.	Uran Waste Heat (WH)	Maharashtra	3 x 120	360
3.	Utran CCGT	Gujarat	135	135
4.	Vatwa CCGT	Gujarat	102	102
5	Vijjeswaram	Andhra Pradesh	3 x 33	99
6.	Lakwa GT Ph. II	Assam	3 x 20	60
7.	Lakwa WH	Assam	1 x 22	22

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	State	Installed capacity (MW)	Benefits during the 8th Plan (MW)
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Karaikal	Pondicherry	3 x 5 + 1 x 7.5	22.5
9.	Amguri	Assam	8 x 30 + 4 x 30	360
10.	Rokhia	Tripura	10 x 8	80
11.	DESU WH	Delhi	3 x 30	90
12.	Gandhar CCGT	Gujarat	600	600
13.	Pipavav	Gujarat	750	750
	Sub Total			2683.50
	Grand Total (I & II)			6950.70

Bangalore-Miraj Rail Link

8003. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of laying Bangalore-Miraj line in Karnataka;

(b) whether Government have taken any step to expedite the construction of that line; and

(c) if so, the target date set for the completion of construction work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). A metre gauge rail line already exists between Miraj and Bangalore via Londa, Hubli, Birur and Arsikere. There is no proposal to convert this line into BG at present.

Baliyapattom Bridge (Cannanore)

8004. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study/survey to ascertain the condition of the Baliyapattom (Valappattanam) railway bridge at Cannanore, Kerala;

(b) if so, the reported condition of the bridge;

(c) the allocations made for its repairs; and

(d) the measures initiated to repair/maintain the bridge?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Corrosion of girders due to marine environment and existence of road decking earlier, was reported.

(c) A sum of nearly Rs. 3.74 crore has been allocated.

(d) All the girders have since been replaced and ancillary works are in progress.

Supply of Petroleum Products in Kerala

8005. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Kerala Government or from other State regarding inadequate supply of LPG and other petroleum products; and

(b) the measures Government propose to take to ensure regular and better supply of petroleum products to the State?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps are regularly taken to augment supply of petroleum products through enhanced production and imports subject to availability of infrastructural facilities and foreign exchange. The distribution system is also being strengthened in a phased manner, through expansion of the dealership/distributorship network wherever necessary.

Foreign Collaboration for Paint Manufacture

8006. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the paint manufacturing unit which have foreign collaboration and

are exporting their products;

(b) the extent of collaboration in these units; and

(c) the countries to which the exports are being made?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

(c) The countries to which paints are mainly being exported are the U.S.S.R., Bahrain, Kuwait, Iraq, the UAE etc.

STATEMENT

Statement showing the details of the major paint manufacturing units which have foreign collaboration and are exporting their products, along with the extent of collaboration in these units

Sl. No.	Name of the Indian Company	Name of the foreign	Extent of Collaboration	Nature of collaboration
1	2	3	4	
1.	M/s. Dr. Beck & Co. (India) Ltd., Bombay	M/s. Dr. Beck & Co. AG Hamburg, FRG		Financial
2.	M/s. Goodlass Nerolac Paints Ltd., Bombay	M/s. Nihon Tokushu Toryo Co. Ltd., Japan		Technical
3.	M/s. Berger Paints India Ltd., Calcutta	M s. Jenson & Nicholson Ltd., UK		Technical
4.	M/s. Modi Paints & Varnishes Works Modinagar	M/s Schaeepmen's L.A.K. Jambreken Z Wovle, Holland		Technical

Sl. No.	Name of the Indian Company	Extent of Collaboration	Name of the foreign	Nature of collaboration
1	2		3	4

5.	M/s. Asian Paints (India) Ltd., Bombay		M/s. Nippon Paints Co. Ltd., Japan	Technical
6.	M/s. U.K. Paints India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi		M/s. SCM Glidden International, U.K.	Technical

Expenditure on New Corporate Image Programme by Air India

8007. SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent or proposed to be spent by the Air India on the New Corporate Image Programme launched recently;

(b) whether the expenditure has been approved by Government; and

(c) the details of benefits accrued to the Air India after launching this programme?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Air India's image improvement campaign does not only involve change in the corporate identity but also Section 41 mandatory technical modifications to Boeing-747 aircraft which have completed 16,000 to 19,000 cycles and modernisation of aged and outdated equipment on board like seats, panels, upholstery, toilets, etc. The expenditure on modernisation of aged and out-dated equipment on board is estimated at Rs. 57.34 crores out of which Rs. 19.63 crores has been spent during the last financial year and Rs. 37.31 crores will be spent in the current financial year.

(b) The Board of Directors of Air India is competent to approve this expenditure.

(c) Air India is an international air carrier and has to face stiff competition from other carriers, who have deployed more modern and newer aircraft. Air India has, therefore, to offer a better product to attract its passengers. These improvements are being made with this objective in view. This will result in increased profitability of Air India.

Casual Labourers in Air India/Indian Airlines

8008. SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in giving employment to casual labourers in the Air India and Indian Airlines;

(b) the number of casual labourers being employed by the Air India and Indian Airlines against regular vacancies;

(c) the details thereof, Airline-wise and Station-wise; and

(d) whether Government propose to make existing casual labourers permanent and abolish the system of casual labour in the Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Casual/daily rates workers are engaged in Air India and Indian Airlines against sporadic leave/absenteeism in the categories like loaders, sweepers, drivers, etc. depending upon the seasonal requirements, temporary increase in the workload, in the interest of operations, etc.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected.

(d) Preference is given to the casual/daily rated workers in employment when they apply for posts as and when notified by the Airlines subject to their eligibility.

Vacant Posts in Air India

8009. SHRI SUDARSHAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some top level posts in the

Air India are lying vacant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to fill up vacancies; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). Two posts of Deputy Managing Directors and four posts of the level of Director are lying vacant in Air India at present. A restructuring of the Air India organisational set up has recently been approved by Air India Board. Modalities for its implementation are being worked out.

Use of Hybrid Names

8010. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given permission to any companies to use hybrid name during the last two years; and

(b) if so, the names of the companies to whom such permission were granted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Prior permission is not required under the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 (TMMA) for the use of the trade mark. Under the TMMA, application for registration is a voluntary action by the owner of the trade mark for better legal protection of the trade mark.

On consideration of a request from M/s. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Ltd., Government decided that the company could use a hybrid name with 'Pepsi' as suffix and 'Lehar' could be used as prefix to the name 'Pepsi', '7 up' and 'Mirinda'.

M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited have intimated that they have applied for the registration of 'Lehar' trade mark with the Registrar of Trade Marks.

Registered User Agreement for Trade Marks

8011. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are not accepting or approving "Registered User Agreement" for trade marks.

(b) if so, for how many years; and

(c) the reasons for this policy?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Railway School at Rayagada

8012. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open a new Senior Secondary School or upgrade the existing railway school at Rayagada up to Higher Secondary level; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

8013. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of blocks covered under Rural Electrification Schemes so far in Orissa and the names of the blocks proposed to be covered during 1990-91;

(b) the loan so far provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation and the progress made by the State for achieving the target;

(c) whether the tribal and hilly areas of the State are yet to avail of the facilities fully due to non-availability of systematic and comprehensive separate plan for those areas; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) As per available information 29847, villages have been electrified as on 28.2.1990 covering all the 13 districts of Orissa. During 1990-91, 785 new villages are targetted for electrification covering the entire State of Orissa.

(b) Upto February, 1990, an amount of Rs. 216 crores has been disbursed to the Orissa State Electricity Board by the R.E.C. The yearwise targets and progress of village electrification during the 7th Five Year Plan in Orissa under the REC schemes are as under:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Achievement</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1985-86	1515	1108
1986-87	1359	1363
1987-88	1380	1516
1988-89	1200	1341
1989-90	750	900 (Provisional)

(c) and (d). No hilly areas have been identified in the State. There are 18683 tribal villages in Orissa, out of which 8518 villages have been electrified upto March, 1990. Some more tribal areas are likely to be covered under rural electrification programme during 1990-91.

Provision of Second Class Compartment from Jeypore (K)

8014. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a second class compart-

ment which was earlier provided from Jeypore (K) Railway station to Visakhapatnam in passenger train has been detached;

(b) if so, since when the detachment has been made and whether there is a persistent demand from the public to introduce that facility again; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide said compartment from Jeypore (K)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). A II class coach was

provided between Kirandul and Bhubaneswar via Jeypur-Vishakhapatnam from 1.4.84. It was withdrawn from 1.10.86 due to poor occupation. On the public demand the coach was reintroduced from 28.10.89 but had to be withdrawn again from 1.5.90 as occupation continued to be less than 15%.

Cement Factories in Rajasthan

8015. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cement factories and

mini plants operating in Rajasthan with their production capacities; and

(b) the names of cement factories and mini plants under construction, new as well as extensions of existing plants and their production capacities?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). The details of cement plants in production and under implementation with their licensed capacity, in the Organised Sector, in the State of Rajasthan are as follows:—

PLANTS IN PRODUCTION

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Plant</i>	<i>Licensed Capacity (in LTPA)</i>
1	2	3
1.	M/s. The ACC Ltd.	3.22
2.	" Udaipur Cement Works	6.00
3.	" Birla Cement Works	9.00
4.	" J.K. Cement	15.40
5.	" Mangalam Cement Ltd.	4.00
6.	" Laxmi Cement Ltd.	5.00
7.	" Shree Cement Ltd.	6.00
8.	" Shriram Fertilizers Ltd.	2.00
9.	" Indian Rayon & Industries (White)	0.80
10.	" J.K. White Cement	0.80
11.	" Kalyanasundaram Cement Inds. Ltd.	0.66
12.	" Swadeshi Cement Ltd.	0.66

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Plant</i>	<i>Licensed Capacity</i> <i>(in LTPA)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
13.	" Janlaghu Cement Udyog Ltd.	0.66
14.	" Sirohi Cement	0.16
15.	" Debashree Cement	0.33
16.	" Thar Cement	0.33
17.	" Sudarshan Cement Ltd.	0.66

PLANTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Plant</i>	<i>Licensed Capacity</i> <i>(in LTPA)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	M's. Bajaj Hindustan Ltd.	2.00
2.	" Nihon Nirman Cement (White)	0.80
3.	" Indo-Nippon Special Cement Ltd.	5.00
4.	" Shree Cement Ltd.	6.00
5.	" Sorabh Cements	0.60
6.	" J.K. Synthetics	6.00
7.	" Ranakpur Cements Ltd.	5.00
8.	" Straw Products Ltd.	10.00
9.	" Zuari Agro Chemicals Ltd.	10.00
10.	" Shikar Cements	0.66
11.	" Mangalam Cement Ltd.	2.00
12.	" J.K. Synthetics (White)	1.00

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Plant</i>	<i>Licensed Capacity (in LTPA)</i>
1	2	3
13.	" Satinder Pal Singh	0.33
14.	" Thar Cements	0.33
15.	" Purnima Surana	0.33
16.	" Ashok Kumar Pandya	0.33
17.	" Arvind Construction Co. Ltd.	0.16

In addition, four application, comprising one for establishment of a new undertaking and the remaining three for effecting substantial expansion, are at various stages of processing.

Supply of Gas to Industries at Concessional Rates in Tripura

8016. SHRIK.B.K. DEBBURMAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tripura Government has approached Union Government to supply gas to gas based industries in Tripura at a lower price at par with those in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Union Government thereto; and

(c) when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of Tripura have requested fixing the price of natural gas

at Rs. 500/1000 M³ for all power projects and industries likely to come up, at least for a period of five years from the date of commissioning of each project.

The Government of India had fixed the prices of natural gas in 1987. The price for the North-Eastern Region including Assam and Tripura was fixed at Rs. 1000/1000 M³ (exclusive of royalty, taxes and other local levies) with a provision of discount upto Rs. 500/1000 M³. This price of Rs. 500/1000 M³ is much lower than the price for the rest of the country which varies between Rs. 1400/1000 M³ and Rs. 2250/1000 M³. The entire question of revision of price of natural gas is currently being reviewed by a Committee headed by Chairman, BICP. Report of the Committee is awaited.

National Energy Conservation Authority

8017. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up the National Energy Conservation Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the envisaged projections for allocation of fund in the Eighth Plan towards the Energy Conservation Projects;

(d) whether Government has decided to create a revolving fund to finance Energy Conservation Projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether it is also proposed to have compulsory energy audit by various organisation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The Government has so far not decided to set up such an Authority.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The allocation of funds in the Eighth Plan towards Energy Conservation programmes would become clear when the Eighth Plan is finalised.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

(f) There is no such proposal at present.

Foreign Assignment to Officers of I.A.A.I.

8018. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Officers of the International Airports Author-

ity of India (IAAI) who applied directly for foreign assignments without getting prior permission of I.A.A.I. and Home Ministry, got foreign assignment, and they were also allowed by I.A.A.I. to retain their lien in I.A.A.I.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some officers belonging to SC/ST community after applying through proper channel have been denied permission by I.A.A.I. to join foreign assignment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). One officer who was selected for a foreign assignment on direct application was permitted by Chairman, IAAI to avail leave without pay for seven months by retaining lien on his post for taking up the assignment.

(c) to (e). One officer belonging to Scheduled Caste who was registered with the International Civil Aviation Organisation through proper channel could not be released for foreign assignment in 1989 on account of an important assignment entrusted to him at Calcutta airport. A number of officers belonging to general category also were not allowed to accept foreign assignments in 1988 and 1989 due to exigencies of work.

Demands of Eastern Railway Passengers Association

8019. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Eastern Railway Passengers Association;

(b) if so, the main problems and demands raised in the memorandum; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take on the demands raised therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(b) *THE MAIN PROBLEMS AND THE DEMANDS RAISED IN THE MEMORANDUM*

Main Problems: Inadequacy of EMU train services and Amenities.

Demands:

1. Railway authorities of Eastern Railway have curtailed the facilities that ever enjoyed by the Commuters.
2. Rail Fares have been increased several times but instead of increasing amenities that have been decreased.
3. In accordance with the revenue earned from the passenger traffic, the railway authorities should provide atleast three units of EMU to avoid overcrowding and congestion. But instead of increasing coaches in the EMU trains, they employ often 7 bogies only and thus the ever increasing passengers have to travel with their part of bodies left out and caused accident.
4. To arrange mobile ticket checking in local trains and engage some vigilance personnel in the distant trains to watch the conductor guards in the reserved coaches.
5. Disallow male passengers in the Ladies Compartments.
6. SRUCC, Station Committees and other Committees.
7. To repair jubilee bridge.
8. To stop water logging at Howrah Car shed during rainy seasons.
9. Impose restriction to carry Rice bags in the passengers compartments to avoid injury to passengers.
10. To keep clean all the stations and platforms.
11. Issue of one daily or season ticket from any station of Main line and Tarakeshwar Branch to travel to Sealdah via Bally Halt to save the time and money of commuters.
12. Opening of First Aid Posts at Bandel, Sheoraphuli and Serampore.
13. To discontinue the pilgrim charges which is totally unfair.
14. Vending agent for Serampore station.
15. Shuttle trains to and from Bandel-Bardhaman or extend the following locals to Bardhaman-B-119, PH-5, B-143, B-157, B-165.

(c) **STEPS PROPOSED TO BE TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON EACH DEMAND:**(1) and (2): *Curtailment of facilities*

A substantial sum of money is being spent on passenger amenity items like provision of the platform sheds, drinking water facilities, additional booking counters, benches, enquiry offices etc. Special watch is also kept on the amenities provided in EMU and conventional coaches.

(3) *Augmentation of load of EMU trains*

Either 8-coach trains or 9-coach trains are run in Howrah Division. There is no 7-coach EMU trains in this division. It is not possible at present to make all the rakes of 9-coaches due to non-availability of sufficient number of coaches.

(4) *Checking on the working of Ticket Checking Staff*

Mobile ticket checking including special checks by the Vigilance Organisation are conducted regularly in local trains in different sections.

(5) *Entry of Gents in Ladies Compartments*

Ladies compartments are meant for the exclusive use of female passengers and children below 12 years of age travelling with them. Male passengers are not allowed to use this accommodation. Checks are conducted from time to time and action is taken

under the provision of Railways Act against male passengers found travelling in ladies compartment. Assistance of Government Railway Police is also taken in this regard.

(6) *Railways Users' Consultative Committees*

The point is not clear. However, it is stated that nomination was given to the representatives of Eastern Railway Passengers Association in the DRUCC of Howrah Division.

(7) *Repairs to Jubilee Bridge*

Repairs to the bridge are being undertaken as and when necessary, on the basis of its periodical inspections.

(8) *Water logging in Howrah Car Shed*

Action has already been taken to stop water logging in Howrah Car shed and Howrah yard. About 32 lakhs rupees have been paid to Howrah Municipal Authorities for improving the drainage system to mitigate the hardship caused due to water logging. Also tracks in Howrah Car shed area have been raised by about 6" to 12". However, the problems could not be fully solved as the adjoining municipal area is at a higher level than the railway area. In order to find out a solution to this problem, discussions were held with the engineers of Calcutta Metropolitan Water and Sanitation Authority and a suitable drainage scheme was to be carried out by the CMWSA. Railway

officials are however, keeping close contact with the CMWSA officials.

(9) *Restriction on carrying Rice Bags in compartments*

This has to be enforced mainly by the Government Railway Police. The problem is also highlighted in the 'Task Force Meeting' held every month with the high police officials.

(10) *Cleanliness at stations/platforms*

Efforts are always made to keep the stations and the platforms clean.

(11) *Issue of daily/season tickets to Sealdah (via) Bally Halt*

The proposal has been examined and not found justified.

(12) *Opening of First Aid Posts at Bandel, Sheophuli and Serampore*

First Aid Posts are not proposed to be established at these three stations. First Aid Boxes are provided with the ASM of these stations just as far all other Railway Stations. Departmental First Aid Posts at any station are not opened except for special occasions like major fairs, train accidents.

(13) *Levy of Pilgrim Charges*

The pilgrim/terminal tax is not recovered from the passengers separately. However, during major melas where special arrangements are made by the

Zonal Railways regarding running of special trains, opening of extra booking windows, erection of sheds etc., mela surcharge is levied to cover the expenditure incurred by the Railways on that account.

(14) *Vending Agent at Serampore Station*

At present there is no vending contract at Serampore station. The arrangement was made for provision of a vending contract at Serampore station and that was allotted to Shri P.K. Saha. Subsequently one applicant viz. Shri Ram Ray filed a court case against the said allotment. The court is still pending.

(15) *Running of shuttle trains between Bandel and Bardhaman*

At present Bandel-Bardhaman section on Howrah Division is served by 46 trains including 1 pair of saturday locals. The above services by and large serve the needs of the passengers of Bandel-Bardhaman section. The running of shuttle trains is not possible for want of EMU rake and line capacity constraints in Bandel-Bardhaman section.

Extension of local trains, as demanded, is not possible for the following reasons.

B/119 arriving Bandel at 11.03 hrs. works as B/128 leaving Bandel at 11.22 hrs.

PH/5 on arrival at Pundooah at 14.55 hrs. works as PH/4 leaving Pundooah at 15.15 hrs.

B/143 on arrival at Bandel at 18.08 hrs.

works as B/157 leaving Bandel at 18.28 hrs.

B/157 arriving Bandel at 20.55 hrs. works as B/164 Dn leaving Bandel at 21.32 hrs.

B/165 arriving Bandel at 22.23 hrs. is stabled at Bandel for the next morning Dn local.

From the above it is seen that the lieover period of concerned trains excepting B/165 is not permissible for the trains to be extended upto Bardhaman. Regarding B/165, such extension will cause shortage of rake at Bandel to work morning Dn local. However, one train was introduced between Bardhaman and Bandel numbered BB-4 from 16.8.1989.

[Translation]

Electrification of Villages in Madhya Pradesh

8020. SHRI RESHAM LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Madhya Pradesh for which permission for the electrification was given by the Rural Electrification

Corporation during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 respectively, district-wise;

(b) whether all the villages for which the permission was given have since been electrified so far;

(c) if so, details thereof, district-wise; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor and the steps being taken towards the electrification of all the villages for which permission had been given by the R.E.C.?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The targets for village electrification in M.P. under REC schemes during the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 were 2650, 2700 and 2400 respectively whereas the achievement has been 3929, 4337 and 4065 (provisional) respectively.

District-wise targets for village electrification are finalised at the State level based on the availability of funds and inter-se priority fixed by the State Government. The details of villages electrified district-wise in M.P. during the last three years (including those covered under the State's own Plan) are given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Districtwise village electrified during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)

Sl. No.	District	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Balaghat	70	107	43
2.	Bastar	259	276	171
3.	Betul	75	87	24
4.	Bhind	—	1	—
5.	Bhopal	—	—	—
6.	Bilaspur	228	221	218
7.	Chattarpur	102	75	7
8.	Chindwara	—	—	—
9.	Damoh	67	73	33

Sl. No.	District	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)
1	2	3	4	5
10.	Datia	31	3	—
11.	Dewas	36	66	3
12.	Dhar	60	80	130
13.	Durg	153	66	63
14.	Guna	68	67	138
15.	Gwalior	—	—	—
16.	Hoshangabad	55	71	26
17.	Indore	—	—	—
18.	Jabalpur	140	203	63
19.	Jhabua	80	89	64

Sl. No.	District	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)
1	2	3	4	5
20.	Khandwa	44	58	9
21.	Dhargone	70	108	134
22.	Mandla	214	219	56
23.	Mandsaur	—	—	—
24.	Morena	57	94	104
25.	Narsinghpur	63	75	8
26.	Panna	65	77	42
27.	Raigarh	160	181	106
29.	Raisen	103	84	92
30.	Raigarh	90	133	138

Sl. No.	District	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)
1	2	3	4	5
31.	Rajnandgaon	165	168	113
32.	Ratlam	40	72	42
33.	Rewa	165	200	71
34.	Sagar	76	111	40
35.	Satna	120	152	63
36.	Sehore	41	63	32
37.	Seoni	105	99	22
38.	Shahdol	140	197	131
39.	Shajapur	91	81	22
40.	Shivpuri	26	62	—

Sl. No.	District	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (Upto 31.1.1990)
1	2	3	4	5
41.	Sidhi	124	67	41
42.	Surguja	150	148	98
43.	Tikamgarh	60	101	12
44.	Ujjain	—	—	—
45.	Vidisha	110	94	51
Total		3950	4404	2626

Power Supply to Tribal Areas in Rajasthan

8021. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted any project report to supply power in tribal sub-plan areas in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The Rajasthan State Electricity Board has proposed the Jakham Mini Hydro Scheme for supply of power in tribal sub-plan areas in Rajasthan. The scheme was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in October, 1984 for installation of 2 x 4.5 MW at an estimated cost of Rs. 12.93 crores. The installation has been subsequently revised to 1 x 5.5 MW due to geological considerations. The revised project report submitted by the RSEB was examined in Central Electricity Authority and returned to RSEB with some comments, and requesting them to resubmit it after taking them into consideration.

[*English*]

Foreign Assistance for Mini and Micro Hydel Projects

8022. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by Government to obtain foreign assistance for the construction of mini and micro hydel projects:

(b) the amount, out of this proposed, to be made available for the construction of mini and micro hydel projects in Madhya

Pradesh; and

(c) the names of the projects likely to be constructed with the help of foreign assistance?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No efforts are being made by the Government to obtain foreign assistance for mini and micro hydel projects. These projects require low capital investment and can be implemented with indigenous equipment and capability.

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

[*Translation*]

Small/Mini Hydro-Electric Projects of Rajasthan and Bihar

8023. SHRI NATHU SINGH:
PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals are pending with Planning Commission for investment approval for small/mini hydro-electric projects of Rajasthan and Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when these are pending?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Loan to unemployed persons

8024. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan provided to educated unemployed persons during 1989-90 under Self Employment Schemes, State-wise;

(b) the details of schemes implemented for educated unemployed people; and

(c) the criteria fixed by Government for advancing loans to such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) As per the latest available figures, an amount of Rs. 404.39 crores was sanctioned by banks under

the scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth during the year 1988-89. State-wise details are given below in the statement.

(b) Besides the scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, the other schemes for Self-Employment in operation for unemployed people include Integrated Rural Development Programme, Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment, Self-Employment Programme For Urban Poor and Nehru Rozgar Yojana.

(c) Different criteria have been fixed under the above schemes for advancing loans to persons keeping in view the target group covered under each scheme.

STATEMENT

Amount of loan sanctioned by Banks under the Scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth during the year 1988-89

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/UT</i>	<i>Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3278.72
2.	Assam	1372.68
3.	Bihar	4904.94
4.	Gujarat	647.82
5.	Haryana	908.04
6.	Himachal Pradesh	272.97
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	192.66
8.	Karnataka	2019.38
9.	Kerala	2643.64

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/UT</i>	<i>Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2638.93
11.	Maharashtra	2537.44
12.	Manipur	434.50
13.	Meghalaya	6.12
14.	Nagaland	36.52
15.	Orissa	1985.23
16.	Punjab	3259.04
17.	Rajasthan	1967.80
18.	Sikkim	4.25
19.	Tamil Nadu	3080.84
20.	Tripura	136.84
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5340.60
22.	West Bengal	2462.71
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	12.64
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.61
25.	Chandigarh	44.62
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9.70
27.	Goa, Daman & Diu	59.52
28.	Mizoram	91.30
29.	Pondicherry	73.16
30.	Lakshadweep	1.30
Total:		40438.52

*[English]***Land Irrigation on Completion of Tehri Dam**

8025. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area likely to be irrigated on completion of the Tehri dam; and

(b) the details of compensation likely to be given to those whose land has been used for building the dam?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Tehri Dam Project will provide additional irrigation to an extent of 2.7 lakh ha. in the existing command of Madhya Ganga Canal and Upper Ganga Canal System, Lower Ganga Canal System and Agra Canal System in the districts of Agra, Aligarh, Bulandshahar, Etah, Mathura, Meerut Muzafarnagar and Saharanpur of U.P., besides stabilising irrigation in 6.04 lakh ha. of land in Ganga/Yamuna plains.

(b) A detailed Master Plan has been drawn up by the project authorities under which about Rs. 268 crores would be spent on rehabilitation measures. The Rehabilitation Plan provides for compensation to rural families by allotment of land in lieu thereof, land to agricultural landless labourers, house compensation and allotment of a residential plot on actual cost basis for construction of house, in addition to other benefits. For urban rehabilitation at New Tehri Town, plots of land of suitable sizes are allotted at subsidised rates and cash payment given for movement of commercial goods and household effects.

12.01 hrs.

*[English]***MEMBERS SWORN**

Shri Jose Fernandez (Nominated Anglo-Indian)

Shri Paul Montosh (Nominated Anglo-Indian)

12.02 hrs

RE-LAYING ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE PAPERS PERTAINING TO AIRBUS A-320 DEAL*[English]*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, you will recall that the other day we had a detailed discussion on the Air Bus matter; and you will also remember that it was stated in the House that no documents should be placed out of context. Unfortunately, we find that in the Air Bus matter that alleged document of 2nd August—some decision or some note—was not allowed to be placed on the Table of the House because it was felt that singly it should not be placed and that the other documents should be placed along with it, if at all. It was agreed that those documents referred to by Jaswant Singhji and others, all documents should be placed. As we find today, I am sure the hon. Minister concerned must not be responsible for leaking....

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND (Chikkodi): How do you say that?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I hope so, I hope sincerely. The Government, apart from being now a Government wanting prosecution through the Press, is becoming the leaking Government. How is it, that certain documents have been leaked from the CBI, to certain newspapers and have appeared

[Sh. Vasant Sathe]

today in the newspapers? I would really want to know from the Government what it is that they want. Do they want a fair assessment and a trial and a discussion in the matter of the Air Bus or do they want this persecution and prosecution through the Press? What we want is, at least now let all the papers be laid on the Table of the House. Nothing should be kept back; otherwise, it will be open for suspicion and allegation that Government has some ulterior motive. I hope, all the documents will be placed on the Table. I wish that Shri Jaswant Singh will also support this demand of mine.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): A reference has been made to me by the hon. Shri Vasant Sathe. And a reference has been made to certain documents which have been published by some newspapers today, indeed certain documents which have been cited in the House during the discussion under Rule 193 on Airbus, by me relating specifically to the minutes of the Prime Minister's Officer. I agree with hon. Shri Vasant Sathe's contention that a demand was then made in the House by all sides that all relevant documents.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Relevant and not Irrelevant.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have permitted only Mr. Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I do not think there is any need for the opposition to protest so loudly about "all" and "relevant". We will only deal with the "relevant all" and not the "irrelevant all"... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear him.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There are two or three aspects which, I think, I must correct the impression that hon. Shri Vasant Sathe has created. Firstly, permission was not denied. Hon'ble Shri Vasant Sathe has asserted that permission was denied for the tabling of those documents. Permission was not denied.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I said that consensus was taken that not only one document but all the documents should be laid.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Firstly, permission was not denied. Secondly, the hon. Minister was even then willing to lay the documents in his possession which were related, but the opposition did not then agree. Thirdly, specifically relating to the document that has been published by certain newspapers today, even on that day, when I quoted from it and mentioned that document, there was some admiration from the opposition that I only quote correctly and that I am always in possession of documents. And indeed, the hon. Minister even then clarified and said that this document is a correct document. I am not able to understand, therefore, as to what the opposition now wants so for the document in particular that has been published by the newspapers today... (*Interruptions*) Finally, I do Join the hon. Shri Vasant Sathe and the opposition and all of us who support the Government that all documents on this Air Bus deal which related to this transaction, in the judgment of the Government that ought to be placed on the Table be placed on the Table of the House ... (*Interruptions*)

PROF P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, on the day of the discussion, the hon. Minister wanted to place certain documents selectively on the Table of the House. Even though it was to oblige Mr. Jaswant Singh, hon. Jaswant Singh himself said that all the papers should be placed on the Table of the House. The Chair, on the consensus of the House, denied placing selectively on the Table of the House. The consensus was that all the papers, from the beginning of the dialogue to the end, should be placed on the Table of the House. There is no question of selectively placing. And who is to decide what is relevant or what is irrelevant? That just cannot be done. We want the whole file, from the beginning to the end, to be placed on the Table of the House. They cannot decide what is relevant or what is irrelevant. The whole file should be placed on the Table

of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Janardhana Poojary...

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Sir, we want to make it very clear that we are not scared about the document that has been published in the Paper. It would be part and parcel of the Government records. But the most unfortunate thing is the publication, the leaking of this important document to the Press, thereby answering the points raised in this House. In order to scuttle it, this method is adopted. Now, here is BJP which is supporting the Government. The Government is using Mr. Jaswant Singh to... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jaswant Singh is a Member of the House...

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes, Sir, I am making a charge against the Government. The Government is using Mr. Jaswant Singh in placing the records on the Table of the House. Not only that, they are using some of the Papers also to leak out these documents. So, Sir, in the interest of justice and also fair play, all the documents should be placed on the Table of the House and you must ask the Government not to leak out the documents. This Government has become a Government which is leaking the documents... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, you have made your point.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Now, Sir, you have to pull up the Government for doing this mischief.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. speaker, Sir, all papers are placed on the table of the House with permission of the

Chair. This point has not arisen for the first time. I remember that a controversy had been raised in the context of Bofors issue also so as to reach at a conclusion in respect of the words 'all papers', as to what exactly they meant. I want that the ruling given on this issue this time should become a precedent for future. A demand has been made from that side that

[English]

all papers pertaining to A-320 deal or transaction should be placed on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Now the term 'all' implies all papers even the smallest slip or piece of paper concerning A-320 deal, related to it directly or indirectly, relevant to our debate or otherwise should be laid on the table of the House. Therefore, I am saying that

[English]

not to score a point but only to see that the right precedent is set for the future.

[Translation]

I would like to request that the Government should not be allowed to lay arbitrarily the selective papers only which can mislead us. On the other hand, the Government should not place irrelevant papers under the compulsion of word 'all' which we may not be able to go through properly. My only submission is that there should be a proper discussion in the House so that the house is not misled. Keeping in view this point, all the relevant papers, which in your opinion, are considered useful should be laid here on the table of the House for further discussion.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga): Sir, if you go through the proceedings of that day, you will find that a controversy arose when I spoke and I also made a reference to

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]

the hon. Member, Mr. Jaswant Singh and I said, and I say this with a full sense of responsibility that this is not the first time that this has happened. This Government is stagemanaging such discussions by obliging certain persons with certain information about dates about words, about sentences and pretending to go through a discussion in which some of them will demand and then the Government can come forward with a flourish and say: 'Here is the paper'. We are wise to this game. This is the game which the Janata Party played between 1977 and 1979 and I thought that Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan, who is not only an hon. Minister but also an honourable person, will not play this game.

Sir, on that day I challenged him and I said, 'You are playing this game, we will not allow you to play this game, we will not allow you to place one or two documents only.' Sir, I also made a reference one of the Members, I think Mr. Advani, mentioned, to Bofors papers. Let us recall what happened. In the case of Bofors also the same controversy arose and I entirely support the hon. Member Mr. Advani that in Bofors also the demand was for all papers, the response was for all papers, but eventually what came out is the two documents. This must stop. This is taking Parliament for a ride. This is making a mockery of parliament using two newspapers or three newspapers to plant selected documents which could not be placed on the Table of the House. So, all that we are asking now is this. All papers means all papers, certainly one paper is not all papers. The hon. Member, Mr. Lodha of the BJP supported us fully on that day and said that all papers must be placed before the House, Now, Sir, this is the demand of the House. He could not do this that day. You have failed to do this, Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan. When you failed to do that on that day when you could not get the Chairman. Dr. Thambi Durai to agree to what you wanted to place first, what you have done is a dirty trick, what you have done is to leak it to two newspapers. So, all the papers must be put before this House. The House is the judge to decide what is relevant and what is not relevant. We cannot

allow any one to judge what is relevant. All the papers must be placed on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, what has appeared or not appeared on a particular day in a particular newspaper is not relevant for our purpose. Something else may appear, something may not appear. When the Opposition is emphasising the fact that all the papers must be placed before the House, that was, I believe, what Mr. Jaswant Singh also said from the very first day. In any case, what is relevant or not relevant is entirely your prerogative. It is left to you and I hope that will not be questioned. I remember in this House the case of Mr. Tulmohan Ram, who was a Member of this House, came up and there were charges of various types of malpractices against him as a Member of this House and a large volume of papers was concerned and implicated in that case and the procedure on that occasion that was adopted finally by the hon. Speaker was something very different. The papers were all made available to the leaders of the parties, they were placed in the other Chamber and the Members were free to go there, read them, consult them and talk. That was a different method which was adopted. They were not put here on the Table of the House.

Secondly, there are always some papers which it may not be possible to lay on the Table. I came across a report in one journal which says that there was a meeting or conversation regarding this Airbus deal between Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and the then President of France. The French President and the Indian Prime Minister had some exchange of views regarding this proposed deal at that time. If such document is there in the records—I do not know—which concerns the conversation between the two Heads of States, it is for you to decide as to whether that can also be laid on the Table of the House. I do not think that can be done. (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, we are all interested that this matter should be thoroughly probed and for that all relevant papers must be made available and it is for you to judge what is relevant

and what is not relevant and what procedure should be followed. All this talk about leakages and all that is all just red herring which they are trying to bring up in order to confuse and divert attention.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): We can understand the discomfort and uneasiness on the part of the Opposition because of the letter, what has come out in the two papers has completely demolished their claim which was made. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We have heard Mr. Chidambaram. Let us hear Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have heard Mr. Chidambaram. Now you hear Mr. Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: We quite understand their discomfort. We are concerned with relevant documents.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): Who will decide that?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am coming to that. It is not decided by them as to what is relevant. It is a deliberate attempt to create a situation as if there will be documents which will exonerate them. This is what they are trying to project.

The question is, only relevant documents have to be looked into. (*Interruptions*) You are the custodian of the rights of the Members of this House and of the House. Now just claiming that all documents to be produced in this House, they cannot try to create a situation by which the Speaker's authority can be diluted.

What happened when the Thakkar Commission report came out? In spite of their wishes, it came out and they had to ultimately lay it. And the question came whether the annexures were part of the report. It was ultimately decided by the hon.

Speaker then that the annexures did not form part of the report, because it was said only the relevant portion namely the report, and not the annexures will be disclosed or laid on the Table of the House. That was decided by the hon. Speaker. They did not listen to our demand at that time.

Therefore, it is only you who can decide on the basis of all the documents, which are relevant. They are trying to confuse the issue. Let not the real issue be diverted by referring to all documents, without specifying what the documents are.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not my desire to introduce any more controversy on this. I agree with what the hon. Member, Shri L.K. Advani has said that the time has come when you have to take a decision as to how all papers are to be laid on the Table of the House. In normal case, once the question had been referred to the CBI for investigation and, if necessary, prosecution, one would have expected that they would prepare a report and the report would then be taken up in a court of law if at all a case had been established. To leak out individual papers is only an indication of a weak case where an impression is being created in the public different from the reality which could come out in the actual case if it is filed. But I will not go into that just now. My main point is that when one talks of laying the paper on the Table of the House, a paper like this, I agree, could contain a number of files. But I do not know whether you would wish to accept the responsibility to sort out those papers from the file. If you are willing to accept that responsibility, obviously no Member can have any objection or doubt in the impartiality of the Speaker as such. But in case you do not wish to undertake that responsibility...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): It is his responsibility. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: I know that you have many supporters in the House. We are also your supporters and, in case you wish to do it, if you can find the time to go through all

[Sh. Dinesh Singh]

the papers, we will have the facts coming out more easily than in any other manner. But I am saying that in case you do not wish to accept that responsibility, two instances had been quoted. One is that papers are placed for the review of leaders or Members as such. The other is to place all of them on the Table of the House. Now I think that the real decision has to be taken because a question of relevance cannot be decided in this manner. Government may consider something relevant. You may not consider that that in itself is relevant. My friend Shri Indrajit Gupta just now quoted some documents in which there is some discussion between the Prime Minister of India and the President of France. I think it might be a relevant document. It should certainly be placed on the Table of the House because it would then give an indication that we have nothing to hide, that this has been a matter which had been discussed both at the technical level and at the highest political level. It is not something to be concealed. That is why I am saying that selective placing of the papers on anyone's choice will not satisfy the House. It should be made available to all Members to see. Now that procedure you follow is a different matter. But people should have access, people should have the possibility of referring to that in the House so that nothing is concealed in the matter. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: It is accepted that neither the Government should decide relevance nor the Opposition should decide relevance. It is you who have to decide the relevance.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I have a suggestion to make. After all, in this case, unlike the Tulmohan Ram case and other cases, in this case, allegation is squarely against the Leader of our Party, when we were in Government. That is the allegation. So, we are the main people concerned.

MR. SPEAKER: What is the point you are driving at?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The point I am

driving at is that when these documents are made available to you, if we have an opportunity of looking into them, our representatives will have an opportunity to assist you to look into them and to decide which documents we consider relevant. That will assist you because otherwise what will happen is, supposing it is not possible for you as an individual to look into all the papers personally, and so you will take the assistance of some one from office. Therefore, I tell you in fairness that whatever procedure you decide our representatives must have a chance to look into those documents. I do not mind if representatives of all political parties are allowed to look into this. But we should have a chance to look into the documents. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that this matter was already concluded. When the debate was going on, the Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair and the question was raised. A ruling was given after listening to all the sides. Sir, I would like to point out that this discussion which we are having now is unnecessary because the matter was concluded... *(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister was not objecting to the production of any paper. All that he said was that the paper is with the CBI. He said: If the House wants I am prepared to place all the papers before the House." I am surprised to hear what the hon. Members demand now... *(Interruptions)* When the Minister is prepared to place all the papers, the question of objection does not arise. We cannot be more pious than the Pope himself.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please order.

SHRIGUMAN MAL LODHA: If he wants to produce, if he has got no objection, he can produce a xerox copy. If he has got any objection to any particular paper, then the hon. Speaker, as Shri Advani has said, can look into it and decide the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us now hear the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Anbarasu, I am not permitting you. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not permitted you. Let us now hear the Minister

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): Sir, with your permission, I will seek the indulgence of the hon. Members sitting opposite for two or three minutes uninterrupted. Shri Vasant Sathe had stated something on that day when the discussion had taken place. If he had gone through the contents, the response which I made to the points which hon. Members have made, I am sure it would not have been necessary for him to make this demand in the House again today. I have made it abundantly clear that since some hon. Members have referred to certain documents, they have quoted from them I have said that the papers are not with me, they are not with the Ministry of Civil Aviation. After the Government had noticed certain irregularities and procedural violations, we had taken note of the stories which had appeared in the Press. Immediately thereafter we referred the matter to Investigation Agencies. They have collected information from various sources. We had referred the matter to them. They have collected information from various other sources as well. I have said that since some hon. Members have quoted from those documents—I had left it to the discretion of the Chair—if the hon. Speaker directed then definitely I would go by that and would try to get the papers and lay those papers on the Table of the House.

I would like to make another point. Great emphasis is being laid on all the papers. I would like to admit in the august House—if

you direct me, I will obey—I would like them to listen to me. Give me one minute time. Please don't misunderstand me.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Nobody has interrupted you.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I say this because I am going to say something which may provoke you. *(Interruptions)* The point I am making is, I am expressing my inability, Sir, am admitting the failure. And this failure and this inability is that even if you direct me to lay all the papers on the Table of the House, I am in no position because... *(Interruptions)* I am going to that. *(Interruptions)* Exactly, I am coming to that. Because one very vital and important file about this deal is missing from the Ministry. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Svagama): Since he is yielding to me, may I suggest...

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Mr. Chidambaram is very good and old friend of mine. Hence, I am yielding to him.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Considering the pathetic circumstances in which Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan finds himself, may I suggest to him that he enlists the services of honourable Mr. Jaswant Singh to locate the missing file? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I yielded to Shri Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* Please let me complete. I have yielded to Shri Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* I am saying, why only Mr. Jaswant Singh? I have been knocking at various doors to get this file. And I am ready to come even to Mr. Chidambaram. *(Interruptions)* I am yielding to Mr. M.J. Akbar. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You should have the patience to hear all the arguments. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Shri Arif Mohammad Khan is today awarded a high honour in this House. Now he has been named a Pope. I am sure, after his intervention, the reputation of the Papal seat is in serious trouble. As for the missing file, we would most welcome if he lays at least the rest of the files on the House. *(Interruptions)* We can discuss the relevance of the missing file. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: My only problem is, I have stated the other day also, I can give the information but I cannot give the understanding!

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I think the matter is becoming more serious. The other day when we had the discussion, even in his reply the hon. Minister did not say that any such file was missing. But today have you noticed it? After the discussion, the file is missing. If files start missing at this rate, I do not know where we shall land. Because now the files are not even in his custody as he said just now. They are in the custody of the CBI. Are the files missing from the CBI's custody? What is happening? So we must know because this is a serious matter. Then tomorrow what will be placed before you?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Please tell us since when they are missing?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Please let us know the date when it came to your notice that they are missing? *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I have already said, I have had the benefit of getting trained under Shri Vasant Sathe. I am proud of that. I have learnt a great deal from him. He is my senior. I hope he will be confident about me that I am not going to indulge in dirty tricks.

I have said that CBI has already regis-

tered an FIR. When a case is under investigation.... *(Interruptions)*.... Please let me complete. If you want me to yield, I am ready; but let me complete. Why I am making this is because as a Minister of this Government, I am responsible for other things also. But it takes time when things have gone absolutely awry—they are in absolute mess. It takes some time to put them back into order.

We have not forgotten yet that CBI while raiding the house of an eminent national champion, that too a lady, was leaking the contents of her personal diary to the Press. This is their tradition..... *(Interruptions)*..... This is relevant because you have made the allegation against me. *(Interruptions)*

No, I am not yielding. To everybody am not going to yield. Under the supervision of the hon. Member great Shri Chidambaram, the contents of a personnel diary of a national champion was leaked.

PROF P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): How is it relevant?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: This is relevant. Of course, it is relevant. I am making this point because Shri Sathe had said that this is a leaking Government. This is not a leaking Government. Yes, this is an open Government. But under the supervision of Shri Chidambaram certain holes were created in this organisation and we are trying to seal them. Yes, we are trying that. This is an open Government. I have nothing to hide. I have already stated in this hon. House that I leave it to your discretion. Whatever direction you give me, I will abide by that. Even about those papers which were referred to by hon. Members from which they have quoted, I had not made any offer. As alleged by Shri Chidambaram, I had not tried to lay any papers on the Table of the House. I had merely laid my statement on the Table of the House. Because the hon. Members were referring to certain documents and were quoting from certain documents, I had said at the end that "those documents are not with me; they are with the CBI. If the Chair directs, if the hon. Speaker directs, I will definitely lay

them on the Table of the House". Even now, I maintain that I leave it to your discretion. Whatever direction you give me, Sir, I will abide by that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): When did it come to the notice of the Government that the file was missing? The Government must file a case against them and register a case for deliberately stealing the file.

[*English*]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: I will make it clear. (*Interruptions*) Let me respond to Shri Khurana first, then I will respond to others.

As soon as we noticed irregularities and procedural violations, we started collecting whatever material or whatever files were available in the Ministry. Then, immediately we noticed that one year important and vital file is missing from the records of the Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Chidambaram, because his name has been taken.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, the hon. Minister, as usual, has made a very generous reference to me. I am not surprised that in his generosity, he has tried to lay certain blame at my door. Let me assure him, Sir, actually what happened is that, we did not, at any time, interfere with the investigation of any case, entrusted to the CBI. (*Interruptions*) Please listen to me. However much you shout, I have to answer him.

MR. SPEAKER: please address the Speaker.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: It is true and I have the courage to admit it—I hope Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan will also have the courage

to admit it today. I have the courage to admit it—that in the course of investigation by the UP Police and by the CBI, two newspapers based in Delhi were—I do not know under what circumstances—made privy to certain portions of a document which was seized as a part of the case diary. If Shri Arif Mohammad Khan will go through the records, of that case and what was done, the officer who was responsible was pulled up promptly, personally by me. Then, the Times of India and the Hindustan Times, editorially condemned their own journalists for that practice. Now, having said this, he has impliedly admitted that somebody in the Government has leaked it out to the two newspapers which had carried it today. Will he now pull up that gentleman? Will he pull up that officer? Will he ensure that those officers are condemned today those who have leaked it out to the two newspapers?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: We would not allow anybody to violate the procedure, to violate the norms, not only of the Government but also of decency.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU (Kakinada): Sir, I am not going to talk about this matter. I am going to talk about a different matter.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Sir, what is your direction on this issue?

MR. SPEAKER: I have no motion, Advaniji.

[*Translation*]

I have not received any notice, if there is one, I will allow it.

[*English*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The question that comes up is that all documents are to be placed on the Table. What does all that mean? It means that the relevant documents are to be examined. The relevance is to be decided by you.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, if there is any

notice, I will give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: On the day of the discussion, we wanted the whole file to be laid on the Table. Then, he did not say about the missing file. *(Interruptions)* When we discussed this at length on that day, all Members demanded that the entire file should be placed on the Table of the House. The Minister did not say about the missing file at that time.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You give notice. When you give the notice, I will give my ruling.

PROF. M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): I have a relevant point.

MR. SPEAKER: What is it?

(Interruptions)

PROF. M.J. AKBAR: Sir, the Airbus inquiry started after the crash. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: When you give the notice, I will give my ruling on the same.... *(Interruptions)*....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody has made his submission. Mr. Akbar, you are not contributing anything new. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: I am not permitting you. I have called Mr. Pallam Raju.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat, Mr. Lokanath Choudhary. Mr. Khurana, please take your seat. *(Interruptions)*....

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: You have stated that there is no motion.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, there is no motion or notice.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: My submission is that there is a consensus. Shri Advani, Shri Chatterjee and others have stated that you may please give your ruling that only relevant papers must be placed on the table of the House. There is a consensus. You may please give your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: When you give notice, I will take a decision on it and give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice pr anything else.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The question of notice does not arise. *(Interruptions)*....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your submissions.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We have and we want your ruling. *(Interruptions)*....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I will think over it and only after that I will give my ruling.

[English]

MR. PALLAM RAJU: Mr. Lokanath Choudhury, will you resume your seat?

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): I want to make a submission on this. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. That is closed. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Lokanath Choudhary, please take your seat. Now, Mr. Pallam Raju.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU (Kakinada): Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh, was in Visakhapatnam recently to dedicate the Visakhapatnam steel plant to the nation. It was a very happy and important occasion not only to the country but also to the State. On such an important occasion, it is unfortunate that our Chief Minister, Dr. Chenna Reddy, was subjected to the indignity of not finding his name on the invitation card.

Apart from that, I think, it is deplorable to note that none of the state MPs, apart from the two local MPs, received an invitation to the function. The Prime Minister was coming to our State for the first time after assuming office and most of us wanted to be present there to receive him. Some of us did go to Visakhapatnam to receive the Prime Minister. But we could not attend the function because no invitation was extended to us. I want the concerned Ministry to take notice of this serious lapse in protocol. I would urge upon the Government to see that such instances will not recur again. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lokanath, please take your seat. I will call you. Please take your seat. Shri Chokka Rao.

SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO (Karimnagar): In Andhra Pradesh, the farmers are being looted because their paddy is being purchased at the rate of rupees 40 less than the support price. All that is being done by the traders in collusion with the officers. Some centres have been opened by the Food Corporation of India. The farmers have to suffer a loss of crores of rupees because lakhs of tonnes of their paddy is being sold at the rate of 40 rupees less than the support price. I had given a notice for a Calling Attention also in this regard, but you did not

allow it. Now you have given me an opportunity in this regard. I have also written a letter to the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies. He is also not paying much attention. The farmers have suffered a heavy loss on that account. The farmers should be protected against this loss.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Janardhana Poojary may speak now. Are you going to raise about cyclone?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Yes Sir, I have given a Calling Attention Notice on cyclones threatening the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. It has been stated that the velocity of the wind is very high and it is going to have devastating effects on the life and property of the people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. The Government has not come out with the steps which they are going to take to prevent loss of life and property of the people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. May I know the latest position regarding the cyclone from the Government?

MR. SPEAKER: Smt. Uma Gajapathi Raju.

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, through you, I want to get the attention of the Government on many matters. We raise many issues in this House.... *(Interruptions)*... Time and again, we have focussed the attention of the House on the issue of atrocities on Harijans.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you confine yourself on the issue of cyclone raised by Mr. Poojary?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: No Sir. I want to raise the issue about Fatehpur incidents.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Fatehpur incident has already been discussed yesterday.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Why cannot the Government tell us as to what they are going to do and how they are going to approach the problem? We have not got any statement from the Prime Minister or the Minister concerned. We are not at all satisfied with the behaviour of the Government. The Government does not come out to make statements. Our protests are always falling on deaf ears. Sir, I want your protection in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kumaramangalam, are you going to raise the issue of cyclones? You have given a notice on this issue.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, I understand that in my home State, at the moment, winds which have reached over the speed of 100 Kms. have already crossed and a cyclone is to occur at any moment in Tamil Nadu. But no arrangements have really been made to protect either the fishermen or the people staying in the coastal areas, even though the storm warning flags have been raised. The civil authorities have not started taking preventive measures even though they have known that a cyclone is going to hit the area within 48 hours. Yet, no steps have been taken. While there is a cyclone to hit Tamil Nadu, unfortunately, yesterday the hon. Minister, Mr. Gurupadaswamy created another cyclone in the House. He suddenly announced that for one-day token strike, he was going to resort to ESMA, which is one of the most draconian laws to crush the working class. I have always taken the stand... (*Interruptions*) Even when I was on the Treasury Benches as a member of the Congress(I), I took a stand on the ESMA and I was surprised to see that the crutches are still silent on this issue having given their conditional support. You must tell the Minister, he is there as Minister because of you. He has

flouted their own directive. I plead with the House and the members of the Left parties, as well as the BJP—and even the ruling party Members, I am sure will join me—to tell the Minister for God's sake not to use ESMA because if you use ESMA, there will be a flashback at the national level.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we are greatly concerned at the decision of the Government to apply the provisions of Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 to ban the strike of the officers in the oil industry. This is one of the most draconian measures which was enacted by the Congress Government in the past and we had fought tooth and nail against that. This was enacted only to take away the rights of the working class and to ban all strikes wherever that notification would be issued under the Act. There may be difference of opinion about the desirability of the officers in the oil industry to go on strike, as they have decided to go. Whatever information I have received this morning, I am told that it is not fully successful at least in Calcutta, but even then we cannot offer support to the use of such a black law and the most draconian law against the working class people of this country.

The working class and the working people in this country have been supporting you and they have high expectations. At least, this draconian, anti-democratic, anti-people, anti-working class measure should never be resorted to by this Government. I urge upon this Government that they should immediately withdraw the notification under this Act. Not only that, they should also come out with a clear declaration of policy, that they will come out with measures for the repeal of black laws like ESMA, the National Security Act and other similar laws.

We also ask the Government to carry on negotiations and also request the officers in the oil industry to negotiate with the Government and resolve their issues and problems across the table. Once again, I call upon the Government and request the hon. Minister who is present here not to pollute your hands,

and indulge in this aberration, which is nothing but a declaration of war on the common people of this country. Please withdraw this notification. That is my request.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, I regret deeply that this Government on this issue is speaking with two voices. The Ministry of Labour which, I think, is primarily responsible for relations between employers and employees, is violently opposed to the continuance of this ESMA which is due to expire on 30th September this year. The Labour Minister has made it quite clear that they also consider this Act to be one of the most obnoxious weapons which was kept in the armoury of anti-labour repression brought in by the party then in power, who are now sitting in the opposition. I would request him not to send a wrong message to the working class by this notification. We are all waiting for this Act to be withdrawn and not to be prolonged after 30th September. The Labour Ministry has made its position clear. But to this one day's token strike by officers, the Petroleum Minister has unnecessarily overreacted and he has said in his statement that all this drilling, transport and all the operations which are carried on, are all being done by the officers. I think it is a bit too much to swallow. We know how much the officers do and we also know how much other workers and employees do. In any case their original decision was for a three days strike. As a gesture they brought it down to one day, which means it is only a token strike for a few hours to express their resentment for the prolonged delay which has taken place in setting the issue of Dearness Allowance. Has he ever sat with them? He has only deputed officers to sit with them. Why the Minister himself has not sat with the leaders of the officers' organisation? It is very necessary. I am sure if he tries to do that, they will never go on strike. But they are threatening them with this 'danda' of ESMA which is the most hated instrument of repression in this country. I am afraid, he is going at a tangent, which is absolutely different to what the Labour Ministry is doing and saying. I would like to know what are Mr. Paswan's views and what are Mr. Gurupadaswamy's view.

They cannot speak with two voices here. The employees in this country want to know whether you are preparing to give up this hated weapon or you have again started reviving it and using it in order to suppress the right of strike. I beseech you, don't go this far. It will be counter-productive in the long run. You please give it up and settle with them. I appeal to the officers also to give up the path of confrontation and create an atmosphere in which Government will be compelled morally to sit with them and discuss the matter. But ESMA should not be used.

SHRINANI BHATTACHARYA: Yesterday when the Petroleum Minister made a Statement, I requested him to directly contact the officers and to talk to them, discuss with them instead of invoking the ESMA. Today also, I feel the same. The officers have got unions and their leaders. So, the Petroleum Minister can easily discuss the matter with them. I appeal to the Government that after the token strike is over, ESMA should not be applied in their case.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): It is my and my party's firm view that the ESMA should be withdrawn. This Act was passed by the previous Government and it is anti-labourer. In view of this my party is in favour of its withdrawal. In this connection I want to associate myself with the views expressed by Shri Somnath Chatterjee who has raised this issue and I would urge the hon. Minister to give necessary clarification in this regard. Besides, efforts should be made to resolve the issue through dialogue. This notification should be withdrawn. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, when this Essential Services Maintenance Act was passed in this very House, we fought tooth and nail. When this act was extended, some four years ago, then also we opposed it. Today also, we are opposing it and urging

[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

the Government and the Minister that the ESMA which has been invoked yesterday should be withdrawn. I request the hon. Minister, who is present here, to withdraw it because this is the sense of the House and also the assurance of National Front Government that all the anti-working class laws which are there in the Statute Book which were passed by the Congress Government—like the National Security Act, and Essential Services Maintenance Act—will be withdrawn. Those Acts should not be used and should not be imposed. So, I urge upon the Minister that he should clarify it by making a statement and withdraw the ESMA.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): I want to make one simple suggestion. I myself had been a victim of ESMA because I was basically organising the trade union movement, particularly of electricity and power workers. As far as I know—I have gone through the Election Manifesto of the Party—it had promised the people that all the anti-labour laws in the Statute Book will be withdrawn but it will take sometime. For the present, I do not know what are the circumstances that have resulted in this strike and the imposition of the law. But, I would urge upon the Minister to look into the matter so that the strike is withdrawn.

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to express our intense indignation and resentment at the imposition of ESMA against this strike. I do not want to go into the merits of this strike. It is because, I remember, the whole night, we fought tooth and nail against this Act, against this Bill. At that time, the Congress Government gave only one reason—"This is a weapon we are keeping but that does not mean that we will necessarily use it." It is a misfortune and an irony that the weapon which they kept, our friendly Government is using it. They made it. They passed it. They used it. But it is most unexpected that this Government is using it. I demand that the notification should be

withdrawn immediately, just now. Not only that. ESMA should be repealed and not that one should wait for it to lapse. It should be repealed in this Session itself.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am against invoking of ESMA. There is a near consensus in this regard in the House that ESMA should not be enforced.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you speak on the issue, you have given in writing.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am speaking on that only. I am of the view that ESMA should not be enforced and this Act should be repealed. At the sametime I would like to move an appeal to the august House that the House with general consent should make an appeal to officers of the industry to withdraw their strike. The appeal should be made with the general consensus of the House. At the same time a request should be made to the Government on behalf of all of us that it should withdraw operation of ESMA and withdraw the notification in this regard and scrap this Act in due course.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sanctity and dignity of the Pushkar Sarovar should be protected. Th Tirthraj Pushkar located in district Ajmer of Rajasthan is the place of pilgrimage of crores of Hindus. Soil and sand has been accumulated in the lake. I would like to request the Central Government to arrange to desilt the same.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa): Mr. Speaker, Sr, we want a response from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: He is very much in his seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY: It is

very serious matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister is here. He should make a statement.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barackpore): The Minister should make a statement. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear Mr. Gurupadaswamy. But before that Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat please conclude.

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT: The Pushkar lake has been filled with soil and sand brought into it by rain waters. This is causing a lot of inconvenience to lakhs and crores of pilgrims coming to Pushkar. The water in the lake has been polluted. Therefore, I would like to request the Ministry of Environment and Forest and the Ministry of water resources to get the lake desilated. The dirty water of hotels built for foreign tourist on the banks of this lake also fall in the lake. Necessary measures may please be taken to check the flow of dirty water into the lake.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): Yesterday, when I made a statement in the House, I had given the circumstances, the compulsions that made us to apply ESMA to this situation. I share the sentiments of the House. I share your concern. I also concede that ESMA is a draconian law. It becomes draconian in the hands of those who wish to make it draconian. I concede that the measure itself is draconian. What are the circumstances and what are the compulsions for imposing it. An hon. member has said that the Minister should have talked to the employees. Yesterday I made it clear that I had talked to them twice. I have sympathy for some of their demands.

I persuaded them not to carry their demands to the brink. I pleaded with them that this can be done only through negotiations. This is not a strike by labourers. I do not want to take shelter under this argument. A notice for this strike was given by the officers. Their emoluments are very much comparable with the emoluments of the Government employees. The salaries of certain officials exceed the salaries of the highest officials working in the Government of India. Besides, they enjoy a lot of perquisites, privileges, which are not even available to the highest officials of the Government of India. I do not grudge them. They are getting them because they have been working hard; they have built the Organisation with dedication and efforts. I think they deserve some facilities. When the matter of D.A. came up for discussion, there were two options before them and before the Government. Can the D.A. formula, which has been worked out, be revised or should the demand for Central D.A. for the officials, be considered? After a good deal of negotiations by the team of the officials of the Government of India, they made a suggestion. The suggestion was this. Whatever the stand has been taken by the Government and by the petitioner before the Supreme Court, it should be acceptable to them also.

We said, in other words, We are prepared to accept Central D.A. for them, provided it should become a part of a package. The package is, that they will be given Central DA, but they should not insist upon perquisites. They said, "No". They wanted us to delink perquisites from the Central DA entirely. The implication is, that if we accept their contention, it would mean that the others in the Government, not only the Central Government, but also the State government will demand the same facilities. It will not rest there. The employees or the labourers who are working at the lower levels also will demand, naturally. They will demand for the same kind of treatment and Central D.A. for them also.

So, it was a very complicated issue. We gave them options to choose this or that and negotiations were going on. We said, "Never

[Sh. M.S. Gurupadaswamy]

in the history of India officials at the higher levels in Government undertakings or public undertakings went on strike. In the oil sector, in particular they never went on strike. They issued the strike notice. After a good deal of discussion with them, they agreed to have no strike on the 24th of last month. It was very good of them. We were really happy.

Sir, the Members may be thinking that we have closed the door of negotiations. No. Even today the door is open. They are always welcome. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): We only want you to remove ESMA. *(Interruptions)* We only wanted you to remove the notification and the ESMA. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I will come to that. I am explaining the circumstances and the situation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bilaspur): None of us as such supported their demands. This is a matter to be resolved through negotiations. But the very approach of taking recourse to ESMA is what we are opposing. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am coming to that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Even in this serious situation while dealing with ESMA, he is supporting the Congress Party. *(Interruptions)*....

MR. SPEAKER: All of you may please listen. He is responding.... *(Interruptions)*....

[*English*].

MR. SPEAKER: We had already discussed it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not leaving out the main point. I am coming to that. Be patient. I was only explaining the situation which I thought I should share with you.

Sir, the clearance has been given by the Labour Ministry also for imposing ESMA. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East): And clearance by Prime Minister also. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Gentlemen, why was ESMA brought into operation? The main point is, why was ESMA brought into operation? Why was ESMA imposed? The main purpose is not to intimidate the strikers. The main purpose is to protect the undertakings. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Can you not guard and protect the installations without resorting to ESMA?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: The advice given to us was, these are very expensive... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Workers will protect the installations.

SHRI A.K. ROY: They are unnecessarily terrorising the officers.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I fully share your sentiments. I know that when I was in the opposition, I was attacking ESMA. I was more vehement than you.... *(Interruptions)* I am not yielding... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the hon. Minister.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not using ESMA with a view to browbeat the strikers, harass them or intimidate them. This has been done for the purpose of protection of installations, undertakings and establishments and nothing more.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Normally when there is not strike situation, oil installations are protected by the Central Industrial Security Force which has been deployed. It is a statutory Force meant for this purpose. The Central Industrial Security Force is deployed in all the petroleum and oil installations to guard and protect them normally. And during the strike by the officers, they would naturally be doing this work even more attentively unless you say that the installations are in danger of being blown up or sabotaged by the officers. I think, there is no such charge against them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Workers will help you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: So, how by enforcing ESMA you are having safety of the installations, we are not able to understand.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I request you to please withdraw it.... (*Interruptions*) Even the compulsions of the situation have persuaded the Congress people to stand up, who are the perpetrators of the crime. They have brought this law into this country. Do not equate yourself with them... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: They are accusing the Congress Government of passing this law... (*Interruptions*) Does the hon. Minister think that ESMA is necessary over and above the other existing laws to protect the vital installations in this country?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): So far what the hon. Minister has said has not satisfied us. We are totally against invoking ESMA for tackling a situation that has arisen out of one-day strike call given by the officers. I believe, the Minister has failed to appreciate the feelings of the House and he has also failed to understand the implications of this very action that he is going to do. It will be very embarrassing to the commitment that we have made and the support that we have offered to this Government. In this connection, we believe

them are many existing laws that are sufficient and they should be made use of for tackling this kind of a situation, and here itself he must give a commitment that it will be withdrawn.

SHRI A.K. ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are their friendly supporters. I would like to give some friendly advice...

(*Interruptions*)

Sir, the previous Government used to lack good sense, but I am sorry, Sir, the present Government has started losing commonsense. It will be the most deplorable sort of thing... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I think the points are being repeated. If Mr. Gurupadaswamy wants to give his own opinion, I think we can have it... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Don't kill handful of people who have faith in democracy... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hear the Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Don't allow them to use their own weapons against you. Please have the good sense to realise that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we make an appeal to Mr. Minister. He is such a good man. He is sympathetic to the workers' causes. Let the Congress Party not misutilise the situation. I request him to please withdraw this.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Gurupadaswamy.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this is a responsive Government and I value the views of the House much. I share their concern, I share their suggestions, I share their views. I have tried my best to explain the situation. Perhaps it was not convincing. In view of the prevailing atmosphere and keeping in view the opinion of the House, I would

[Sh. M.S. Gurupadaswamy]

like to reconsider the position. There are certain procedures that have to be followed. I take note of the consensus of the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NATHU SINGH (Dausa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Pak-occupied Kashmir about.....

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to speak on the air crash.

SHRI NATHU SINGH: No Sir, I have sought your permission to speak on this issue also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak on the issue I have allowed you.

SHRINATHU SINGH: Sir, I have sought permission for both the issues. That is why I want to speak on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you may speak whatever you like.

SHRI NATHU SINGH: About 10,000 youths are being imparted training in Pak-occupied Kashmir and sent back to Jammu and Kashmir.

The Government has learnt from certain sources that the intelligence agencies also must have given information to the Government. As per the reports of the survey conducted in Jammu and Kashmir, it was found that about 6,000 youths are missing from the valley. Raids were conducted on the hideouts of the militants and searches were also conducted. As the Government is aware that sometime back incidents of arson and bomb blast took place at different places in the country. The situation will be further aggravated when 10,000 youths returned to Kashmir after receiving training in Pakistan and indulge in disruptive activities. In fact they are returning. The Government should take note of this. The Government says that youths are receiving training in Pakistan. But it has not so far said anything as to what

steps have been taken to check them. No action other than issuing a verbal warning to Pakistan has been taken by the Government in order to check the subversive activities.

SHRI RAGHAVJI (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an Air India Aircraft caught fire while landing at Delhi Airport. Had the Fire brigade not carried out the operation with promptness, 200 hundred passengers would have been burnt alive. I would like to tell the Government that these aircraft are pretty old and they should be checked up thoroughly which is not being done and the result is that accidents take place. Secondly, I would like to suggest that fire brigade personnel should be rewarded suitably and they should be commended for saving the lives of 200 people.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): When the Congress Party was in power, the then Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh had ordered externment of some christian missionaries for their dubious activities in some parts of Madhya Pradesh. Thereafter there were reports in the press that those people had come over to Delhi where they received protection and their externment was waived. Recently a meeting of the National Integration Council was held in which hon. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Sunder Lal Patwa again raised the issue of dubious activities of some Christian Missionaries in Madhya Pradesh and proposed externment of some of them. But in practice quite the reverse has been done because I have learnt that out of 5 persons in whose cases externment was recommended because they were actually involved in dubious activities in some parts of Madhya Pradesh. 3 persons have been given extension for 5 years and two persons have been granted citizenship. It is a matter of great regret that there was a request from a Chief Minister of a State that those people should be externed, but instead of doing that the Central Government gives extension and grant citizenship to them. It is shameful. Since it is a very important matter I would like to request the Government to scrap their citizenship and extern them out of the country.

PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY (Hazaribagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the acute scarcity of water in the State of Bihar. There is a dearth of potable water in the rural areas of Bihar. All the rivers, tanks, ponds and wells have dried up in that State. There is acute shortage of potable water in Chhota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana areas. It has severely affected the normal life in Ranchi, Hazaribagh districts of Chhota Nagpur, Madhopur, Sahibganj Banka, Bhagalpur, Munger districts of Santhal Pargana. In all the adjoining villages of Hazaribagh, the situation is very miserable. People are facing very hard days without water. It is also causing the death of their cattleheads. Now the people have to buy water by making payment. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government through you to this situation and urge upon them to take certain effective measures at the earliest to provide some relief to the people of Chhota Nagpur, Santhal Pargana and particularly those living in my Constituency Hazaribagh from the scarcity of potable water. Hazaribagh is the part of eastern region where coal is available in abundance. In spite of it, the people of Hazaribagh are not getting adequate supply of coal as it is not being distributed properly through the public Distribution System. As the Member of Parliament and the legislator of this area belong to the Bhartiya Janata Party, the District Administration of the area is not procuring adequate quantity of essential commodities to be distributed under the Public Distribution System just to tarnish the image of the Bhartiya Janata Party. Also the food Corporation of India in Bihar has been receiving its supplies from Maharashtra in spite of the fact that Uttar Pradesh is nearer to that State. I would, therefore, like to urge upon the Central Government to issue orders to the District Administration to provide all the essential commodities through the Public Distribution System to the people. It should be made available to all the people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW (Idukki):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to invite the attention of the Government to a very acute problem in Kerala. A very serious situation has arisen in the Adivasi, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes settlement areas of Kerala because of the severe drinking water problem posed by the recent drought. Even the water supply scheme assisted by the Central Government and the World Bank has remained totally disrupted and faulty. 18 irrigation projects cleared by the Central Government remain uncompleted for the last 25-30 years and 12 lakh hectares of land is thirsting for irrigation water from these projects.

The life of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and poor peasants is reeling under untold misery because of lack of water. I request the Government to intervene immediately and direct the State Government to do the needful.

SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA (Sambalpur): I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a serious situation which is taking place in a tribal village called Pabla stop a hill in Dhenkanal district. Some peculiar disease is spreading for the last so many days and months and it is affecting only the male members. It is apprehended that if this is allowed to continue, the whole village will be turned into a widow village very soon. The survey done by the primary health centre team sent by the State Government—though it is yet to be completed—has found that fever followed by diarrhoea is the cause of death. But the peculiarity of that is, it is only affecting the males and not females.

I urge upon the Government to take effective steps to send a medical team to examine the cause of such peculiar disease which is affecting only the males and remedy the situation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a submis-

[Sh. Guman Mal Lodha]

sion that Jagat Guru Shankaracharya
....(*Interruptions*)....

MR. SPEAKER: That has already been raised.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: If you allow me, I would like to say this thing only that 7th May has already passed and now there is no valid reason to arrest Shri Jagat Guru Shankaracharya. It is causing widespread resentment in the entire country because the place occupied by Jagat Guru Shankaracharya in our country is as significant as that of the Pope, so he should be released, It is in the interest of the State Government and the Central Government. The 7th May, the day Scheduled to lay the foundation stone of Ram Janam Bhoomi has already passed. So, now he should be released unconditionally.

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the ex-servicemen had placed some of their demands before the Prime Minister after the present Government came to power with a request to fulfil the same. Their main demand was to accept the principle of "one rank, one pension" and they also demanded a chance of re-employment in the services. Besides, they also demanded that the persons who have fought in the second world war, should also be given pension. The Prime Minister had stated that their demands would be met in the current Budget Session. I would, therefore, like our Prime Minister to make an announcement to that effect during the current Budget Session itself.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the negligent attitude of the Central Government towards West Bengal and Bihar, a scheme regarding major Railway route from Asansol to Mugal Sarai via Patna, has been pending for electrification for many years. Due to this, the working class of Bihar, particularly the State

Government employees of Bihar are always late to reach their offices and the students also get late to reach their schools and colleges. The ordinary public of that area also facing a great difficulty on that account. Therefore, I would urge the Government through you to undertake the work of electrification of this major railway route from Asansol to Mugal Sarai via Patna that has been pending for many years.

PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Technical consultancy Service was introduced by the Central Government to provide assistance to the industries in different States through the Industrial Development Bank of India and the provision of such Consultancy Services have been there in about 17-18 States, but now the Central Government has formulated a new scheme called SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) which obstructs the working of these Consultancy Services and as a result of it, the officers of the Small Scale Technical Consultancy Services have not been given their salaries for the last two months. I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the Government to this issue and suggest that the services of these officers may be utilised in the Small Industries Development Bank of India, as these persons include Chartered Accountants and highly qualified Engineers in the Consultancy Services so that salaries could be given to them in a systematic manner and on a regular basis.

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Dhanbad, Ranchi and Girdih are the important coal field areas under the Coal India in Bihar. The officers of the Coal India have reemployed the retired General Managers and Directors even after the stiff resistance of the Ministry of Energy and these people are busy swindling funds and there is a lot of bungling in the distribution of coal. Lakhs of rupees per month are being spent on these officers. I would like to urge upon the Government through you to conduct an investigation in this regard through the C.B.I. as bungling of lakhs of rupees have been taking place there.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you towards the grim power crisis in the State of Bihar, particularly in the North Bihar, where four crore people i.e. about half of the total population of that State have been residing. There are only two power generation units of 100 megawatt each. Last month, there was heavy hailstorm in that State which had damaged the crops of worth crores of rupees. The remaining crops that have survived, are not being harvested for the short supply of power and it seems that even the ensuring crops will get destroyed in future also. I would like to submit the Government through you that today the Government is worried about Kashmir because of persisting terrorist activities in that State. The Government is also worried about the eastern region of the country because that is also plagued by terrorist activities. I would like to tell you that the present grim power crisis in the State of Bihar has created a sense of terror among the people. I would like to appeal to the Central Government to intervene with the help of the neighbouring States in the matter and take steps to restore the normal power supply in the State of Bihar without any delay.

[English]

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): More than 10,000 persons are being trained and equipped in arms in POK i.e. Azad Kashmir. They are trying to infiltrate into this country and Ms Benazir Bhutto and the Generals of Pakistan have been supporting them blatantly to come to Kashmir. So I request the hon. Minister to make a statement on this.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you. I would like to invite the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the increasing dimensions of terrorist activities in Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Nainital districts of Bareilly division and the foothill region. A detailed article on it has appeared in the yesterday's newspapers published

from Bareilly such as Amar Ujala and Jagran. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Minister of Home Affairs that in these districts, two types of terrorists are operating, one such group of terrorists is of those who are demanding Khalistan and raising a lot of hue and cry in that State and the other group of terrorists which belongs to the National Mujahideens. Front has also reached there. So the people of this area are feeling very much scared. Recently i.e. only two three days back, a bomb was thrown at a legislator of the area. Fortunately, he escaped it as he had gone by some other train. As such, the wave of terrorism has gripped the entire country. I would like to request the Minister of Home Affairs to express his views about it and tell the House about the steps being taken by the Government in this regard.

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the World Bank has published a map of India without Jammu & Kashmir. This is a matter of great insult. This is a matter on which the House should stage a strong protest. This, I think, is not a single affair because as the House is aware some time back, the International Parliamentary Union had also published a map without Jammu & Kashmir. Of course, we stage our protest and then it was corrected. This is a matter in which we really suspect there is some hand of somebody, some vested persons. Therefore, I would pray that this House should take it very seriously and the Government should lodge a protest.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, a large number of social organisation working in Delhi as well as in Bombay have brought the sad plight of children who work as servants in the houses that they have been beaten, they have been used for sexual purposes and other misdeeds are being done. This is a very serious matter. This is the year of the Child. So, I request the hon. Home Minister to look into this serious allegation. I would also like to suggest that a discussion should be held in this House on this matter.

SHRI AJIT PANJA (Calcutta North East):
With due respect, I would like to submit that
I am always called at the last minute.

MR. SPEAKER: You gave the notice
after 10.30 a.m.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I gave it exactly at
10.30 a.m.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you can raise the
matter.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: The Central Gov-
ernment has formed a High-Powered Com-
mittee to go into the Education Policy. The
teachers are the backbone of our entire
country. The movement is going on regard-
ing retirement age of the teachers. From 65,
it is sought to be brought down to 60. Without
using ESMA, for which one hour was spent,
2000 teachers were arrested in the State of
West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: You have linked it with
West Bengal, Tell us about the entire coun-
try. You are raising a matter of vital impor-
tance, so why are you linking it with one State
only?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I say this because
they were arrested there. Within six months,
this High-Powered Committee is going to
give its report. Age of superannuation and
retirement of teachers and teaching staff is a
vital factor in our educational system, par-
ticularly, So far as our teachers are con-
cerned. So, let this issue be gone into by the
High-Powered Committee. Until the report is
presented, *Status quo* at 65 should be main-
tained. That is what I want to say.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

13.53 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

**Calcium Carbide amendment rules 1989,
annual report and review on the working
and the Cycle Corporation and India Ltd.
for 1988-89 and a Statement showing
reason for delay in laying the papers**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(CH JAGDEEP DHANKHAR) (On behalf of
shri Ajit Singh, the Minister of Industry): I
beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Calcium Carbide
(Amendment) Rules, 1989 (Hindi
and English versions) published
in Notification No. G.S.R. 109(E)
in Gazette of India dated the 2nd
March, 1990 under sub-section
(4) of section 29 of the Petroleum
Act, 1934. [Placed in Library *See*
No. LT-786/90]
- (2) A copy each of the following
papers (Hindi and English ver-
sions) under sub-section (1) of
section (1) of section 619A of the
Companies Act, 1956:-
 - (i) A statement regarding
Review by the Govern-
ment on the working of
the Cycle Corporation of
India Limited, Calcutta, for
the year 1988-89.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the
Cycle Corporation of In-
dia Limited, Calcutta, for
the year 1988-89 along
with Audited Accounts
and comments of the
Comptroller and Auditor
General thereon.
- (3) A Statement (Hindi and English

versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-786/90]

Annual reports and resources on the working of the Indian renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. New Delhi, and North Eastern electric power Corporation Ltd. Shillong for 1988-89 along with statements showing reasons for delay in laying these papers and detailed demands for grants of Ministry of Energy for 1990-91.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR) (On behalf of Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, The Minister of Energy and Minister of Civil Aviation): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-788/90]

(b) (i) Review by the Gov-

ernment on the working of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1988-89.

(ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong, for the year 1988-89 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-789/90]

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-788/90 and 789/90]

(3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Energy for 1990-91. [Placed in Library See No. LT-790/90]

Detailed Demand for Grant and The Ministry of Health and Family

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR) (On behalf of Shri Rasheed Masood, The Minister of State of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for 1990-91. [Placed in Library See No. LT-791/90]

Statements showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, prom-

ises and undertaking given by Ministries during various sessions of Lok Sabha.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR): Sir, I beg to

lay on the Table a copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha:-

- | | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| (1) | Statement No. XXII | Seventh Session, 1986 | } Eighth Lok Sabha |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-792/90] | | |
| (2) | Statement No. XXII | Eighth Session, 1987 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-793/90] | | |
| (3) | Statement No. XVIII | II Part of Eighth Session, 1987 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-794/90] | | |
| (4) | Statement No. XVII | Ninth Session, 1987 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-795/90] | | |
| (5) | Statement No. XV | Tenth Session, 1988 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-796/90] | | |
| (6) | Statement No. XI | Eleventh Session, 1988 | } Ninth Lok Sabha |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-797/90] | | |
| (7) | Statement No. VIII | Twelfth Session, 1988 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-798/90] | | |
| (8) | Statement No. XVIII | Thirteenth Session, 1989 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-799/90] | | |
| (9) | Statement No. IV | Fourteenth Session, 1989 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-800/90] | | |
| (10) | Statement No. II | First Session, 1989 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-801/90] | | |
| (11) | Statement No. I | Second Session, 1990 | |
| | [Placed in Library See No. LT-802/90] | | |

13.54 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.**

Recent spate of bomb blasts in Delhi

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up Calling Attention motion. Shri Kalp Nath Rai to raise it.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (Ghosi): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:-

"The recent spate of bomb blasts in Delhi resulting in deaths of innocent people and injuries to several others and the steps taken by the Government in regard thereto."

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): During the current year, six incidents of bomb blasts have taken place in Delhi. In these incidents, 12 persons died and 109 sustained injuries. Criminal cases have been registered in respect of all these incidents and they are under investigation.

Of these cases, three relate to bombs exploded in buses. The police authorities have taken measures to strengthen arrangements at bus depots and terminals. The DTC authorities have recently received the measures for curbing this menace in buses. They have laid down a drill which, among other things, stipulates that henceforth passengers would be permitted to carry only minimum baggage and that too on their person. No baggage would be permitted to be kept under the seat or elsewhere in the bus. The drivers and conductors have been

instructed to single out baggage on the floor and ascertain its ownership and call for the police as soon as any unclaimed baggage is detected in suspicious circumstances. The DTC authorities have also sought the cooperation of the commuters to inform the bus crew/policemen if something suspicious is found. They have been asked to raise an alarm if they notice unclaimed baggage, stop the bus and inform the DTC/Police Control Room.

The Commissioner of Police has also reviewed the measures to check recurrence of bomb explosions in a meeting held with senior Police officials on 1st May, 1990. The Commissioner emphasised the need to keep a close watch on the activities of known suspects; carry out house-to-house surveys in certain specific areas to check entrance in Delhi of strangers and suspicious persons; maintain close vigil at all public places where people tend to congregate and to intensive checking by patrol vans. The local police and patrol vans have been instructed to conduct random and thorough checking of houses.

I have held a meeting with senior officers of Administration, the police and the fire officials on 2nd May, 1990, to review the situation. Arrangements are being made for intelligence from various sources regarding the activities of suspects to be shared speedily. Action has been initiated to train the Police personnel in handling potentially explosive objects. The DTC staff has been instructed to undertake thorough checking of buses. The bomb disposal squad of the Delhi Police is being suitably augmented in view of the increase in the bomb blasts and a mini-laboratory would be set up for the Delhi Police for expeditious examination of the samples of explosives. It was also decided in this meeting to mount a publicity campaign on T.V., radio and in newspapers to create greater public awareness on this subject.

I take this opportunity to reiterate the Government's firm resolve to deal sternly with culprits perpetrating such deeds and would like to assure the House that all pos-

[Sh. Subodh Kant Sahay]

sible steps are being taken and will be taken to curb the menace of bomb blasts.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not at all satisfied with the statement given by the hon. Minister of state in the Ministry of Home Affair. So many incidents of bomb explosions have taken place. Recently a bomb exploded at the gate of Parliament House. Several incidents of bomb blasts took place at Delhi Railway Station in which many innocent people lost their lives. Bomb explosion took place on a bus coming from Chandigarh in which several innocent passengers were killed. Such incidents are not confined to Delhi, Kashmir and Punjab but just now as one of our friend was saying that terrorists and secessionists are also extending their activities in foot hill areas also. These forces are responsible for incidents of bomb blasts and the hon. Minister has said in his reply that the Government have asked the police commissioner and the police force to take action. There is nothing new in it.

14.00 hrs.

Are secessionists and communalist as and saboteurs not behind these incidents of bomb blasts? Secondly I would like to say that Pakistan is fighting an undeclared war with India and its Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto is saying that Pakistan would continue to fight a war with India for 1000 years. There are many ways to fight a war, such as by instigating the communal forces or encouraging the secessionist forces in the country (*Interruptions*)

PROF MAHADEO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, do we have quorum in the House?

14.01 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the quorum bell be rung.

14.03 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now there is quorum in the House. Mr. Kalp Nath Rai, please continue your speech.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Sir, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of State for Home Affair that on April 3, a bomb was hurled on a Ramnavami procession at Batala in which 36-40 people were killed. Then an incident of bomb blast took place at Panipat, in Delhi bomb was exploded in a Police Station and then a bomb exploded outside the House and within the premises of Parliament Bomb incidents are occurring in foothill area also. Incidents of bomb blast are taking place at Railway Station and Bus Stand in which innocent people are killed. People are not even sending their children to Schools in buses.

I would like to ask whether terrorists of Punjab and Kashmir are behind these bomb incidents? I am asking this because terrorists of Kashmir have taken the responsibility of bomb blast at Batala. Is there any conspiracy of foreign countries behind these incidents of bomb blast? The Hon. Prime Minister and the Government have accepted that training is being given to the terrorists at several places in Pakistan and these terrorists are imparting Training to the youth in India. They are trained in handling the arms. The Government says that it is happening in Punjab because of the large scale problem of unemployment but the problem of unemployment is also there in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The most developed and well to do State in India is Punjab. Is the Government thinking to take certain strong steps against these anti-national, anti-people and secessionist forces?

Secondly I would like to appeal to the leaders of all political parties whether they are occupying Treasury benches or sitting in the opposition to come together to protect the unity and integrity of the Country. You know that in Assam an organisation named 'ULFA' is involved in large scale killing in the State and wants status of an independent

country for Assam. In Manipur, 'Manipur Liberation Army' and in Tripura 'Tripura Liberation Army' are including in such activities. Yesterday, it was also heard in the House that the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu wants to create 'Dravidisthan' in connivance with LTTE. In this way an undeclared war is going on in North-eastern States, Tamilnadu, Punjab, Kashmir and in other parts of the country and foreign powers are doing all this. Therefore, incidents of bomb-blast are not ordinary incidents and it is not enough to ask Police Commissioner or Police personnel to enquire into the matter. I would like to know from the Government as to how many illegal bomb manufacturing factories have been unearthed? What are the views of the Government regarding those organisations who have owned responsibility of the bomb blasts? What has been revealed by the anti-national, anti-people and separatist elements who have been apprehended by the Government? Why the Government intelligence organisations are proving a failure in going advance information about these incidents and they have never, apprehend the culprits in advance. It is not an ordinary situation wherein the Government can just say that the Police has been instructed and steps are being taken. Innocent people are being killed, blood is being shed, anti-national forces have started on undeclared war and the foreign powers are escalating threat to our national integrity. Under such circumstances the entire nation and all political parties whether they are in treasury benches or in Opposition have to come together to think over the problem. These incidents of bomb blast should not be taken as ordinary incidents. All the political parties have to reach consensus and have to think over the threat posed to our national unity and integrity and rising trend of communalism.

Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing very clearly that it is an undeclared war such is being fought by the foreign powers. Kashmiris are migrating to Punjab and from Punjab to Delhi. Incidents of bomb-blasts are taking place in Delhi also and they are fleeing from Delhi to Rajasthan and foothill areas. Terrorists of Punjab and

Kashmir have also reached in foot hill areas. Today our national unity and integrity is in danger. Foreign powers want to destabilise and disintegrate our country and for this purpose they are spending crores of rupees. We won Bangladesh War and now a foreign power is getting impatient to take revenge to that. They want to destabilise the country by creating internal disturbance, lawlessness and external aggression. Today, the bomb explosions are taking place so frequently that now only this House is safe. Bomb-explosion took place inside the Police Station where security forces were present, it also took place at the gate of Parliament House and one day this news will come that a bomb-exploded inside the Lok Sabha Chamber. In which 40-50 MPs were killed. Shri Khuranaji, all of us are on the question of the unity and integrity of the country. We may be in ruling party or in opposition party but in democratic process we, all are one. We are all dedicated to the cause of national unity and integrity and communal harmony. It is a major problem before us. I am not less patriot than you. I have expressed my views and you should also express your views. I do not say that you should not express yourself. Being a citizen of the country I have said what I thought proper. The situation is serious, and taking into consideration the seriousness of the problem, the hon. Minister would take strong steps so that anti-national and anti-people forces may not succeed in their evil design.

[English]

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR (Quilon): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister's statement, I am afraid, is a bland and routine response to an extremely dangerous situation in which the internal security and the lives of our national capital have been totally compromised. In the last two months, 6 incidents of bomb blasts have taken place in Delhi, 12 persons have died and 109 have sustained injuries. This is a part of the overall scenario in which law and order has broken down in Jammu and Kashmir, in Punjab, in Assam, in Tamil Nadu, when a large array of terrorist organisations have held to the State

[Sh. S. Krishna Kumar]

administration and the people in the States to ransom. The failure on the law and order front within the nation is being reinforced by the external threat perception. We have read today that 10,000 Kashmiri youths have been trained in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and are poised to transgress into India to fan our their terrorist activities all over the country.

Four million is the number of people in Delhi who use the DTC and private transport. What is the response of the DTC to protect their lives in buses in Delhi which have become coffins-on-wheels? I am quoting from a circular of the DTC:

"Check the whole bus frequently. Deploy more officers and propagate slogans to create public awareness."

The steps which have been detailed in the Home Minister's statement are totally inadequate. It is a totally routine response to a highly alarming situation where steps should have been taken on a war-footing.

The Home Minister's statement misses one important aspect of the issue, namely the infiltration of the police force itself by saboteurs. The April 12 incident, in which two Delhi Police stations were subjected to bomb attacks, is symptomatic of this trend. Mr. Beant Singh, Sub-Inspector posted in the Deputy Commissioner's office and his son, who is a driver constable, have been identified as saboteurs. Now, we have the unenviable situation of having to police the police force. What is the response of the Home Ministry to this trend? The intelligence machinery has completely failed. What is the extra effort that is being made by the Government to strengthen the intelligence machinery, to police the police force, and to identify the infiltration of saboteurs into the police force of the country? Have you identified the sources as to from where the terrorists are coming? Statements by the police officers are extremely vague in this regard. A senior police officer is on record by saying that the police is totally not in a position to

respond to the threats of terrorists. The terrorists can strike anywhere in the capital at their will. But the police cannot control the situation. They have not yet identified the terrorists, whether it is JKLF or other terrorists from Assam. The response, as the Home Minister has stated, is that only criminal cases have been registered in respect of these incidents and they are under investigation. Buses are the soft targets now and they will identify further soft targets also. As soon as we become capable of facing the threats in DTC buses, they will identify some other soft targets as the intelligence and planning of the terrorists are of a much higher order and more sophisticated than the present capabilities of the Delhi Administration. I would urge upon the Hon. Minister to take up this matter on a war-footing and strengthen the police forces by giving them more sophisticated weapons. The Government should take preventive measures and not merely respond to the situation in a very routine manner, after the incident has taken place.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on going through the Hon'ble Minister's statement, I find that it is a routine type statement prepared by the officials. The hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs is a youngman and we hoped that he would bring out some new facts before the House. I have been hearing the same old replies ever since I became a member of the Metropolitan Council or even before that. What they usually say is that checking of buses will be done and security has been put on red alert in the city. Recent bomb blasts in Delhi, especially in the premises of two police stations is a very serious matter. The Delhi Police have been doing a commendable job and I do not want to make any aspersions against them. I cannot but appreciate them in view of the trying conditions under which they are working. But I would like to say something about the recruitment that has been made in Delhi Police during the last few years on political grounds. Some people have been recruited in Delhi

Police, who are anti-social elements and absconders. People from various parts of the country especially from Gurdaspur have been recruited in Delhi Police without verifying their past records. Some of them were facing cases of dacoity, kidnapping and robbery, but their records do not speak anything about it. A screening was undertaken following the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I do not blame the entire Police Force in Delhi but the Government should keep a close watch on suspected persons in the Police and action should be taken against them after going through their records. As the Police Force of Delhi is not answerable to the people of Delhi, it has no link with the people. A meeting was convened by the Government on 2nd May. It has always been the practice that all the M.P.'s of Delhi are invited to such meetings, but they were not invited to the said meeting. The representatives of Delhi Police will tell the Government that such and such steps have been taken by them, but it is we who know the seriousness of the problem and that is why we were not invited because they might not have been in a position to reply to our questions. In future the M.P.'s of Delhi should also be invited to the meetings called for reviewing the law and order situation in Delhi. There is a lack of coordination between different intelligence agencies of the Government. When the Intelligence Agency of Delhi was aware that terrorists from Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir have entered Delhi, what action and precautionary measures were taken by Delhi Police? I want to reveal a fact about the transistor bomb blast which took place in the year 1985 and in which 45 persons died and more than 100 sustained injuries. This bomb blast incident took place on 10.11.1985. Five years have since passed, but the trail in this cases has not yet started. The Magistrates are scared as the criminals have jumped bails. According to my information a few days ago a meeting was held by the accused of the transistor bomb blast case inside one of the Gurdwaras in Delhi in which they discussed Khalistan. The Government should get the report of all these activities through the Intelligence Agency. Therefore, my submission is that the trial of

these cases which has been held up for the last five years, should be started soon.

14.21 hrs.

[SHRI JASWANT SINGH *in the Chair*]

Let me cite an example. There is a well-known Magistrate of Delhi who is very honest and noble man. The trial of bomb blast cases is pending in his court. Police Guard has been provided to him but he has not been provided with a vehicle. He travels on his scooter and three guards escort him. This is the situation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit through you that five years ago a Bomb Disposal Squad was formed on adhoc-basis. Its strength should be increased. If information about the bomb is received from four different places, the concerned A.C.P. is not able to depute the staff to all the spots because he has several other works also to do. Therefore, separate In-charge should be appointed for this purpose. It has been stated that R. D. F. explosive has been found in these bombs, that is very dangerous and can be very harmful. It has been smuggled from Pakistan and other foreign countries, which has been found by the Delhi Police. The terrorists have got sophisticated and modern weapons and Delhi Police has not been provided with such sophisticated weapons and the Bomb disposal squad that we have in adhoc. The concerned file is pending with the Ministry of Home Affairs. I want to say that a Bomb Disposal Squad should be formed in all the districts of Delhi so that such activities could be controlled. XYZ

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a very interesting point. The total staff strength of Crime Branch, Railway Police and Traffic Police continues to be the same as it was in the year 1968. At that time the population of Delhi was 33-35 lakhs which has now risen to 90 lakhs and, therefore, the staff strength must be increased. I would like to congratulate the Crime Branch of Delhi Police for detecting so many cases. But its staff strength has not been increased. The same is true of

[Sh. Madan Lal Khurana]

Traffic Police. Khosla Commission was set up in the year 1968, but the report of this Commission has not been implemented yet. I want that it should be implemented. In the end, one more point that I would like to make is that security at the vital installations, such as Power Stations, Hospitals, Telephone Exchanges, T.V. Station, All India Radio, and Airports in Delhi should be tightened and the strength of the security staff should also be increased. Besides, I would like to say that the files which remain pending with the Ministry of Home Affairs should be disposed off quickly and the proposal for augmenting the strength of Delhi Police, especially the Bomb Disposal Squad should be cleared. As I stated earlier, the performance of Delhi Police has been commendable but sophisticated weapons and latest equipment should be provided to them, so that they could match the terrorists squarely. If this is done, I think, Delhi Police will be successful in their efforts. That is all I want to say.

SHRIPRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of State of Home Affairs is a young Minister and so am I. We hoped that while replying to the Calling Attention, he would not toe the old line. But we can understand his compulsions. He did not deviate from the old line and simply read out the reply he received from his officials. We hope that next time when he comes in the House to reply to the discussion etc. he will reply to each and every issue on his own. During the last few days, six incidents took place in Delhi one after the other in which 12 persons were killed and 109 sustained injuries. In his reply the hon. Minister has simply stated that cases have been registered against the guilty. Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have not come to the House to get such a reply from the hon. Minister. The people who have elected us want that we should bring about a change in the entire system. People want to bring a change in the country. If such a reply was to be given, then what was the need for us to come to this House. Had he said in his reply that out of these 6 incidents, the persons

responsible for two incidents have been caught, we could have understood it, but it was not so. Mr. Chairman, Sir, our country has always been following the principle of non-violence propounded by Mahatma Gandhi. But when we try to trace the origin of these incidents of bomb blasts, we fail to understand how such incidents could take place in our country. These incidents started from Punjab and the State has been the scene of bomb blasts and other incidents which has become matter of daily occurrence. The situation in Punjab has not been controlled and news reports of such incidents have started coming from other states also. How is it possible that criminals commit crimes and cross over to the other country. The same situation has been created in Kashmir also and it has become a matter of daily occurrence there. Our State Gujarat is no exception. Stray incidents of bomb blasts have been taking place there also for the last several years. Incidents of bomb explosion occurred last week in Baroda city which I represent. What happens is that F.I.R. is registered following the occurrence of the incident and then it is said that the matter is being investigated. This process continues for several years and then a day comes when we forget the incident. In the meantime, some other incident takes place and again the same procedure is repeated. I fully agree with Shri M.L. Khurana on the point that the population of Delhi has been increasing continuously and the strength of Delhi Police has not increased in that proportion. It should be increased immediately. People of this country have always believed in non-violence, they want to live in peace. Then why the number of terrorists is increasing in our country? I want that the strength of the Police Force in the entire country should be increased. Let me tell you the position in respect of different units of Police Force. In Gujarat the post of the officer of Special Branch (Crime) is vacant for a long time. When there is no officer in the Branch, how the staff can work there? Recently, a case of bomb making has come to light in Jaipur where some people have been arrested, but no headway has been made so far with regard to their links. I want that a thorough

enquiry should be conducted into these incidents. Having said all this, I would like to get information broadly on four points, which are as under:-

[English]

1. Why Central Intelligence Bureau is not being entrusted with a job to find out the places where manufacture of bombs is taking place?
2. Why coordination force is not being formed to coordinate the Intelligence and Police Departments of various States in strengthening and apprehending the culprits?
3. What is the reason that even not a single person has been apprehended so far in all the bomb cases?
4. Why steps are not being taken to apprehend the foreigners who have been overstaying in India and who are found indulging in spy activities?

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government should consider these points seriously. I want that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs while replying to this discussion, should clearly spell out the policy of the Government for he too has come to the House as a result of the same movement by virtue of which we are here. Today, the people want change in the system. The guilty officers apprehended in the bomb manufacturing cases should be awarded deterrent punishment under Indian Penal Code so that the persons who indulge in subversive activities are taught a lesson that indulging in such activities is risky. With these words, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to express my views.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): I should have called Prof. Kurien earlier, because his name is listed earlier but because of my mistake it could not be done.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (MAVELIKARA): Whenever it is a mistake of the Chair, it is always forgiven. Anyway, thank you for calling me now.

I would only like to raise some questions. I don't want to repeat what my friends have already referred to. First of all I would like to say that in the reply given by the Minister the term used is as 'Criminal incidents.' They are not to be viewed as just criminal incidents. These are acts by the terrorists. So, I would like to know from the Minister whether-without coming to the conclusion that these are just criminal incidents or terrorists are behind these bomb blasts—they will identify it correctly. Have you identified some terrorists' organisations working behind these incidents? In that case, could you give me the details? Some newspapers have already reported that some terrorists are behind this. *The Hindustan Times* had reported that BTFK is behind the Delhi blasts. Such reports are there. I would like to know the Government's reaction on this.

Secondly, connivance with the police has also been reported. Now, it is reported in the newspaper that one S.I. has been arrested in this regard also. I would like to know whether some inquiry has been made into this aspect. To what extent our police forces have been infiltrated by terrorists or the supporters of terrorists? What is the result of the inquiry. What action has been taken to see that the police force is devoid of such anti-national extremists elements?

Thirdly, the repeated blasts speak volumes in the intelligence failure. I would like to know whether, our intelligence agencies had reported about these incidents earlier. If not, it amounts to a failure on the part of the

[Prof. P.J. Kurien]

intelligence. In this regard, whatever you can divulge in this House, you kindly do that. If not, will you take steps to strengthen the intelligence agencies so that such incidents can be prevented?

Unfortunately, buses have become the most soft targets. A number of blasts have taken place in the buses and innocent people are killed. Everyday thousands of commuters are travelling in the buses. They all feel unsafe. So, this is an area, it may not be 100 per cent possible to prevent an attack—these are soft targets which should be specially taken care of and steps should be taken to avoid these incidents. I have seen steps taken by the Government in this regard. The hon. Minister has narrated them. I feel that they are quite inadequate. They are not adequate to cope with the alarming situation. Therefore, what concrete steps are being taken by the Government to ensure that such blasts does not take place in the buses which have become the most soft and possible targets for the terrorists? I think, it is not difficult. Some screening in each bus or some special training to the conductors and also some kind of educating devise in the buses should be provided. Couple with all these, the problem of bomb blasts in the buses can be avoided. That is what I feel. So, I would like to know from the Minister what concrete steps are being taken in this regard.

Basically, I should say, it is a failure of the Government, lack of vigilance on the part of the Government, when the Congress Government was in power, the then Opposition said: "It is a failure of the Government." Now, you cannot say and get away by saying: "During Congress regime also these things have happened. So, it will happen now also." You cannot say like that and get away with that. I am not trying to bring here statistics to show that the number of blasts over this period has increased. The extremists activities have increased everywhere. I am not bringing in statistics but it is a reality. I do not want to score a point before you. But

the reality is that the extremists activities whether in Punjab or in Kashmir or the activities in Delhi, including bomb blasts, have increased in number.

That is a hard reality. It amounts to the total failure of the government, especially of the Home Ministry. So, what is needed is that we have to tackle this problem of extremism at a higher level; whether it is in Delhi or elsewhere. What concrete steps are you taking in this regard? I hope the Minister will be kind enough to give a concrete and positive answer to my questions.

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODHKANT SAHAY): The hon. Speaker Sir, the hon'ble Member who initiated the discussion asked the steps being taken by the Government keeping in view the prevailing situation in the country and the announcement made by Pakistan. By observing the incidents taken place in Delhi, Punjab and Kashmir, it seems that all these issues are interlinked. I believe that when the Government changed, the aspirations of the people also changed and the extremist forces, which were active for the last ten years in the country, have also started their disruptive activities with renewed vigour. When we took stern action in Punjab and Kashmir; where there was no Government worth the name, and tried to stabilise the administration, these forces tried to shift their activities to Delhi and therefore, I do not want to deny their links with those incidents. Such forces are trying to start their activities in Delhi. But I am sure that the Delhi Police, which is quite strong and capable in comparison to other police forces of the country, will deal with these people sternly. Several members have said that a number of incidents have occurred and I know that hon. Members have raised many questions and had I answered all the questions in the statement itself, time would have been saved and could have been utilised more usefully. In spite of this, several questions have been raised. I want to tell you that from 1987 till date 20 cases of

bomb blast, including incidents occurred in police stations, have occurred in Delhi in which 31 people lost their lives and 285 have been injured. 20 cases have been registered out of which 7 cases are still pending in the courts, 5 are under investigation and 8 cases still remain unidentified. The police and intelligence personnel suspect two non-terrorist persons in connection with the incidents occurred in Delhi Police Stations. One A.S.I., Beant Singh has been arrested and three more persons have also been identified who are still absconding. Two persons by the name of Gurjbir Singh and Mangal Singh, who were involved in earlier bomb blast case in a D.T.C. bus also, have not been nabbed so far. But the police has identified them. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the police has taken various precautionary measures too. It has also been announced that a sum of Rs. 50,000 will be paid as reward to the persons who gives information leading to their arrest. Photographs of Mangal Singh and Gurjbir Singh have also been published in the newspapers. A close watch is being kept on them. The activities of suspected persons are also being closely watched. Three bomb inspectors have been appointed who are working as a bomb squad. 9 bomb black cats are also being included in the force for defusing bombs at various places. The amount of assistance in respect the persons who have lost their lives or have been seriously injured or have suffered minor injury in these incidents have been fixed at Rs. 50,000, Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 3,000 respectively.

Shri Khurana has said that the training should be imparted to Delhi Police personnel. The Commissioner of Police has set up a Committee. The Committee will look into the case of any such person on whom there is even slight suspicion of involvement in such activities. The Committee constituted in this regard is likely to submit its recommendations shortly and action is being taken in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Intelligence Department personnel are in touch with officials of every State. The personnel of Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jammu and Ka-

shmir, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. exchange their views which is a continuous process. The police force of other States have been asked to remain alert keeping in view the incidents occurred in Delhi. I feel that these incidents will not stop with the action taken by the police. We feel very sorry for those persons, who have to suffered because of these incidents. When life of even former Prime Minister of the country has not been spared by the terrorists then nothing more shameful than this can happen. That is why we have strengthened Delhi Police and taken all these precautionary measures. Earlier there were 30,000 personnel in Delhi Police, now their number has been raised to 50,000. As I stated earlier that Delhi Police force is the largest force of the country. It has 700 vehicles, three new police districts and 30 police stations have been established. This has been done for strengthening the security of Delhi.

Keeping in view all these aspects I hope that the serious matter to which the august House wanted to draw the attention of the Government and considering its seriousness whatever suggestions the hon. Members have given(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARIF BEG (Betul): Why bomb Squad has not been strengthened?

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Three bomb Squads have been established. 9 bomb black cats have been appointed which are posted with bomb Squads and one bomb black cat will be posted in each district. Whenever the discussion will be held on the law and order situation in Delhi all the hon. Members from Delhi will be invited in it. I would like to give an assurance that the Government will take measures to impart training to the drivers and conductors of D.T.C. buses because the police cannot check every bus. The driver and conductors too should be able to cope with an emergency. I hope that we will be able to deal with the challenge of extremists.

14.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to take up the question of Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees with Sri Lankan Government to check their influx into Malkangiri in Koraput District of Orissa**

[English]

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): As reported, the Sri Lankan Tamils who deserted Sri Lanka during the month of March, wanted to take shelter in Tamil Nadu but as the Tamil Nadu Government did not give them shelter they have been taken to Malkangiri in Koraput District of Orissa and kept in two places. It is further reported that they are in possession of dreadful arms and ammunition with them. This area of Malkangiri was previously inhabited by very simple backward Tribals and in 1962 onwards refugees of the then East Pakistan were brought in and settled there after clearing the dense jungles. The local tribals who are the poorest of the poor, are still living in that condition. There was rivalry among the Tribals and settlers for some time. The situation in Sri Lanka is such that many more Sri Lankan Tamils may reach here at any time. Malkangiri is a part of Scheduled Area of this country and was full of forest useful for the survival of the Tribals and that has been cleared almost fully adding to the ecological problems. If more and more refugees are settled there, it would create law and order problems in that peaceful area.

I draw the attention of the Minister of external Affairs to take up this matter with the Government of Sri Lanka to bring the situation to normal so that more refugees from there may not come to Malkangiri or any other place in India and those who have deserted Sri Lanka might return back to their homeland as early as possible.

- (ii) **Need to clear various Pending Projects for Promotion of Tourism in Gujarat State**

SHRIPRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Gujarat has tremendous tourist potential both domestic as well as international. Gujarat has rich heritage in terms of archaeological monuments, handicrafts, arts, exquisite wildlife, undisturbed beaches, important places of pilgrimage, hills and colourful fairs and festivals. More than 40 lakh domestic tourists visit the State annually. More than 25,000 international tourists visit the State every year. Tourism has been recognised as a thrust area of development on account of its proved potential for generating income and employment in the country.

Government of Gujarat has identified various important places of tourist interest and submitted various proposals to Government of India. Proposals worth Rs. 516 lakhs for the year 1988-89, Rs. 697 lakh for the year 1989-90, and 606 lakhs for the year 1990-91, are pending for financial assistance from Government of India. These projects are classified into three categories viz. hotel and amusement parks, wayside amenities and Yatri Nivas.

In order to promote tourism effectively, I request the Government to approve the pending projects immediately.

- (iii) **Need to convert metre gauge railway line between Delhi and Ahmedabad into broad gauge**

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Ajmer is a city of historical, religious and cultural importance having international fame. It is a confluence of all religions. The Dargah Sharif of Khwaja Mohiyuddin Chishti is situated there along with the famous pilgrim spot of Hindus-Pushkar. Every year lakhs of people enjoy the fruit of virtue by going there on pilgrimage. It is the place of salvation of the founder of Arya

Samaj, Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati. The top leaders of the country offer their prayers and have blessings at Dargah Sharif and temple of Brahmaji. The famous Mayo college and other educational institutions are also situated there where people come for studies. There are many tourist spots like Akbar Fort, Magazine, Aana Sagar, Adhai Din Ka Jhompra, Nasian etc. But it is very unfortunate that although it is a central place of Rajasthan, it is not connected with broad gauge railway line. As a result thereof lakhs of passengers have to face inconvenience in travelling. The city is lagging behind in the economic and industrial field as it is not linked with broad gauge line. Big industries are not being established there. Therefore, Ajmer should be linked with broad gauge line immediately for its all round development. The long awaited and pending Delhi-Ahmedabad meter gauge line (via Rewari-Alwar-Jaipur-Phulera-Ajmer-Beawar-Marwar Junction-Abu Road-Mehsana) immediately so that long awaited aspirations of the people could be fulfilled and Rajasthan may also get rid of its backwardness.

- (iv) **Need for reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in all fields of activities**

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people have reservations in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and Government services, but basic changes in the social and academic life of the Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes people cannot be brought about with mere reservations. The local bodies are the base of democracy. They do not have any representation on the posts of Chairman, Zila Parishad, Municipal Committee, Town Area Committee and Block Pramukh. In order to get representation in Legislative Councils and Rajya Sabha, they have to depend on political parties. Their representation on the posts of the Governors, the High Commissioners, the Ambassadors and Vice Chancellors is negligible. There is no reservation for them in the Semi-Government institutions either. The Hindu Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

cannot become priests or heads of Mathas because of Varna System. There should be reservations in the Semi-Government posts and amendment should be carried out in Hindu laws for making reservations for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for priests and heads of Mathas. The quota fixed earlier in the services for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes should be filled in immediately. It will bring extensive social and academic changes in the life of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I would like to request the Government that the constitution and law should be amended immediately to ensure reservation in all fields of activities.

[English]

- (v) **Need to take steps to enable Northern Districts of Malabar to receive Malayalam Programmes from Trivandrum Doordarshan**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): The people of Cannanore, Kasargod, Wyanad and parts of Calicut districts of Malabar have been eagerly looking forward to receiving Malayalam programmes being telecast by Doordarshan Kendra of Trivandrum. While other parts of Kerala have long since been fortunate in enjoying regional programmes being telecast by Trivandrum Doordarshan, these areas in Malabar are deprived of this opportunity. Time and again the matter has been represented but no positive steps have been taken although assurances have been made in this connection. Events and happenings in Malabar area are not being covered by programmes of Trivandrum Doordarshan. Programmes on Trivandrum Doordarshan are mostly confined to southern districts.

It is, therefore, my earnest request that immediate steps may be taken to enable the four northern most districts of Malabar to receive Malayalam programmes from Trivandrum and the ensure that Trivandrum Doordarshan gives due coverage to events and incidents occurring in Malabar area.

(vi) Need to Give stringent Punishment to People violating Provisions of Child Marriage laws

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Visakhapatnam): Thousands of child marriages, in gross violation of the Sharda Act were solemnised in various parts of Rajasthan recently. This archaic and reprehensible practice, is appalling, 1990 has been declared the SAARC year of the girl child. It is ironic that during this year the Government should remain silent on such social evils. If Indian women are to be given their place in society and a life of dignity, if the year of the girl-child has to have any true meaning the Government must abolish and eradicate these social evils, and penalise those violating the child marriage Laws and Sharda Act. Simultaneously the Government must launch social awareness campaigns to drive home the negative aspect of this social evil to persuade people to abandon these practices.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to construct Railway Line between Satna and Rewa in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): In May, 1984 the then Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of the railway line to be constructed between Satna to Rewa (51km) in Madhya Pradesh but even after the passage of six years since then, the construction of railway line has not been started so far. For want of railway services, this region has not seen the light of development. Despite the availability of lime stone, bauxite, coal and forest wealth, it has not been possible to set up industries in this region because there is no provision of railway lines in this area. In 1956, the State Reorganisation Commission in their report had also recommended the construction of a railway line in this region. But even after a long period of 34 years of this recommendation, the railway lines have not been constructed there.

The average per capita income in Rewa Division is the lowest in the country. Unemployed youth find no opportunities for employment.

Therefore I would like to urge upon the Government to take measures to complete the construction of the railway line between Satna and Rewa by the year 1991.

(viii) Need to construct an overbridge over Railway Bridge on Kamla Balan river near Jhanjharpur in Madhubani District of Bihar

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): There is an old railway bridge over Kamla Balan river under the Eastern Railway near Jhanjharpur in Madhubani district of Bihar. Even after 42 years of our independence it is the only bridge in the region on which besides the movement of trains all the vehicles like buses, taxi and rikshaws ply. A little negligence can cause a major rail accident which may result in a heavy loss of life and property. It is a very important road because this is the only road which passes through this railway bridge and leads to Nepal. When the Gumiti is closed, road traffic comes to a standstill for hours together which results in lot of hardships to the passengers as they are not in a position to reach the place of their destination in time. To keep this bridge in its existing condition is not in the interest of the National security.

So, in view of the imminent threat to the security of the country and the hazard it poses to the life and property of the common man and the obstruction in the smooth movement of passenger traffic, I would like to urge upon the government to get an overbridge constructed at the earliest on Kamla Balan river near Jhanjharpur.

14.59 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GGENERAL)
1990-91

Ministry of water Resources
and
Ministry of Agriculture *CONTD.*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We now go on to the combined further discussion and voting on Demands for Grants No. 78 and Nos. 1 to 5, under the control of the Ministries of Water Resources and Agriculture respectively. Hon. Shri Prem Paradeep.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PREM PRADEEP (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, irrigation is a national problem in our country. Since the country got independence, a number of five year plans have been implemented. But we see that implementation of irrigation projects is very slow. Had it not been so, we would not have had to import foodgrains from other countries.

15.00 hrs.

If we look at the geographical situation of the country, we find that there are certain areas which have a very heavy rainfall while a few others continue to reel under drought. In respect of the areas with a heavy rainfall and flood proneness, we can chalk out plans to construct dams with a view to conserve excessive water to exploit it for power generation and to solve the problem of irrigation. And also the surplus water may be made available in these drought prone areas of the states like Rajasthan. Today we are living in a scientific age when man has succeeded in his mission of landing on the moon, so we do not have any reason which may hamper our efforts aimed at the utilization of rain water with the implementation of various projects and diverting the water to the drought hit areas. We should think upon it seriously. We can seek the guidance of other countries in

this regard. During our childhood days we used to read in our Geography books that Hunangaho river in China and Kosi in Bihar are the source of serious disasters. Over these years China has controlled the wrath of Hunangaho river to exploit it for power generation and for irrigation purposes and this they have converted this bane into a boon. China got her independence only after India had got it but in India we have not been able to achieve that end. In India every body is aware of the disasters and heavy loss of life and property worth crores of rupees caused by the rivers in North Bihar and this country has to bear that heavy loss. We should see to it if our country can also convert this bane into a boon.

I would like to quote some statistical figures which have been collected not by me but by the Government itself. As per these statics the total irrigation capacity available in the country is about 113 million hectares out of which 73 million hectares is based on surface water resources while 40 million hectares capacity is based on ground water resources, against our earlier irrigation potential of 22.6 million hectares at the initial stage of our development in 1951. With our production of foodgrains standing at the level of about 51 million tonnes which we find and agree that it was quite inadequate. It was for that reason that we emphasised the need of developing our irrigation potential through the exploitation of more surface and ground water resources, and they say that they have made a tremendous progress in the development of our irrigation resources. And the figures make it clear what progress we have made in respect of Irrigation capacity. By the end of the Seventh Five year Plan we expect to touch the mark of about 89 million hectares. That is the detailed position in respect of our country.

My submission is that with the tardy progress we cannot become self reliant in foodgrains. In this scientific age if man can reach the moon and create such disastrous weapons which can destroy a country within a few minutes, is it justified that we curse ourselves for our population explosion. If our

[Sh. Prem Pradeep]

scientists pay some attention to this problem, they can match the production of food grains with the growth rate of our population to cater to their requirements of foodgrains. Being it so I would like to suggest that dams should be constructed on the rivers for power generation. Oh, the bell has gone. Now I will take just 2-3 minutes.

I represent Nawada district which is a draught prone area with no provision of irrigation facilities. In this regard I would like to submit that the then Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh had laid the foundation stone of Upper Sakari Reservoir Project on 20.10.84. But that scheme has been kept pending to this day. In case this project is implemented it would enable us to create an irrigation potential which will fulfil requirements not only of Nawada district but also of the vast area of about one lakh and fifty thousand acres of land. It includes the area of Nawada district and two development blocks of Nalanda district namely Giriak and Asthayan. Besides, Sikandra, Barbigha, Chatra, Aruyari of Munger district would also have irrigated land. Nawada is a drought prone and rocky area with a highly uneven land. The farmers of this region depend entirely on rains. At present they are facing acute water and power crises. Recently I was on a visit to that region and have returned on the 30th of this month. That district gets a meagre power supply of only 2 MW. So there is an acute scarcity of power and drinking water. If this scheme viz. Upper Sakri Yojna is implemented it will create an additional power potential of 250MW capacity over and above the existing irrigation which may cater to the requirements of a number of districts. I would like urge upon the Government to include it in the Eighth Plan. The work on another project namely the Tilayyya Dhadhihar Aparan Yojana was in progress but now it is lying incomplete. In fact we are not getting the required funds. However the Government of Bihar has made a false claim that they would be completing the scheme by the year 1992. How is it possible because when I met the engineers

in this regard and talked to them on it they said that the funds provided to them are adequate only to meet the salary obligations of the staff and the remaining nominal amount is utilised on petty jobs. They have assured us that if they get the entire funds in a lumpsum, they may be able to complete the project within the stipulated period. However, I would like to make a submission to you that government should pay their attention to the schemes as have been lying incomplete due to financial constraints. There may be a large number of such schemes.

I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY (Kesarganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture. I also thank the present Government for its resolution to garner more resources for agriculture and for the development of villages.

It is a coincidence that discussion on both the Agriculture Ministry and Ministry of Water Resources is being held simultaneously. Although, they should be kept together, but due to some reasons, both the Ministries have been kept separate. Without water agriculture is not possible. I think that only by visiting the villages, one can see the development that has taken place which in comparison to the expenditure which has been incurred in the name of rural development is negligible. Development has not taken place in accordance with the expenditure. The reasons are very clear. In my opinion, there is a conspiracy of the vested interests and some classes.

I remember that the former Prime Minister had admitted in one of his speeches that even 10 per cent of the money allotted for rural development does not reach the poor and backward in the villages. He himself accepted this. I hope that the present Government will be successful in checking these irregularities and the funds allotted for rural development and agriculture will actu-

ally reach the villages. But even today we talk of the vicious circle. There is a conspiracy. I would like to point out what has happened during the last three months. By the time elections were over, the Kharif crops had already come in the market. As soon as, the new Government assumed office, prices of kharif crops started falling throughout the country. It is true that the Government had just assumed office. But under what circumstances had it assumed office or what type of set up it had? It is true that the Government was not able to check the price-rise within so little time. As per my information, the prices of paddy, Bajra, Jawar, Maize and Ragi crops were continuously falling till the end of March. But there was constant rise in prices of commodities like steel, cement, bricks, cloth and medicines which even the farmers need. So, where on one hand, there was fall in price of agricultural production on the other hand, prices of essential commodities increased. What was the reason behind it? Can the present Government be blamed for this? I think it will not be correct to say that only Government is to be blamed for all this. The same people and vested interests are involved who have been pocketing the money allotted for farmers, so that the Government can be maligned. They want to create conditions so that in the next three months the farmers feel that this Government has failed in fulfilling the promises. Another problem that is before us because of following the footsteps of the opposition or the foreign countries is that in the name of development more destruction than benefit has been caused. Big dams and big and small tanks have been constructed, but they have caused more problems of seepage than the irrigation facilities they have provided. Besides the rising level of ground water coupled with salinity has posed yet another problem. Many types of foodgrains, crops, vegetables and fruits are produced by the farmers in their fields. Tomatoes are produced by the farmers, but tomato sauce is manufactured by multi-national companies and food processing industries. The farmer does not get remunerative price, but the big companies earn lot and construct palatial buildings for themselves. It appears to me that with the

entry of these multi-national companies, the farmer will become a bonded labourer of these companies. He will produce according to the wishes of the company. Some time ago, there was a drive for plantation of trees in the entire country. But which trees were planted? Eucalyptus and popular trees were planted.

15.19 hrs.

[SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*]

Why? So that the match box and paper mills can be run. What will be the participation of farmers in it? I would like to quote an example in this regard. There was a special drive for plantation of trees in Thailand some time back, but now the farmers and rural people are axing down the Eucalyptus trees. They say that it is destroying their agricultural land. Similarly, there are many other things. For the production of soaps in the factories, the oilseed crops will have to be produced. Mint is an essential component in medicines. Japanese cultivation system has to be adopted for producing mint. This is also a vicious circle. Our Government should pay special attention towards this and take effective steps to check this trend.

So far as the question of agriculture and agricultural labourer is concerned, five components are mainly essential (1) land (2) quality seeds (3) fertilizers (4) irrigation facility and (5) arrangements for protection and storage of his crops. So far as the question of land is concerned, already there are a lot of laws regarding land reforms in the country and are being formulated from time to time. I would like to thank this Government once again for including the land reforms in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution, which has made them more broad and effective. There are mainly three types of holdings in our country small holdings, medium holdings and large holdings. Now we have to see how they can become economic holdings. Even a small holding can be economically viable in comparison to a large holding. Undoubtedly, a farmer can neither feed his

[Sh. Rudrasen Chaudhary]

family properly on a small holding, nor he can think of becoming prosperous. The Government has to pay attention towards removing unemployment and under employment and it will have to promote small industries whether it is dairies, fisheries and other cottage industries in the country. It is necessary to built the infrastructure for rural development.

Then, comes the question of quality seeds. I have got a printed copy of the Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture, in which data regarding seeds has been given. But it is not clear from these figures whether any estimate has been ever made regarding the total requirement of seeds in the country. I have checked the report thoroughly, but couldn't find any such information. When no estimate has been made regarding the requirement of the entire country, I don't understand how the requirement will be met with. It is certain that quality seeds are produced in many parts of the country. There is a lot of production of breeder seeds and certified seeds. But we are not aware of the actual demand for the entire country. So far as the question of Indian seeds is concerned, I know and it has also been mentioned in the report that there is a great demand of Indian seeds in foreign countries. There is another thing which is linked with it. As I am a farmer myself, I am aware of the rampant corruption, which is there all the levels, that is, from the production of seed to its selling in the country. Corruption is there in production as well as in distribution also. The Government has to take effective steps in this regard. Otherwise, where on one hand, the farmer incurs loss, on the other there is shortfall in agricultural production due to the use of substandard seeds.

The third question is related to fertilizers. At the time of elections in November, sowing season for Rabi crops was in progress in the entire Uttar Pradesh. But there was acute shortage of D.A.P. that is, Di Ammonium Phosphate and complex fertilizer N.P.K. The farmers raised a lot of hue

and cry. Farmers used to gather around the shops and had to wait there for two three days.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request the hon. Member that his time is over.

SHRI RUDRASEN CHAUDHARY: If my time has finished, I will just conclude. As a farmer, when I tried to get the information, I came to know that the previous Government had failed to import the phosphoric acid between January and June, which is necessary for the manufacture of Di-Ammonium Phosphate. As a result seven units closed down and due to that, there was shortage in November, and the farmers had to suffer huge loss. The loss was that the farmers had to run from pillar to post and a single bag of super phosphate, worth Rs. 46 was sold at Rs. 200 by these corrupt people. As the farmers are ignorant, they didn't know which fertilizer they were using. This is why I made a request at in the last Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture that some particular colour should be given to the D.A.P. and N.P.K. fertilizers, so that the farmers are aware of the fertilizer they are using.

Madam Chairman, a programme of intensive agricultural production has been formulated. It is because of that we have become self reliant in foodgrains. But today it seems the farmers is no longer interested in these programmes. It appears so because instead of increasing the production, has become stagnant or rather decreasing. Indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizer in one of the factors for it. It has affected the fertility of the soil. Particularly there is shortage of zinc and surplus. The demand of zinc has increased in the country. 80 thousand to one lakh tonnes of zinc is required in the country. Whereas only 40,000 tonnes were being produced and supplied. To provide stability to this programme so that the country remains self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains, the Ministry of Agriculture should make efforts to provide expertise to the farmers about the minerals and fertilizers should be easily made available to them. Madam Chairman, with these words, I thank you for

giving me time to speak and would like to request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards my suggestions.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL (Faridabad): Madam Chairman, a discussion on the Demands for Grants of both the Ministries of Agriculture and the Ministry of Water Resources is taking place. Both Ministries are of great importance as they are vital to the country's economy. Madam, you may be aware of the great progress the country has made in the fields of Agriculture and Water Resources in the past 42 years (*Interruptions*).... Truth should be accepted as truth. Sarcastic remarks like 'Aah' would not do. (*Interruptions*)....

How will it work, if you are not even prepared to listen to the truth? Do you mean to say that no advancement has taken place in the past 40 years? (*Interruptions*)....

Madam, before independence, people did not have adequate clothes to protect themselves from the vagaries of nature, they did not have food enough to keep their body and soul together. People used to die of starvation, but since independence the country has progressed so much that today no one dies of starvation and still you are saying that no progress has taken place. You know very well that as soon as our first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru assumed office, he felt that we would not be able to hold our heads high, unless we become self-reliant in foodgrains. In order to provide adequate water to the farmers, he got constructed many big dams. Many big and small power stations were also built. A number of hydro-electric projects like Bhakra Nangal were constructed in the country to provide necessary electricity and water to the farmers. Would the country have progressed this much had these dams not been built, had these power stations not been constructed and had fertilizer and tractor units and big agricultural universities not been set up? How easy, it is today to say that no progress has taken place. You know that when the country gained independence, its population was 34 crores and we did not

have enough foodgrains to feed them and our great leaders used to visit countries like the United States to seek assistance. These leaders, who always believed in getting their heads cut rather than in bowing before somebody, too had to bow their heads and ask for foodgrains in order to feed the country's teeming millions, but today our country faces no shortage of foodgrains despite the fact that now we have a population of 80 crores. This shows the extent of foodgrain production in our country. At the time of independence, we used to produce five crore tonnes of foodgrains but today our production has increased to massive 18 crores tonnes. We did not achieve this through some magic or miracle. It is the result of hard work. It owes its success to the policies pursued by the Congress party (*Interruptions*)....

They say that people have died of starvation even during the tenure of the Congress, but I would say that there is no question of anybody dying of starvation. I had challenged this when I was the Agriculture Minister and said that not a single person died of hunger after independence and my challenge stands even today. They want to put the blame for all the ills on the Congress. If their buffalo doesn't give milk or if they have a problem of sleeplessness, they blame the Congress party for it. When are they going to stop all this? At least, they should accept what is right. You too had got an opportunity for three years, in between. What I would like to say is that it is difficult to find an example of progress, development and advancement, as has happened in the case of our country. We have made so much progress in such a short span that today our large population of 80 crores does not face any problem, as far as foodgrains are concerned. Today, there is a need for further advancement. When we compare ourselves with other countries, we feel that there should be a further increase in our production.

Today, it is the need of the hour to fully utilize every drop of water. Many rivers across the country including Ganga, Yamuna, Cauvery, Brahmaputra and many others

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

cause immense havoc and destruction during the floods. To cope with this problem, we had formulated a scheme to collect and store all this water and utilize it wherever necessary by constructing dams and canals. Today, there are large areas in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana where there is an acute shortage of water. There are also many such areas where water is available in plenty and it can be utilized for making available water and electricity at a minimal cost. The generation and supply of electricity today costs every household one rupee per unit. If electricity is generated through hydro-electric projects, it would cost less than 20 paise per unit. If we utilize this water for power generation, there would not be any power shortage anywhere in the country. You should make available water to the fields by constructing big dams. You should create a National Power Grid. Many schemes in this regard were formulated during the tenure of the Rajiv Gandhi Government and it was proposed to create National Grids of water and electricity in order to ensure proper utilisation of electricity, setting up of industries and supply of adequate electricity to those areas where it is badly needed. Today, this Government says that it proposes to spend 50 per cent of its budgetary resources in the rural areas. I regret the absence of the Agriculture Minister, Chaudhary Devi Lal in the House today. Had he been here, I would have spoken to him. However, now that he is not here, I shall talk to you. I would like to tell you by giving figures that under the Seventh Five-Year plan, there was a provision to spend Rs. one lakh eighty thousand crores in the rural areas. 44.8 or 45 per cent of the Budget was earmarked for the rural areas. Now you are saying that you are spending 49 percent on the rural areas but I would like to remind you here that we never included the subsidies we gave on foodgrains and fertilizers in this 45 per cent. We used to give annually a subsidy of Rs. 2300 crores on foodgrains and a subsidy of Rs. 3600 crores on fertilizers. If these were also included, even our allocation for rural areas would have amounted to about 49 percent. Thus, it

becomes clear that you are not doing anything extraordinary. The schemes which were in operation earlier are going on even today. There is nothing new about them. Yes, one thing that is surely there is that the villagers do complain that they are not receiving any money under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, launched by the then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and under which a provision of Rs. 2600 crores was made to generate employment opportunities in the villages. We had made a provision of Rs. 2600 crores to be spent annually to provide employment through Panchayats to the unemployed poor and common man in the villages. If you go through the 1989-90 figures, you would find that Rs. 2600 crores were earmarked for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana itself and lakhs of people got some or the other work under that scheme. I would like to know from you the amount you have allocated for this scheme for the year 1990-91 and the amount you have allocated for the N.R.E.P. and the R.L.E.G.P. You have mentioned the amount you propose to spend in the rural areas by giving a round figure, that is, 49 per cent. Even we were doing that much. When the size of the Budget has increased, it is but natural that the percentage should also increase with it. The budgetary allocations for agriculture and irrigation should also be increased proportionately. Only then we would accept that you have done something for the farmers. Nothing would be achieved by shedding crocodile tears for the farmers.

Quality seeds and fertilizers should be made available to the farmers. We used to give a subsidy of Rs.3600 crores on fertilizers alone. Today, what is the position with regard to the price of fertilizer? Ever since, our Government left, office the price of fertilizer has gone up by Rs. 20 per bag which in itself is a record. Many of the hon. Members sitting in the House are farmers and they would testify the fact that the fertilizer prices have gone up by Rs. 20 per bag in the past five months. How has it increased? The Government which claims to be a well-wisher of the farmers has increased the price of fertilizers by Rs. 20 per bag. Along with this, we also want that

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV (Godda): Fertilizers were cheap during the tenure of your Government because they were adulterated.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Sir, you can think only that way. A person with jaundiced eyes is bound to see everything pale.

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: An enquiry was conducted into this by the MLA's of Bihar and they found that fertilizers were adulterated, when your Government was in power.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: The previous Government had made a formal announcement that agriculture would be treated at par with industry. Earlier, only the labour put in by the landowner was taken into account while calculating the remunerative prices, but under the provisions of the decision taken by the previous Government, the farmer was considered as a manager and full salary of a manager was taken into account at the time of calculating the remunerative prices for the produce of the farmers.

AN HON. MEMBER: What did you do regarding land ceiling?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: What do you want to ask regarding ceiling?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Bhajan Lalji, if you react, then, your time goes.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: I am paying attention to the time, you may note down the time I am taking. There are 200 members on this side and you should understand that the 200 members strong side should definitely be given time, when even groups with 10 members or 15 members are taking ten to twenty minutes. I want to say that you should clarify your policy regarding farmers. What steps are you going to take for giving remunerative prices to farmers. The present

Government has appointed representatives of farmers and even the previous Government had done such a thing and not only this, in order to give remunerative prices to the farmers we decided that the farmers would be told about the price that the crops would fetch before the sowing and then again the prices would be reviewed taking into account rise in wages, cost of fertilizers, electricity, water etc. Besides market price of foodgrains was raised one week before the produce came to the market. We also considered how much it would cost if we imported it and thereafter we increased the price of the crop a week before it came to the market. The price of wheat was increased by Rs. 15 as a result thereof but I wish to say that it is the policy which was framed by us and not by them. We would like to know the salient features of your policy. You kindly clarify it.

Secondly, the Rajiv Government did a commendable job by providing assistance to the farmers who had a general complaint that they were forced to sell their produce at a cheap rate because they wanted money for social occasions, for reimbursement of bank loans and for other miscellaneous works. Keeping in view this fact we launched a scheme where under the farmer could get bank advance up to eighty per cent of the value of any crop that he stored in his house or granary as was done in the case of traders. We had implemented the aforesaid scheme in the entire country and I would like to know the factual position. The specific question that I wish to put forth is that we have come to know that the said scheme has been withdrawn and the farmers have suffered tremendous loss due to this action. We had started such an excellent programme. Not only this we wanted to insure all the crops of all the farmers. We had formulated a policy but unfortunately all the farmers could not be accommodated in it because under that scheme the limit was fixed up i.e. Rs. ten thousand and it covered only those farmers who had taken loans to the extent of Rs. 10 or 20 thousand whatever may have been the extent of damage. Taking this fact into consideration the then Prime Minister

[Sh. Bhajan Lal]

Shri Rajiv Gandhi had constituted a committee to find ways and means to cover all the farmers of this country under the aforesaid scheme...; (*Interruptions*) You do not even know how to sow seeds, then why do you talk in this manner? We want the crops of all the farmers to be insured irrespective of the fact whether he takes loan or not. First of all, you take premium from everyone and cover all the farmers and for doing this a committee comprising of senior officers and ministers is already there. Five meetings had already been held and final stage had been reached but more six months have passed since then, but we have not heard of it. You are aware that the farmer is the backbone of the country and you also know how hard he has to work. We are sitting in our airconditioned chambers. You go to the fields to see the condition of the farmer. Right from sowing itself the farmer toils hard. He earns his bread through the sweat of his brow. I have myself been a farmer and harvested wheat by sickle and there is a scar on my hand even now. You do not know anything about the plight of farmers and still you talk about their welfare. Many of our colleagues here are farmers themselves and I would like to tell these representatives of farmers that the problems of farmers are very grave and therefore, the produce of the farmers should be insured. The premium should be charged on 'no profit no loss' basis so that the farmers can heave a sigh of relief. You are aware that when the crops are about to ripen they are at times destroyed by natural calamities like hailstorm, frost and inclement weather and therefore I wish to say that the entire crop should be insured.

Besides this, the present Government had made a commitment to the farmers in their election manifesto that they would waive loans upto Rs. 10,000, once they come to power. On the basis of this commitment they are occupying the treasury benches. But the situation is that the total loans towards farmers is around Rs. 14,000 crores. This is what the statistics say and not what Bhajan Lal says ... (*Interruptions*) Rs. 14,000 crores is

the loan on farmers, Rs. 7,000 crores is due from weavers, harijans, cobblers, people engaged in tanneries, poultry farming and piggery, hand cart and bullock cart pullers etc. In all it comes to Rs. 21,000 crores. They had promised that immediately after coming to power they will waive these loans but in the Budget they have made a provision of Rs. 1000 crores only. If they make a provision of Rs. 1000 crores every year, we will have to wait for 21 years to waive the old loans and no one knows what will happen in future. Moreover, eight conditions have been laid down even for waiving of these 1000 crores also. One of the conditions is that the loan will not be waived in the case of defaulters. But who made them defaulters. In Haryana Devi Lalji used to tell people before becoming Chief Minister not to repay the loans to the banks as he will waive the loans as soon as he would come to power. After that, for the last two years the people who are at present in the Government used to tell people not to repay loans as they would waive these loans as soon as they come to power. As such they themselves made the people defaulters and now they say that the loans of the defaulters will not be waived. My question is that you have yourself created the defaulters. By making provision of Rs. 1000 crores in place of Rs. 21000 crores whose loan you are going to waive. This Government has come to power by misleading and deceiving the people. If you sit on a heap of sand you are bound to slide. Same is true about this Government. Farmers are the backbone of the country and therefore all such things which are in the interest of the country should be done and there is absolutely no need to mislead them. By misleading the farmers you have come to power. I want to know as to what is your duty towards these people? Addressing the joint sitting of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha in the Central Hall, the President had also said that loans of farmers upto Rs. 10,000 would be waived. This promise had also been made in your election manifesto. Despite this, you have made a provision of Rs. 1000 crores against Rs. 21000 crores. There cannot be a bigger deceit than this. Therefore, my submission to you is to fulfil the promise that you have

made. If you do not fulfil it the people know how to take account of it and they are not going to forgive you.

Madam Chairman, I will conclude within a minute. I have provided you the statistics just now. It was stated that 50 per cent of the Budget will be spent on farmers. If you refer to the figures of Seventh Five Year Plan you will find that we too spent 45 per cent on it. I want to know how much provision you have kept for Jawahar Rozgar Yojana? What happened to NREP, RLEGP? What are your plans regarding providing employment opportunities to common and poor man.

With these words I want to conclude and draw the attention of the Government towards agriculture and irrigation so that the farmers who are the backbone of the country get maximum benefit.

*SHRIMANORANJAN SUR (Basirhat): Madam Chairperson this is my maiden speech and I will like to speak in my mother tongue, Bengali. I want to participate in this discussion with the view point of the problems of our farmers in the country today and their solution.

A vast majority of our farmers today are faced with severe problems. Do these problems concern our farmers only? No, they are our national problems, they are political problems, they are economic problems. These problems have brought our entire social structure and social system on the threshold of a severe crisis. This has to be realised today both by those sitting on my right-side i.e. the Congress as well as by the National Front Govt. who are in power. A political decision was taken against the Congress which resulted in the termination of their 42 years' rule in the country. I will caution the National Front Govt. also to fulfil the assurances they have given to the people who voted them to power. If they fail to proceed in the coming days with a definite objective of solving the problems of the farmers which is the major problem in the country

today, then the farmers may be compelled to take a similar political decision against them also in the near future or during their present term of Govt. That is why maximum importance should be given to agricultural problems and thereby fight the crisis in the industrial field and the crisis in our national economy. For this purpose a well defined scientific outlook is necessary. I will now present my written speech before this August House on this subject. I think that about 400 of the present Hon. Members of this House have been elected on the strength of the vote of the farmers. Our Prime Minister, Shri V.P. Singh, our Deputy Prime Minister, Shri Devi Lal Ji and the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, all have been elected from farmer majority areas. Now these farmers elect us but more than 70% of them live in utter poverty. The poor small farmers, the share croppers, the agricultural labourers live in abject misery. These are the people in the country who are most oppressed, exploited and are victims of social injustice. I am ashamed to think that even after 42 years of independence we are so indifferent to the lot of these neglected down-trodden masses, although we have been elected to this Lok Sabha with their votes. I will therefore remind the Hon. Members and National Front Govt. about the assurances they have given at the time of elections. They had promised and rightly so, that they will place maximum importance on the development of agriculture. Now if that promise is not translated into reality then you too will face the same adverse reaction from the farmers as the Congress did. The farmers will never forgive them if they fail. I do not know whether the Hon. Members are following what I am saying because I am speaking in Bengali. I will tell you that what I am speaking is about our villages, it is about the poor people of our country, it is about the share-croppers and agricultural labourers and it is about the heartfelt conditions of 70% of our people who are dependent on agriculture for their living. The picture of West Bengal is totally different today from the rest of the country because they understood the heartfelt and

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

[Sh. Manoranjan Sur]

intimate inner feelings of these poor masses. Working within the framework of central economic and fiscal policies and within severe limitations, the West Bengal Govt. will not be able to achieve miracles, it is true. But the outlook with which they have come forward to solve the land problem, the maximum importance that they have put on agriculture, is almost revolutionary. As a result of that in the rural areas of West Bengal a wind of economic betterment is visible today. Not only that the farmers there are occupying a place of dignity and social justice. The farmers there are awakened today, they realise that it is they who make governments and it is their duty and responsibility to run the Government. The poor farmers realise that it is their responsibility to implement the policy framed by the Government who have been voted to power by them. This awakening, this realisation has been generated by the left Front Govt. among the framers and this is no mean achievement. The farmers realise that their Govt. is trying their best for their economic upliftment although they are working under severe constraints. Because of all these you will find an exemplary unity among the rural poor masses in West Bengal. Nobody can breach that class unity. When the whole country burns with communal frenzy and passion, in West Bengal the masses remain unaffected. There Hindus, Muslims, Santhals, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes all stand united and work shoulder to shoulder to implement the policies of the left front government and try to make it a success. This is the difference of West Bengal with the rest of the country. Now I will like to place before you my written speech, otherwise my allotted time will be over and the Chair-person will ask me to resume my seat. Therefore, I am hurriedly presenting before you my written speech.

Our country is mainly an agricultural country where more than 70% of the people are directly dependent on agriculture. In every strata of human history, the problem of agriculture has been counted as a very important basic problem. In the present times

its importance has increased and it will further increase in the days to come. This is because on the agricultural system depends the future of our industries and not only that, our progress in the social, economic, political and cultural fields also depends on this collectively. Therefore for the purpose of nation-building, development and upliftment of agriculture has today assumed tremendous importance.

For the last 42 years correct steps were not taken for solving this important problem and because of that we find today that economic upheaval, social disorder and political anarchy are raising their ugly heads all over the country. In different parts of our country specially in the rural areas, terrorism, secessionism, communalism and casteism are revealing themselves in frightening form. One of the main reasons for this state of affairs is our failure to solve the agricultural problems correctively and properly. The national front Govt. shall have to move forward with a definite objective to provide social justice and to curb economic disparity in the country. Without radical land reforms and agricultural reconstruction there is no simple way for the upliftment of India's rural economy. Those who were ruling the country for a long time i.e. the Congress, followed such a national agricultural policy which failed to provide economic betterment and social security to the rural poor. Most of the land is concentrated in the hands of a handful of Zamindars, Jodars and rich farmers. Only 29% of the land is in the hands of the poor people living on agriculture. The remaining 71% of land is owned by a few rich people. So far all the plans and schemes that have been formulated for development of agriculture and for increasing agricultural production, all of them were framed with the sole objective of protecting the interests of the rich farmers. That is why due importance has not been given to land reforms and the distribution of land among the landless in most of the states. This has resulted in a harmful effect on our agro based economy. Even today 48% people are living below the poverty line. Except a small fragment, the entire farming community alongwith agricul-

tural labourers is immersed in abject poverty. The steep fall in the purchasing power of the farming community, who constitute the major part of our country's population, has resulted in the shrinkage of our domestic market considerably. This has proved a major impediment in the way of industrial development of the country. Even after spending over Rs. 100,000 crores in the seven five years plans on the national level, there is a severe crisis in the agricultural system and in the agricultural economy. This sorry state is the result of total indifference to real land reforms in the country over all these years. The agricultural and land policy in West Bengal has been adopted with just the opposite view point of our national policy on agriculture. Land reform is a pre-condition for the development of agriculture. Therefore the left front in West Bengal started its journey with land reforms. For the last twelve years the left front government in West Bengal has taken vigorous measures to implement land reforms. The left front Government has set up a noteworthy example in the field of agriculture within 12 years by adopting this policy. Within this period the production has increased by nearly 40 lakh tons. Although working under severe limitations, the left front Govt. has been able to bring about a basic change in the land structure and agricultural system in West Bengal within 12 years, with the support and cooperation of the farmers and agricultural labourers. From the figures published by National Sample Survey it is seen that in West Bengal the ownership of about 75% of agricultural land has come in the hands of small and marginal farmers. What is noteworthy is, that from the same survey it is found that on the national level the small and marginal farmers own only 29% of the total cultivated land. The above facts prove it to the hilt that there is a basic difference between the agricultural policy adopted in West Bengal and the all India agricultural policy. Land reforms i.e. distribution of land among the landless is an essential pre-condition for developing a hearty relationship between the small farmers and their land and for increasing agricultural production. Alongwith that, extension of irrigation facilities shall have to be given

more importance. More importance shall have to be given to the supply of better quality seeds, fertilisers, pesticides etc., to the farmers. Land and water are jewels of the eye of the farmers. If we can give it to them, then the farmers can bring about a revolution in the field of agriculture in the whole country. Except these there are no alternative means for national economic reconstruction. Side by side, more importance has to be given to the fixing of remunerative prices for agricultural produce and the government's efforts to implement the same.

I have said Government's efforts because, when the prices of agricultural produce is fixed, we find that it has no parity or relation with the prices of industrial products. Those who fix the prices of agricultural produce must ensure that the farmers get a profitable price for their produce after deducting their cost of inputs and that agriculture is turned into a profitable vocation. Unless that is done, how long do you expect the farmers to carry on cultivation in abject poverty, by selling his land and home and even his wife and children? How long will he feed the nation and supply raw materials for our industries for the development of the country? That is not possible for ever! Therefore, unless the prices of agricultural produce are fixed keeping a parity with the prices of industrial products, the farmers will naturally become apathetic towards agriculture and this will create a crisis in the national economy. Hence in the national interest it is very necessary to fix a remunerative and profitable price for agricultural produce.

This way the food production will increase and the control of a handful of persons on food will come to an end.

The field of activity of the agricultural labourers will be expanded.

The purchasing power of the millions engaged in agriculture will increase and this in turn will expand our domestic market and the demand for industrial products will go up. The slump in the industries will go away. More employment opportunities will be

[Sh. Manoranjan Sur]

thrown open.

I will request the Hon. Minister to increase the grants for agriculture if possible. I support the demands of the Ministries of agriculture and water resources.

Thank you,

SHRI BEGA RAM (Ganganagar): Madam, Chairperson, there are five irrigation projects in Ganganagar district of Rajasthan, out of which two canals are yet to be constructed. One is Sidhmukh canal and the other is Nohar Feeder Canal. Both these projects had been approved long ago but the Government have not completed work on them. In the 40 years reign of the Congress Government we have been getting assurances but the canals were not constructed.

Madam, Chairperson, Sidhmukh canal was inaugurated by ex-Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi on 5th October 1989 and Rs. 2 crores were spent on it. Similarly, once in the past also it was inaugurated by Smt Indira Gandhi. The total cost of the project is Rs. 103 crores but even after spending crores of rupees on its inauguration the work could not be completed. On completion of this scheme 33620 hectares of land would be irrigated. Madam Chairperson, Ganganagar district is facing acute shortage of drinking water as well as water for irrigation. The farmers of Kinohan Bhadra are fleeing the villages and running towards cities. If proper attention is not paid to the problems faced by the people of Ganganagar then people there will not forgive the Government. Madam Chairperson, Planning Commission is not sanctioning the funds. In the year 1987 Rs. 30 lakh were sanctioned with the help of which some digging work of the canal was taken up but this is not going to help. After that the work has been stopped and people are not getting water. I would like to request the Minister of water resources to order completion of work on these two canals immediately.

Madam Chairperson, Gang canal was

constructed by Maharaja Ganga Singh in the year 1932-33. 2700 cusecs water was required to flow through it but for the last twelve years 1200-1300 cusecs water is flowing. Farmers are during of thirst and they are not getting water. If they get 2700 cusecs water then cultivation can be done and crops can be grown. Ganganagar district is a very fertile area and provides food grain to entire Rajasthan. Another canal was constructed in 1987-88 by the Janata Party Government. The old canal had worn out and 2700 cusecs water could not be taken through it. Therefore construction of another canal was started. Bhajan Lalji claims that he has done so much. I would like to say that the link canal was constructed when he was the Chief Minister of Haryana, and then Agriculture Minister at the Centre. Crores of rupees were spent but water could not be released in the canal.

I would request the Minister of water resources that Ganga canal should be completed and water released in it. People are thirsty for the last twelve years. Ganganagar district is a plain area but there is shortage of water. We can have good crop there in case water is made available. I would urge upon the National Front Government to provide funds to the State Government so that the work on the canal could be completed. I would like to request the Government to release water in all the five projects namely Khara Branch, Sidhmukh canal, Sarhind Canal, Ganga canal and Nohar Feeder so that the farmers can live in prosperity. If the farmer is prosperous the country would become self sufficient and consequently people would live in an atmosphere of prosperity.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA (Bhampore): I shall try to be brief. Madam, I have gone through the performance report given by the Ministry of Water Resources and I am rather shocked to find that there is hardly any reference to the progress of irrigation in West Bengal. I do not know what the reasons are. There is, however, one reference to Farakka Project, that too inaccurately it has been presented. So, I would

request the hon. Minister to clarify the position why any reference to West Bengal is absent in the performance report.

Let me come to the first point regarding the Tista Barrage Project. This is the only on-going project of multiple significance, not only from the dimension of the project, but also for very many other reasons this is a very significant project. When the project will be completed it will create immense irrigation potential.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the benefit of the Minister, this is about the Tista Barrage Project.

SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: It is better if the Irrigation Minister were here. Whatever that be, this Tista Barrage Project when completed would create an irrigation potential to cover area of 9,22,000 hectares, covering five districts of West Bengal and many of us certainly know that all these five districts of North Bengal are mono-crop areas. If irrigation is available to these farmers, then there will be double and triple crop. There will be a little bit prosperity and the benefit will go to the farmers. Farm workers will also be benefited. The project is under the first sub-stage of Stage I. And the irrigation potential that is likely to be created will cover an area of 5.27 lakh hectares out of a total of 9.22 lakh hectares. Already this project has started irrigation and it covers 50,000 hectares in the meantime. This project includes power generation. At four points the preliminary work of power generation has been started. I say all this because the significance perhaps was not understood by the erstwhile Congress Government. Therefore, they neglected the project. Its revised estimate now is Rs. 510 crores. Already approximately Rs. 300 crores have been spent. All the major constructions have been completed. Now excavations are going on in different places. There is no central subsidy as yet. The West Bengal Government had asked for central subsidy. But only Rs. 5 crore was given to West Bengal for this project as loan advance. Now it is being

heard that Rs. 10 crore will perhaps be given as loan advance after this National Front Government has been formed.

What I want to say is that this project has been cleared by the Central Water Commission and the Central Government. Now it appears that construction of east bank canal has started. But on the mid-way it has stopped because of lack of clearance from the Forest Department. I would like to mention here that only 5 km stretch is within the forest area. Not only the Irrigation Department of the West Bengal Government but, I understand, that even the Chief Minister himself has taken up the matter with the Central Government so that immediate clearance is given and east bank canal can be excavated. So I request the Central Government to give immediate clearance so that excavation work can proceed further.

The progress of the Teesta Barrage Work is delayed very much owing to two reasons—technical clearance from the Forest Department and finance. The West Bengal Government is spending roughly about 65 per cent of their irrigation budget for construction of Teesta Barrage project and other ancillary works. The central assistance is very much needed for that. At one time, it was said by the then Government that there was no provision for giving subsidy to a particular project, whatever money was given, it was given as a block grant, and, therefore, there cannot be any question of granting subsidy to any project. But, as I said before, this is a solitary project, which has a big significance particularly when, as you know, Bangladesh is already constructing a project in Rampur District and already there is an agreement of sharing of water of Teesta with Bangladesh. So, if we can complete the Barrage construction including the irrigation, we can substantially irrigate our lands and India will be in an advantageous position so far as sharing of water is concerned. From that angle also, it is very significant that the Central Government should come forward with financial assistance for speedy progress of the work of Teesta Barrage Project.

[Sh. Nani Bhattacharya]

16.21 hrs.

[SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE *in the Chair*]

Then, Sir, I am coming to the Ganga erosion. As you know, I have already said that with reference to Farakka Barrage Project, I think in the interest of the safety of the Farakka Barrage itself, the Centre should take certain measures and from Raj Mahal to Farakka if the Ganga is not tamed, and the main current of the Ganga does not flow in the midstream of the Ganga, there is likelihood of Farakka Barrage Project being outflanked. I think this river taming programme has been corroborated by the model study undertaken by Poona Research institute. So, these things should be kept in mind and taming programme of the Ganga upstream upto Farakka should be taken up by the Central Government as early as possible so that the Farakka Barrage is not outflanked.

Then again, as you know, the erosion on western banks is a constant phenomenon. There is a ground to believe that since the construction of Farakka Barrage Project, the land erosion has aggravated. I am not entering into any debate here. It may be and may not be. But, there is erosion and there is aggressive erosion. Whose responsibility is it to check this erosion? That is the main point. So far, the Central Government had pleaded all along, when the State Government approached the Central Government for money that it was a state subject. I know that bank erosion is a state subject, but this concerns only inland river. But, if the river is international, then that terminology cannot hold good in that instant case. It is a hard fact as it cannot be disputed in any way. From Dhulian in Murshidabad to Jalangi, the stretch of 85-90 kms, the Ganga flows all along the international boundary. There is no fixed boundary. This is only notional and theoretical. There is no physical demarcation, nothing else. So, this is the position. And the landmass of the Indian territory is being lost

every year, every month, particularly in the rainy season. The landmass of the Indian territory is being lost to the river and the erosion is as fast as one cannot imagine.

Then, again, there are also national assets on the western bank, like the railways and National Highways. The Pritam Singh Committee Report recommended that in order to check erosion, the anti-erosion programme should be so made in a phased way that at one time the expenses involved in checking erosion are not huge. I know that for the safety of the National Highways, for the safety of the railways, the West Bengal Government submitted some proposal to the tune of Rs. 11 to 12 crores. That money has not yet been received although three-four years have already elapsed. And what is the result? The result is that there was erosion, constant erosion. Not only the villages and hamlets were lost to the river Ganga but even the railways and the National Highways are being threatened.

There is another phenomenon of serious consequence. Ganga has come very near to Bhagirathi or Hooghly. At some points it is 1.02 kilometre to 1.5 kilometre. Ganga is fast coming toward these. So, if this pressure cannot be withstood, then there is a danger of Ganga changing its course and flowing into Bhagirathi. In that case, there will be destruction of civilisation. The entire township, villages and all the districts will be destroyed. That goes without saying. There is such an apprehension even by the engineers also.

In my opinion, the responsibility devolves on the Centre because, firstly, in the interest of the safety of the Farakka Barrage from being outflanked, the Centre should come forward actively and involve themselves in the anti-erosion measures and, secondly, they should come forward with massive assistance.

There is another point also. Calcutta Port is also being threatened because of the reduced discharge in the Feeder Canal at the point of Farakka Barrage. All along, the

West Bengal Government has demanded that forty thousand cusecs of water is needed for the safety of the Port and another additional fifteen thousand cusecs of water is required for irrigation purposes. But it is found to our surprise that gradually the discharge at Farakka point through the Feeder Canal is being less and less. The West Bengal Government has not yet raised a formal dispute with other basin States but there is somewhat diversion of Ganga water for other purposes in the upper reaches of Ganga. Therefore, the discharge at Farakka point through the Feeder Canal is becoming less and less. This is also becoming dangerous for the safety of the Calcutta Port. So, my appeal to the National Front Government is: Save Farakka Barrage from being outflanked; save national asset which is located in the Western Bank of Ganga; save the land mass of the Indian territory from the aggressive erosion. As I have said before, every month this is being lost. Protection of the territory, whether it is that land mass or water mass, is the task of the Central Government. It comes in the Central sphere. It cannot just be said that erosion is a State subject. That analogy cannot hold good in this case. So, Sir, prevent Ganga from flowing in the course of Bhagirathi or Bhagirathi in the course of Ganga. Both these are dangerous and save the Calcutta Port. These are the tasks of the Central Government and the erstwhile Congress Government had evaded this task and they put this burden on the shoulders of the West Bengal Government. So, I would request the Union Government to give a serious thought over this matter and decide their course of action immediately.

Then, Sir, boulder problem is a very serious problem. I have already written to the Water Resource Minister a few days back regarding the problem of procuring boulders. Now, according to the new Forest Conservation Act, lifting of boulder has almost been prohibited and boulder is the only component for flood control works and that boulder is not available. As I have already said in my letter, unless the matter is taken up by the Union Government and instruction is issued to the Forest Department Officers

in West Bengal, not only the developmental work will be stalled but the danger of flood, avulsion of the river changing course in that region cannot be stopped. Most of you may perhaps know the behaviour of the rivers, rivelets, streams, streamlets and in the rainy season they become so gushing rivers that the village are washed away and the people are washed away and all these things happen. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that the boulder problem is immediately solved. Perhaps he has already taken up the matter with the Environment Department.

Then, Sir, regarding Subarnarekha project, I may point out that the project is awaiting clearance from the Environment angle and I am afraid that the particular developmental work will be stalled because of the lack of clearance, by the Environment Department. And to them it became the mania. I would therefore request the National Front Government that they should see to it that the developmental works are not stalled, particularly in the case of Subarnarekha project which has already been cleared. But the only problem is that the Environment creates a stumbling block.

Additional dams are required to be constructed to check inundation of the lower Damodar Valley.

With these few words, I thank you, Sir

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI VIJAYARAJE SCINDIA (Guna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the subject on which I am going to speak today is very important for the progress and development of the country. 80 per cent of this country's population lives in the villages. As such it is quite but natural that their future is country's future. Similarly, the prosperity of people dependent on agriculture is linked with the prosperity of the country. It is a great misfortune for the country that during the last 40 years when the Congress Party was in power, this section did not get justice and what to speak of basic amenities, it has been deprived of even the basic necessities of life. If

[Shrimati Vijayaraje Scindia]

they are seen to be smiling at any time, it should be treated as an exception. Our economic policies have so far been aimed at and our monetary resources have been made available to rich, very rich and industrial houses only. The farmers and villagers have always been neglected. As a result of that, the assets of some industrial houses in the country registered an upward rise of 50 to 100 per cent during the last 35 years. On the other hand there has been a sharp decline in the economic condition of the villagers, especially the farmers who have reached the stage of starvation. During the last seven Five Year Plans, agriculture was allocated only 30 per cent of the total resources of the country. That means 80 per cent of the population was allocated 30 per cent and the remaining 20 per cent was allocated 70 per cent resources. Out of the above 80 per cent, 40 per cent people live below the poverty line in a highly deplorable condition. The life led by the remaining 40 per cent should also be taken as bare subsistence level. The farmers are not themselves at fault for their plight. Their only fault is that they are not organised. Government has all along adopted a totally indifferent attitude towards them and it will not be an exaggeration if we say that it is a betrayal on the part of the Government. The previous Government adopted an economic policy of high industrial growth which forced the people living at the grass root level to lead lives of wants, because they were in no way benefited by various plans. Only the affluent people and people with high prosperity continued to avail of the benefits of the above policy. I would like to present some figures which indicate as to what the Government has done for agriculture and how this sector has remained neglected. It is the duty of the Government to provide irrigation facilities, power, fertilizers and arrange crop insurance and construct roads for the people. But the performance of the Government has not been that satisfactory. I am giving the following figures to substantiate my point. There has been only 2.4 per cent increase in the irrigated area under all crops during the last 9 years. Ac-

cordingly the production of various crops increased from 30.3 per cent in 1979-80 to 32.7 per cent in 1987-88. The production of pulses registered an increase of just one per cent i.e. from 8.8 per cent to 9.8 per cent. There has been a fall in the irrigated area under various crops viz. rice, millet, maize, etc. which is the staple food of the majority of the population. The irrigated area under these crops fell from 34.3 per cent to 31.3 per cent during this period. It means that even after 40 years of independence 67 per cent of our cultivable land remains unirrigated.

Now let us take the case of fertilizers. About 8.91 million tonnes of fertilizers was provided in 1984-85 which went up to 9.49 million tonnes in 1987-88 thus registering an increase of only 0.58 million tonnes. On the other hand, the subsidy being made available to fertilizer industry hardly reaches the farmers.

Let us also take the case of crop Insurance Scheme about which tall claims used to be made. The figures will reveal as to what is the factual position.

[English]

The number of farmers covered during 1985 was 38.48 lakhs. During 1989, it was 28.0 lakhs.

[Translation]

That means, there has been a fall. Area covered during 1985 was 76.92 lakh hectares and in 1989 it was 38.69 lakh hectares. The amount insured during 1985 was Rs. 781.14 crores and in 1989 it was 541.39 crores. An amount of Rs. 87.02 crores were provided in 1985 for paying compensation and in 1989 this amount was reduced to Rs. 30 crores.

A provision of Rs. 30 crores only has been made for the farmers of the whole country to meet the damage caused by natural calamities.

Sir, now let us have a look at the position

of electricity. Out of the total generation of electricity in 1987-88, only 23.8 per cent was made available to agriculture and 55 per cent was supplied to the industrial sector. Moreover supply of electricity to agriculture is not regular. In some of the States electricity goes off for days together and in the absence of electricity, there can be no irrigation. Electricity plays hide and seek with the farmers. They suffer losses in the process.

AN. HON. MEMBER: It goes off for months together.

SHRIMATI VIJAYARAJE SCINDIA: Yes, it goes off for months rendering the irrigation system non-operational. This causes huge losses to the farmers. Besides, due to fluctuations in the voltage, motors fitted to their pumpsets get burnt and the poor farmers cannot afford this loss.

Now let me take up the plight of village women. There was a time when women in the villages used to be laden with jewellery. But today one can hardly find one or two items of those ornaments on their bodies. Where did the jewellery go? In fact these must have been deposited in the foreign bank accounts of corrupt politicians, corrupt bureaucrats, corrupt industrialists and traders.

In this way, gradually the rural wealth is finding its way out of the villages and exodus of villagers in search of bread continues unabated. In spite of this uncongenial situation, the farmers have done wonders in the matter of crop production.

In 1984-85, the total foodgrains production was 14 crore tonnes which rose to 17 crore tonnes in 1988-89. This rise in production is there.

[English]

In spite of the Government and not due to Government.

[Translation]

I am of the view that the betrayal on the part of the Government and the diligence of the farmers are worthy of record in the history of the country. What kind of justice is this that the farmers cannot fix the price of their produce? The farmers are the only class which cannot fix the price of commodities being produced by them. What an irony is it that the farmers produce crops but it is others who fix the prices of these crops. We may take any item from an all pin to aeroplane, it is the manufacturer who fixes the sale price of his product. He never allows the price of his product to fall even if he is required to reduce the quantum of his production. On the other hand during a year when the farmers get bumper crop, prices of their produce fall and they cannot get any benefit from the crop, rather they have to suffer losses. In this way, they bear the blow from both the sides. Storage facilities must be provided in rural areas. Just now Shri Bhajan Lal also made a mention of storage but I was not convinced by his logic. He said that the farmers can build godowns in their own premises and can store their foodgrains. In this connection I would like to say that had they been so capable, they could have very well constructed godowns and would not have waited for somebody's suggestions. I would like to say that it is the business community which enjoys the benefits of the godowns because godowns are not available in rural areas. These are located in the neighbourhood of cities. Since the distance is long, the farmers cannot preserve their foodgrains in these godowns. As such the Government should provide godown facilities to farmers so that they could store their produce in those godowns and could get loan on easy terms. The farmers are also not capable to postpone the sale of their produce to a convenient later date, economically they are so weak that they are forced to sell their produce early without which they have to face innumerable difficulties. In order to avoid such an eventuality, the Government should construct godowns for the farmers to store their produce. It should also provide them loans on easy terms in lieu of

[Shrimati Vijayaraje Scindia]

his stored produce so that they are not forced to resort to distress sale. Distress sale is very painful for the farmers and they lose everything in this process.

Now let us take the case of communication and transportation facilities available in the villages as the progress of villages depends on these two things. Road network should be spread in the rural areas. Villages should be interlinked and linked with mandis and cities. But required progress has not so far been made in this direction. The work is going at a slow pace.

In most of the areas the farmers can raise only one crop in a year for want of adequate irrigation facilities. That means, the farmer has work for 4 to 5 months only during the year, whereas the industrialists have work for whole of the year and sometimes they have to engage extra labour to cope up with their requirement.

What I mean to say is that they run double or triple shifts. It is also an anomalous situation. It is necessary to provide gainful employment to the farmers for additional income during the period when they have no work in their fields. The items which have been allotted to the rural artisans for manufacture under cottage industries should be removed from the list of big industries because rural artisans are quite capable of manufacturing these items as they have been doing their work for a long time and continue to do so even today.

The farmers always remain under the burden of heavy debt. The farmer is born with a burden of debt on his head which he carries throughout his life. On his death, he passes on this burden to his next generation. We are happy that the present Government has given an assurance to waive loans upto Rs. 10,000. We urge the Government to take immediate action on this assurance so that the sufferings of the farmers could be reduced to some extent.

I also consider it my duty to warn the industrial class. They are not far off from us, they are also a part of this nation and it is also in their interest that rural economy is strengthened so that the purchasing power of most of the people of our country may increase. This may also lead to expansion of our industrial market. Today, Indian market has been captured by about 10 per cent of our population. It is not a healthy tradition to depend always on export market. Only one-sided high-industrial growth can be risky because it is often vulnerable to internal and external shocks. Under these circumstances, if rural economy of the country continues to be weak and if in the face of starvation, the people want to migrate to agricultural sector, the land would not be able to absent this burden. During the year 1973, the people of Japan could make progress due to their ideal national character, but unfortunately, there is a lack of ideal national character in our country.

Our Party—Bharatiya Janata Party—has given assurance to the people of this country that at least 60 per cent of the total resources would be allocated to the agriculture sector. It is a matter of satisfaction that this Government has given assurance to allocate 50 per cent of the budget to this sector, but if we look at the expenditure budget, it does not appear that the assurance given by the Government would be fulfilled. Only an addition of Rs. 429 crores has been made to last year's budget and it is unlikely that the Government would be able to keep its promise of allocating 50 per cent resources for the rural development. I hope that the Minister of Finance would give attention to this matter lest the promise should turn out to be hollow.

Lastly, I would like to mention about the problem of drinking water in Madhya Pradesh as a result of which the people, particularly, those living in rural areas, are suffering a lot. The work has been started by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on a war footing and we have also requested the Central Government to give assistance. I would like to make a humble request to the Central

Government through you to provide adequate assistance at the earliest, so that the sufferings of the people could be mitigated.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time to express my views.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Mr. Chairman, Sir, if I may submit, in the year 1987, not nation adopted to itself a Water Policy and priorities were set out in detail. There were no differences of opinion either in this House or anywhere else about the Water Policy since it came in after a long discussion on the matter. The first among the priorities that were laid down was the drinking water, then it was irrigation, then water for hydro-power, then for navigation, industrial and other uses. What is interesting is that though the Policy was adopted in 1987 and though it is according to the Annual Report of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 1989-90 stating that the State Governments are taking active steps to implement the National Water Policy, yet the objective of providing drinking water to all citizens in the nation by the year 1991, I think, is definitely not going to be achieved. At least, coming from a district which is barren and dry where the question of water for irrigation is a very far off dream, even drinking water has become one of the most valuables, scarce commodities. We pay as much as Rs. 2 for a bucket of drinking water in my constituency. We are aware that in places in the Deccan Plateau, one of the major problems that we have is that the sub-soil water is receding. The water table is receding day by day. In 1984, when I first came to this House, we were able to obtain water at 100 to 120 feet. Today we go, the Central Ground Water Board's deep bore well drilling equipment, at 1000 to 1200 feet to touch the water table. I am talking of the water for drinking purposes and not irrigation. It has reached a stage where I think, soon we will be permanently a drought struck district. I am just giving my district as an example. When one looks at the water map in detail, even the water map that has been

drawn up by your famous Authority which you have set up, it is quite clear that you have set a target which does not seem to be achievable at least in the immediate future unless you intensify and implement, giving drinking water and the Mini Drinking Water Mission the maximum priority. If you continue to divert fund, I repeat, allow States also to divert funds from the first priority of drinking water to navigation, industrial and other uses. It is possible that you would never be able to meet the objective of ensuring drinking water for the human population in India.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is level of implementation. Unfortunately while drinking water is scarce and we find that men are getting dehydrated the Department of Water Resources deserves to be congratulated on how they have covered and brought an additional irrigation potential to land.

16.59 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I understand from your Report that you have achieved 138 per cent of your target. Nearly 26.9 lakh hectares of land has been covered. You have been able to achieve another 3.72 lakh hectares with the World Bank loans.

17.00 hrs.

But I would like to know in the light of this what is reaction of the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry Agriculture on the question of ground water. Do you feel satisfied with the functioning of the Central Ground Water Board? Is it the job only of the Regional Hydro-Geological Survey and Ground Water Exploration Research and Water Quality Monitoring Research and Development and Surveys? Or is it actually planned to contribute in finding out large resource and sources of water, exploiting the same and making it available to the people? I would like to know, are you planning to restrict the Central Ground Water Board into an advisory cum research body or

[Sh. P.R. Kumaramangalam]

are you planning to expand its field and really give assistance? The reason for asking this is that the equipment that is available with the Central Ground Water Board is not available with the State governments. Many of the State Governments in the North do not have even bore-well rigs are moved out every your during summer to the north to drilling equipment, mobile ones, which goes to 300 to 400 metres, let alone talking of thousand metres and above. I am aware that from my district a thousand bore-well cover Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and even many areas of Punjab surprisingly. So, when equipment is not available with the State, will the Government of India consider providing a pool on a national level from where the State Governments can draw at least equipment for ground water exploitation? Even more surprising is the fact that you have a Committee on the review of Central Ground Water Board. You have given a deadline that this Committee would submit its report by June 1990. I would like to know whether the date stands or is it to be revised. If it stands, then I would like to know whether any interim report has been given, whether interim suggestions have been given on the roles to be played by the Central and State Ground Water Organisations. In addition to that, I would like to know specifically on how far have you gone on the national water management project. I understand that three sub-projects in my State have been approved. I would like to know which of these three and how far have those projects which have been approved been implemented.

The issue which I am raising is not one which is either partisan or political, in that sense of the word. It is a matter which deals with the basic necessity that each one of us has, and that is water. After all it is said and it is a scientific fact that majority of our content is also water. If one splits up the contents of a human being, most of us are made up of water. If one does not have water we would not have probably remained what we are, whatever we may claim otherwise.

At the same time I think it is relevant for them to realise that the final solution lies really in the linking of rivers. It does not lie in playing around with the so called regional water balancing. I think this is an escapism which is often resorted to by almost all the governments that we have seen, irrespective of political colour. We have heard over and over again the issue that the Ganga-Cauvery link must be set up. Whenever the Government with political will pressurises, we have noticed that so-called technical bureaucratic team comes into being to say that this is physically impossible, financially impossible and for one reason or the other, it says that is impossible. Let us not forget that it was a technical Minister who dreamt of the Ganga-Cauvery link. It was not a non-technical ignoramus from nowhere who came suddenly and dreamt of this scheme. Factually it is the truth today that on the one side we spend crores of rupees to handle drought and on the other hand we spend crores of rupees—in thousands on both sides really—to handle floods. You have a master plan to handle floods. You have completed the master plan is one or two sub-basins. But what is the use of just controlling floods? Can we not use the flood water? On the one side people are drying and dying due to inadequacy of water on and the other side they are dying due to excess of water. Are we not one nation? Can we not put it together? I would request this Government to look into the issue, in depth, of whether you can or cannot have a total review of the Ganga-Cauvery link once again. If it is possible, it will not only solve the water problem, not only the problem of flood and drought, but it will also solve the employment problem, to a great extent.

Lastly I would like to bring to the notice of the government and say that I feel very sorry that the Government did not take a clear stand on the Cauvery issue. The Government is aware that this matter is a dispute pending since the year 1974. The Karnataka State, since that date has constructed several dams and impounded water of the tributaries of Cauvery without ensuring the continued requirements of Tamilnadu which is

the lower riparian State. Karnataka which is in the higher reaches, cannot affect our rights. It is a well-known fact. In addition to that, the Central Government is aware that there were 26 meetings and each one of the meetings ended really in a failure. When the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu—who is your Chief Minister, let me repeat, politically he is your man—wrote a letter saying that the negotiations have failed, under the law, it is your primary duty to refer to the tribunal. But without taking it on your shoulder, you are evading, avoiding and leaving it to the Court to decide. We are grateful to the Supreme Court that it has decided to refer it to the tribunal at last. But I can say that—with no help from your side—it is most unfortunate that you tried to play politics on a matter which deals with life and death of the people. Tamilnadu basically is dependant on Cauvery not for now, but for centuries. We have been struggling for twenty years and ultimately when the Court comes to the conclusion and gives you an option and says, "please make your stand clear, you come back and say that we have no stand." It is for you to make it clear. Then, why do you have Governments? Why do you have an Act which says that once negotiation breaks down, the Central Government may refer it to a tribunal? There are many judgments which have said that once the negotiation breaks down, it shall be referred to a tribunal. I would like to make it even clearer that referring it to the tribunal is something which we all welcome, but simultaneously the need of the hour today is to give immediate relief to the farmers. Maybe, the Government did not deem it so, but today, a cyclone has hit our State and we are being blown apart on all sides by the winds with a speed of 200 kilometres or 250 kilometers per hour. No relief arrangements have been made by the civil administration. Property is being destroyed; trees are being uprooted. Forget the question of water for irrigation. There would not be very much left on most of the lands which are along the coastal districts.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Ram Prasad Singh.

SHRI SIRKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR (Mysore): May I intervene for a moment, Sir? (*Interruptions*) I would like to bring it to the attention of the friends. That the Chief Minister agreed for another round of talks. He suddenly withdrew and said that talks have broken down. This is just to put the record straight.

SHRIP.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: That is irrelevant. He wrote saying that the talks have broken down and you should have referred it to a tribunal. I would request the Government to immediately intervene, if possible, find out from the government of Tamil Nadu what assistance they require and help us through this calamity which we are facing and also do come forward, especially in the district of Salem, to help us on the question of drinking water.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you and express my gratitude to you and the august House for giving me time to speak. I support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministries of Agriculture and Water Resources presented by the Government.

Sir, even after 42 years of independence, the Government has not been able to make proper arrangement for supply of water for irrigation, supply of electricity, fertilizer and seed to the farmers. It speaks of the indifferent attitude adopted by the previous Government towards the farmers. Sir, you have seen the condition of farmers. All of us say during elections and so did our leaders including the father of the National Mahatma Gandhi who said before independence that India is a country of farmers. 80 per cent population of our country depends on agriculture. The prosperity of the farmers is the index of the prosperity of the nation. But even after 42 years of independence, the farmers could not become prosperous due to the wrong policies adopted by the previous Government. Proper arrangement of

{Sh. Ram Prasad Singh}

education could not be made for their children, electricity could not be provided to their villages and the work to connect the villages by roads could not be done. Even the supply of potable water could not be ensured to their villages.

Sir, a glimpse of their faces will tell that a smile is unknown to them. They bear worried looks all the time. The Government could not provide them even necessities of daily life. So far as the present Government is concerned, it is for the first time that an announcement has been made to spend 49% of the national income on villages or on agriculture. The announcement made by the government is commendable because it is for the first time in 42 years that the National Front Government has resolved to work in the interest of the farmers and pay attention towards the farmers. No such programme was ever announced by the previous Government for the benefit of farmers.

Sir, we know that even today our country ranks very low in comparison to other agricultural countries of the world. We lag far behind in per acre yield. In comparison to the developed countries like America and Canada, our farm production per hectare is just one-third. This can give you an idea how indifferent the previous Government has been towards the farmers. They could make arrangement for supply of neither quality seed nor water for irrigation. We want that a policy should be evolved for the farmers so that the amount earmarked for them in the budget could reach them. The farmer cannot fix the price of his produce. Some of the Hon'ble Members have expressed their views in the House that the owners of the factories themselves fix the prices of their products and they also have due representation on the Committee if there is one to fix the price of these products. I would like to make a demand to the Government that whenever the price of the produce of the farmers is fixed, due representation should be given to them on the Committee. Today, we are discussing the Demands for Grants relating to the Min-

istries of Agriculture and Water Resources. These two Ministries are complementary to each other. If we want to make progress in the field of agriculture, we need water for irrigation. Water is life. During these 42 years, we could provide water only to 33 per cent farmers. One Cabinet Minister of the previous Government, Hon'ble Shri Bhajan Lal and some other friends of Congress Party, who are sitting in the opposition today, have said that they were very liberal towards the farmers. Their liberal attitude towards farmers can be judged from the fact that they could provide irrigation facilities only to 33 per cent of farmers. Our old water supply schemes are becoming useless. I come from Rohtas district of Bihar, where Sone Canal is located. This Scheme was formulated in the year 1875 and now it is about 115 years old. The life span of this canal was assessed as 50 years, but even after 115 years, the above scheme has not been completed, although it has the irrigation potential of 22 lakh acres of land. Today, its irrigation potential has dropped down to the lowest level. When there is heavy rainfall, the fields are flooded and if there is scanty rainfall, their crops wither away due to drought. The condition of the farmers is very grave in that district today. They remain worried whether their fields would get adequate water. The Government of Bihar has proposed a scheme for modernisation of Sone Canal which is under consideration of the Central Government. A contract for Rs. 1400 crore was finalised with the Government. The Government has not taken any categorical decision on that project and it is still pending. I demand that the Government should adopt a liberal attitude in regard to the Sone Canal Scheme because it is an old scheme of the government of Bihar and one of the biggest irrigation projects of the country. Sufficient money should be allotted for this project we would not have to depend on Ban Sagar Project. We formulate and announce new schemes but the old schemes like the irrigation scheme of Bhojpur, Rohtas, Aurangabad, Gaya and Patna remain incomplete as yet. I know that the rivers flow through various States and each State has a share in the rivers because they are national assets. On

completion of the Ban Sagar Project on Sone Canal in Madhya Pradesh, 10,000 cusecs of water had to be given to Bihar but it is not being given. The work on Kadvan irrigation project on North Koel river has not yet been started. With the construction of this project. We can get water of Sone river and these five drought prone districts will no more be in the grip of drought, 450 M.W. electricity will be generated by this irrigation project. There is shortage of electricity in Bihar. When I asked the officers of the Electricity Board in Patna about this, they told me that at present about 300-350 M.W. electricity is being generated in Bihar. Thus the condition of Bihar is pitiable. At present about 5300 M.W. electricity is being produced in entire country. Bihar is 1/10th of the entire country in terms of population and only 300 M.W. electricity is being generated there. Bihar is the second largest State in terms of population and it provides 45 per cent of total production of minerals. In spite of this it is being cheated and injustice is being done to it. All the irrigation projects whether it is Kadvan irrigation project or Burgvati reservoir scheme whose foundation stone was laid by late Shri Jagjivan Ram in 1973, are yet incomplete. About Rs. 25 to 30 crores were sanctioned for this project and almost the entire amount has been spent but even 1/4th construction has not been completed so far. The Zmania Lift Irrigation Scheme, which was to provide water for irrigation in the Western Bihar through a canal by lifting water from the Ganga, remains incomplete. My point is that several projects are lying incomplete due to indifferent attitude of the Government. Bihar is a backward State because of the indifferent attitude of the Government.

In the end, I would like to request the Government that all the irrigation projects of our State should be completed expeditiously. I would like to make a demand that a National Agriculture Policy for farmers should be formulated. The representative of the farmers should be consulted for fixing the price of their products and fertilizer and seeds of good quality should be provided to them. Better arrangements should be made for

irrigation too. I would like to state in no uncertain terms that this Government has gained respect, prestige and popularity in 42 years and this is what the previous Government did not do in 42 years and this is what is worrying the opposition now. With these words I support these Demands for Grants. Thank you.

SHRI S.C. VERMA (Bhopal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no need to speak about the importance of the irrigation in our country. It is because of irrigation that our agricultural production has gone up and we are able to feed our growing population. We have only 30 per cent of irrigated land but we are producing 70 per cent foodgrains because of it. Therefore, irrigation is of prime importance and in view of the growth in our population which will reach 100 crore by the end of this century and 160-170 crore by the year 2024 we will be left with no other alternative but to give top most priority to irrigation facilities. Often it is said that dry land farming is an alternative. I have practical experience as I have been an I.A.S. officer since 1955-56 and have held many posts like Agriculture Secretary, Agriculture Production Commissioner etc. There has been lot of discussion on dry land farming throughout the country during the last 20-25 years. But there are no concrete results till date on the basis of which we can say that dry land farming is good for our country and it can feed the millions in this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government is aware that our per capita food availability has remained static at 178 kgs. for the last 30 years. It has not changed in 30 years. We have made progress and achieved many targets but we have failed to make adequate arrangements for irrigation which is necessary for feeding the people. Foodgrains can be produced only with proper irrigation but in this regard we remain where we were 30 years ago. The need of the hour today is to give top priority to irrigation in the country. If we do not give priority to irrigation and do not try to develop it then the country will face a serious problem of shortage of foodgrains. The issue of irrigation has become compli-

[Sh. S.C. Verma]

cated due to two reasons. One of them is that some people in our country, who are under the influence of Western Countries, are preventing us from making progress in the field of irrigation land they are also against big dams. They should realise that we are able to meet our requirements of foodgrains largely due to these big dams. Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are supplying foodgrains to the entire country. Bulk of foodgrains are being produced due to these being dams which are constructed many years ago. We have been able to irrigate our land and increase the production because of these dams. Today, Punjab supplies foodgrains to the entire country. I belong to Madhya Pradesh and it is four times bigger than Punjab in respect to area but agricultural production in Madhya Pradesh is very little in comparison to Punjab. The main reason being that in Madhya Pradesh only 15 per cent of land is irrigated whereas it is 70-80 per cent in Punjab. I fail to understand when all the facts are before us on what basis people say that we should not construct big dams or increase the facilities of irrigation. They are agitating on this issue. These are the people who have asked to stop the work on Koyalkaro Project in Bihar, Tehri Dam, Bhodhghat Project at Bastar, Narmada Sagar Dam and Sardar Sarovar Dam. I have been the Chairman of Narmada Valley Development Board. I know that river Narmada is a precious gift of nature in which 28 million acre feet water flows. It is very distressing that even though this river has been flowing in our country since billions of years we have utilised only 2 million acre feet water so far. That means we have utilised only 2 million acre feet water so far. That means we have utilised only 2 million acre feet water out of 28 million acre feet water. We can generate 3500 MW of electricity from river Narmada whereas we have generated only 80-90 M.W. of electricity. The people who consider themselves to be custodians of environment want that water from our rivers should flow into the Arabian sea and be wasted while we continue to live in poverty. They want that foodgrains should

be not be produced here. I want to ask those people, who are against construction of big dams in the name of environment and pollution that can we maintain pollution free environment by living in poverty? Poverty and environment cannot co-exist. When there will be poverty the poor will cut trees in the forest to make their both ends meet. If in our state the production is less then our cattle will graze in the forests and nobody will be able to protect the forests. It is totally a misconception to believe that big dams have been causing destruction of forests. The truth is that it is our poverty that is leading towards the destruction of our forest wealth. Statistical data will also show how little of our land has gone waste on account of our large projects. Second thing is that we can make progress even without destroying forests and also protect the environment. Moreover poverty and environment are quite inimical to each other. However, we can find a way out to protect our environment and to go on with the work of development.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would take just 2-3 minutes more. It is often said that big dams would cause earthquakes. I consider this also to be misconception, because no scientific basis has been found so far for what is called Reservoir Induced seismicity that dams will causes earthquakes. No doubt, Koyana was hit by one such earthquake and several other places have had such tremoras; however science has reached such a developed stage that if fixed proportion of steel and cement is taken to prepare what is called 'seismic co-efficient' and construct the dams with that material even in intense seismic zone, the dams so constructed would remain unaffected. No doubt this very fact is sufficient enough to invite severe criticism in respect of the construction of big dams. In fact, there are no two opinions about it that we have not taken proper care of the families which had been displaced for the construction of dams and they have not been rehabilitated. Instead they were meted out injustice and had to face atrocities. Whether it was the construction of Nagarjun Sagar or Bhakhra Nangal Dam or Pong Dam or any other dam in other States, it remains a fact that the

people who were displaced have not been properly looked after. As a result the farmers, who were earlier in a sound financial position have become paper. But what does not mean that we should continue to repeat the same mistakes even in future. To err is human. Water or dams are not to be blamed for that matter. If we may take measures for the proper rehabilitation of these families, it would not be proper to say that the construction of such dams will bring in the inevitable catastrophe for these families.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing more on the basis of my personal experience. Why do we run after the World Bank to get loan or any other thing? This is not in the interest of our country. There was a time when the World bank did not take much time to clear the projects, but now-a-days it takes so long time to give its sanction. I have experienced it because I had handled the Narmada Project also through the World Bank. Earlier the World Bank used to clear the projects within one or two years. But in case of Narmada Project which was submitted to it in the year 1982 they have not cleared it till not when 1990 has already set in. They are just dilly dallying on the matter on one pretext or the other. Now why should we run after them? The time has come when we should implement our projects through our own resources rather than taking loans from other countries. Why should the foreigners prevail on us and that also when they give us just thirty rupees out of a total loan of hundred advanced in our name on their unilateral terms. They compel us to engage foreign consultant on an exorbitant monthly salary of at least twenty four thousand dollars for each of them. Why do we need their services? Our own engineers are no less competent than the foreign engineers. I am confident that we can complete any project with our own engineers and indigenous technology.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Government of India itself creates obstruction in the completion of Dam projects. They boast a lot and claim that projects are cleared by them within a month

or two. But in actual practice, it does not so happen. Narmada Sagar Project was kept pending for a period of three years. As a result the estimated cost of the project which was Rs. 900 crores three years back, escalated to Rs. 1400 crores over these years. After all, who is responsible for it? I am myself a bureaucrat, but I regret to say that bureaucracy has no accountability in this country. It was merely a laxity on the part of our bureaucracy that the cost of a project escalated from Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 1400 crores. For three years, the project remained only on paper and the bureaucrats never bothers about it and not the estimated cost has gone up to Rs. 1500 crores. This is a national loss? Who will compensate it? Will these persons who delayed the clearance, be held responsible? The countries which have already made all round development, are trying to educate us about environment. Our country is moving on the path of development at said space. If the clearance of the projects is delayed on one pretext or the other, we won't be able to complete any irrigation project.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before I conclude, I would like to submit that India is called the country of Hydraulic civilization. Here we had the system of irrigation in this country even 10-15 thousand years ago. In those days, when we had developed the system of irrigation, the Europeans were yet leading a totally uncivilized life. But it is something ironical that today we are adopting in our country the technology developed by the Western Countries. I would like to read out a few lines in which a foreigner has wondered why the poor countries adopt the western technology:

[English]

"Egypt, Pakistan and Iraq have become dependent on economic and technical aid from an industrial country or set of countries for river management. This is the road from which China turned away, after the first five year plan, in placing renewed emphasis on traditional methods in combination with

[Sh. S.C. Verma]

modern ones to fashion river management strategy."

It further reads as follows:

"In China alone among the hydraulic civilizations of the old world have traditional practice survived in sufficient strength to affect the transition to modern river management."

[Translation]

We belong to a hydraulic civilisation which is older than that China. History reveals that we are older. But we have abandoned our old methods to adopt western technology in order to modernise our projects. But it is not in the interest of our country. With these words, I support the demands of the Ministry of Water Resources.

[Translation]

SHRI M. BAGA REDDY (Medak): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Demands relating to agriculture are very important ones. They have a direct bearing on 80 per cent and an indirect bearing on the 100 per cent people of this country. If one sees it from that point of view, the first thing we will find is that:

[English]

The geographical area of the country is 328 million hectares of which the cultivable area is 186 million hectares which is 56 per cent of the total area. The net sown area in 1985 was 141 million hectares which is 76.9 per cent of cultivable area. It is also a well recognised fact that it cannot be increased; otherwise there will be a decrease on account of increasing pressure on land for urbanisation and other developmental activities. The total cultivated area is 141 million hectares; out of which 70 per cent is dry and 30 per cent is wet.

[Translation]

Out of 70 per cent cultivatable land, we

have only 42 per cent of food production and in 30 per cent cultivable land, our food production is 58 per cent.

[English]

The generation of irrigation potential of 2.5 million....

[Translation]

If we get finance every year, we can add an additional irrigational potential 2.5 million hectare. It means that at the most, by the end of the this century i.e. 2000 A.D. we can bring only 50 per cent cultivable area under irrigation.

[English]

This has been proved beyond any doubt that the basic input for agricultural production is water in our country.

[Translation]

The production of foodgrains in 1989 was 172 million tonnes in the country, against the target of 15.6 per cent. All this progress has been possible not due to nay magic or any divine miracle but science, technology, research, developmental work and extension work have made their contribution to it. Big projects have been set up with the progress of the country during the last 40 years. Moreover, the hard work of our farmers and cultivators have added lustre to it. The sources or irrigation shall have to be increased, if greater developmental heights are to be achieved in this country. The irrigation sources can be classified broadly in three categories, i.e. major irrigation, minor irrigation and the well irrigation. On the basis of these three types of irrigation, most of districts come under major irrigation. In some places, there are ponds so they come under minor irrigation. But in some places, there is neither the sources of major irrigation nor that of minor irrigation. So they have to depend solely on the wells. A lot of districts, which are hitherto not covered under irrigation till now, will also be covered under it, if the Ganga—Cauvery Canal link project, as

prepared by Dr. K.L. Rao is executed. So far as the question of cost of cultivation is concerned, it will be definitely less under major irrigation or minor irrigation, whether it is in respect of sugarcane, paddy a cotton or any other crop. Under major irrigation programmes, the Government spends crores of rupees to increase production where there are wells, the cultivators themselves constructs straining walls by spending money from their own pocket. If other overheads, such as electricity charges are also included, the cost of cultivation will be more. Whatever is produced whether it is sugarcane. Cotton or tobacco, its own market value is not more than the amount of expenditure on these heads. Irrespective of the cost of cultivation, the market price remains the same. The Government should take certain steps in this regard. Just now, an hon. Member has said that the water-table is constantly sinking. I am a cultivator myself. The water table which stood at the depth of 40 to 50 feet some 15 to 20 years back, has now gone down to 100 feet. Today, it has become necessary to find out ways to utilise this water economically. The Government should think in terms of drip irrigation and sprinkle irrigation. The Centre or the State Government should provide incentives to the farmers for the same. Besides this, the Central Government should also widely popularize it, so that farmers can benefit from it. It can solve the problem to some extent. It is necessary to construct percolation tank or check dam to maintain the water table at the existing level otherwise, the entire funds will be spent up on the big projects and the dry areas will remain neglected. This will create a difference. As we give more attention towards the progress of tribals and backward classes, it is all the more necessary to give more attention towards the progress of dry areas also.

Just now, an hon. Member has said that if a cultivator brings his produce during the harvest season, he is forced to sell it at rock-bottom prices. The Government should make arrangements for preservation, processing, packing and marketing of agricultural produce. These four things should be done in

the interest of the cultivators. There are a number of places, where there is no provision of cold storage for the preservation of their produce. There are no cold storages for tomatoes. As in the case of my constituency, there is no cold storage, so the entire production of potato is taken to the market immediately and its prices are fixed on the basis of its demand and supply. If the supply happens to exceed the demand, the prices fall and the cultivator has to bear the brunt. If the Government wants the farmers to cooperate, it should make arrangements for preservation, processing, packing and marketing of the foodgrains in the entire country.

Secondly there are many agricultural universities in our country, but all the three facilities, that is, education, research and extension are not there. As regards education, it is alright, they impart it but the results of their research should reach the villages through extension programmes. The Government should take more interest in it.

I would like to say something about sugarcane. In Maharashtra, they have done a lot in respect of sugarcane. In that state the production of sugarcane in 1960-61 was only 30 to 35 lakh tonnes which has now gone up to more than 90 lakh tonnes this year. But it is also being said that there will be scarcity of sugar for the domestic consumption in our country and so, it shall have to be imported. There is only one way out left to raise the production of sugar and it has been adopted by the sugar factories in Maharashtra and Gujarat and to some extent, by the factories in Karnataka and Gujarat also. In fact, the factories in these States undertake both the work of harvesting and transportation. In Maharashtra itself, there are 104 factories which are doing both the jobs. As a result, the time gap between harvesting and crushing is reduced, which in turn gives more recovery. There is one per cent more recovery in the factories of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, as this system has been in vogue every 20 to 25 miles in the border areas of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The factories in Maharashtra are showing an average recovery of 12.5 per

[Sh. M. Baga Reddy]

cent of sugar. If the Central Government directs the other States to adopt the system of Maharashtra, there can be an additional production of 4 to 5 lakh tonnes of sugar in our country. Then there will be no need to import it. It is a strange coincidence that during the elections, it was said that the farmers are the backbone of our country and a lot has to be done for them as they are lagging behind. Farmers got the idea that the new Government will provide them with a lot of facilities. The present Government, in their election manifesto and later also said that loans upto Rs. 10,000 will be waived. So, when the farmers came to know about waiving of loans, they stopped repaying the loans, because they thought that when it was to be waived, why should they repay it. Now, it is being said by the Government that loans of willful defaulters will not be waived. Why they have become willful defaulters, because they have stopped the repayment of their loans, which will eventually be waived. Even today, if you waive all the loans, it is okay. Otherwise, I would like to quote a couplet:

“Bahut shor sunte the pahu me dil ka,
Jo cheera to ak katrae khun na nikla.”

Except disappointment, they didn't get anything from the hopes that had been raised in them and the promised which were held out to them. How long will the amount of one thousand crore rupees last which has been provided in the Budget for the loan waiver. I should like to submit that in different States, there are different systems of crop loan disbursement, i.e. cooperative banks, nationalised banks, land development banks and various other systems for the same and various other facilities to the farmers. Instead, I would like to suggest to the Government that there should be a single window system and passbooks should be issued to the farmers, in which the value of his land should be noted and certified, so that he can draw the amount from any branch of the bank. It will be much better if this system is adopted for this purpose.

This demand is vast and many subjects are covered under it. Irrigation is one such subject and Panchayati Raj or rural development is also a part of it. I would like to give some suggestions to the Government regarding the rural development. Since I have held the posts of village Sarpanch, Samiti President, Zila Parishad President and the charge of Panchayat Minister under the Panchayati Raj System. It will be better if a uniform system of Panchayati Raj is adopted in the entire country. Today, in Karnataka, there is two-tier system, that is, of Mandal Panchayat and the Zila Parishad. In Maharashtra, the system is different—that is the system of direct elections and indirect elections. In Andhra Pradesh, there is four-tier system. The Balwant Rai Committee had suggested a three-tier system and Ashok Mehta Committee had recommended a two-tier system only but Shri N. T. Rama Rao has made it a four-tier system i.e. The system consisting of Gram Panchayat, Mandal Panchayat, Zila Parishad and District Development Board. I would like to suggest that in place of all these systems, a uniform system of Panchayati Raj should be introduced in all the States of the country.

It is for the first time during the period of last 20 to 25 years that the Sarpanchs have seen the funds to have been allotted to the village Development Boards till now, under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojana. Never before so much amount of money was released for the villages. The main intention of implementing Panchayati Raj is to seek the participation of non-officials and to give them an opportunity to work with the officials. As they are being given executive powers they would be able to construct roads and school buildings in their villages, on their own and according to their requirements. This had made the scheme more useful. I would like to request the Government to continue with this scheme and other schemes like N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. for a better result.

I would like to conclude by adding one more thing. Now-a-days in respect of all the big rivers like Krishna Godavari and Cauveri, there are disputes. The State Governments

have been complaining that while Central Government is not clearing the project as such we have no provision for it in our budgets. As a result the Srisalem Left Bank Canal Project for which an amount of Rs. 100 crores had been provided in the budget an amount of Rs. 4 crores only has been spent and it is now pending. When we asked the reason, we were told that the project was not being approved by the Central Government, the Planning and Development Commission and the Water and Power Commission. As a result this project is pending otherwise they could have completed it with in a very short duration. Again in this week I asked them and I was told that some queries have been sent to the State Government for being resolved by them and as soon as the queries are resolved by them and sent back the project would be approved. Therefore, I would like to request you to call the state representatives and clear all the pending projects of all the States be it Karnataka, Maharashtra or Andhra Pradesh.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it was my maiden speech in the House and I am grateful to you that you gave me an opportunity to express my views.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome the decision, the right decision to take up Agriculture with Water Resources. Sir, in our country, agriculture is so much dependent on the irrigation system. In our country, Agriculture is very much depending upon the nature. If it rains, there is good prospect of foodgrains. If there is drought, then there will be no crops. There will be starvation and naturally the people of this country will pray "Oh Allaha, Medh De, Pani de". "Oh God, please help us with cloud rain and water". So, Sir, we have to develop agriculture to increase the production of foodgrains and for this purpose water is very necessary. We would like to have irrigation projects, particularly where there is scope for irrigation projects. My hon. friend, Mr. Nani Bhattacharya, raised the issue of Teesta Barrage project.

This project was approved by the Planning Commission in 1974. But it was taken up only 1978 and till date it has not yet been completed. About 10 lakh hectares of land are going to be irrigated by this project. According to the Planning Commission report after the completion of the first phase and second phase of this project, it will have a potentiality irrigating 9.22 lakh hectares of land. If the project in the Upper catchment of the Teesta river is completed, it will have the potentiality of irrigation of about 13 lakh hectares of land. It is the biggest project in India. But I am sorry to say that the erstwhile Congress Government at the Centre had spent only Rs. 5 crores on this project and Rs. 15 crores were given as loan as advance. The West Bengal Government, with its limited resource, had already spent more than Rs. 300 crores on this project. but the then Central Government did not come forward to help the State Government. Of course, it is true that after the National Front Government came to power, they have agreed to grant Rs. 10 crores. As I have said, it is the biggest project in India and this project will cover the five North-Eastern districts of West Bengal, namely, Cooch-Bihar, Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling, West Dinajpur and Malda. They are backward areas. About 50% of the total population on living in those districts belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community. The erstwhile Government, the Congress Government, spoke much about the help to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. But they did not come forward to develop this area. According to an Agriculture Expert when this project is completed, sufficient quantity of foodgrains will be produced in the State and West Bengal will become self-sufficient in the production of foodgrains. If this so, I do not know why this project has been delayed. At this late hour, I appeal to the National Front Government to take up this work on a priority basis and let it be on the basis of 50:50 share of expenditure.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, regarding the Ganges which flows over to Farakka and then to Bangladesh, Mr.

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

Gujral, our External Affairs Minister, recently visited Bangladesh and he had a pact regarding the sharing of Ganges water. It was stated that he signed an interim agreement for sharing the Ganges waters on the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of 1985 for season. Mr. Gujral said that under the *ad hoc* sharing arrangements of 1977, 1982 and 1985, India had shouldered an unfairly heavy and disproportionate burden of the shortages in the Ganga. This was done out of friendship for Bangladesh. Sir, here is my point. You are sharing the Ganges water at the level of Farakka alone, but you know that for the Calcutta port, 40000 cusecs of water is essential and out of that, how much is available? What are the statistics? About the sharing of waters of Farakka, a survey was made from 1948 to 1973. It is not the question of survey. You will find that sometimes the flow of the Ganges at the level of Farakka was only 50,000 cusecs of water. Why? For Ganges alone, to keep alive the Calcutta port, it requires 40,000 cusecs of water. But you are sharing it in such a manner that ultimately it will be 20,000 cusecs of water. That means, the Calcutta Port will be dry. For this reason my suggestion is that even in the lean season the Ganges discharges water at the water level of about 2 lakhs cusecs. Why are you not distributing it in between Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal? You are not distributing the water when it comes to the level of Farakka alone. Why are you not distributing it from the very beginning? Let the water be distributed among UP, Bihar and West Bengal. Let there be a Committee.

AN HON. MEMBER: Rajasthan also.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Rajasthan is not there. Those who are speaking about Rajasthan are speaking about the Ganga-Cauveri canal. Even when the Ganges flows through West Bengal, the State of West Bengal is not getting enough water. This is the position. It is as if it is the property of Uttar Pradesh, I would like to say that it is not the property of Uttar Pradesh, it

is a national property. If it is national property, there must be a Committee and it must be formed with Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal representing therein.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: (Ghosi): Why you are talking about Uttar Pradesh?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: I am saying it only because of the fact that even in the lean months you are taking the whole of the water of Ganges and you are not giving even a small quantity of water to West Bengal. Of course, in the rainy season you are giving much water. But in the rest of the months you are not giving water to West Bengal. That is the position. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, as you have taken up these two subjects at a time. I would like to go on to Agriculture also. For the better agricultural produce and improvement, definitely I do share the same view along with my friends, those who spoke about the remunerative price for the agricultural produce. The parity of the price in between the industrial products and agricultural produce, the marketing facilities and the cold storage facilities are required just as my friends told. The crop insurance at the present pattern....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: I will finish in five minutes, Sir. About the crop pattern. When there are natural calamities such as drought and others, then in some parts crop insurance is there, but not for all crops. Why is it not for all crops? It must be done. The rule is there that it must be judged and surveyed at the block level, but that is not correct. If there is half storm the hail storm cannot be there throughout the block. So, if the damage is less than one-fourth of the area, will you declare that there was no hail storm? So, the unit for judging the damage should be at the Gram panchayat level.

What is important is the land reforms. It does not get much importance in the present Government also. It is a matter of regret that

it has not been given much more importance. In our country, if you see the figures, you will find that only 2.4 per cent of total land-holders are operating or holding 22.3 percent of total agricultural land. 2.4 per cent of total farmers of country are holding lands ranging from 2 hectares to 20 hectares. Whereas 7 per cent of total farmers are holding less than 2 hectares of land. 74.5 per cent of total farmers hold 26.3 per cent of the total land.

About 74.54 lakh acres of land are declared surplus though it was much less than the estimated surplus land.

Out of this, 57.88 lakh acres of land, i.e. 77 per cent of the total/declared surplus land was taken into possession. The land actually distributed till 1989 was 45.68 lakh acres.

There was a Revenue Ministers Conference. In that conference, it was decided that decision would be taken expeditiously regarding land reforms and if necessary, special courts would be constituted. You will find that there is one loophole in the land ceiling laws which is the biggest defect in the system. That is regarding permission to obtain land for personal cultivation. The land-holders went to the extent of even evicting the tenant for the purpose of personal cultivation, which term was defined very loosely in the law. The term 'personal cultivation' includes personal supervision. It is being misused and this term 'personal supervision' must be removed from the provisional of land ceiling law. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you know it very well that even before partition in 1947, when the Congress was not in power, the slogan of the Congress at that time was, 'Land to the tillers.' But are these people who are misusing the provisions of law, tillers? Those who are holding so much of land, say 100, 200, 500 hectares of land are not the tillers. They should be evicted from the land. The share croppers are the real tillers. The agricultural labours are the real tillers. The land must be distributed to these people. This should be *motto* of the National Front government. If that is done, we welcome it and we support it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Maharajan): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, according to a report of I.C.A.R., the apex body of agricultural research, the country's food production can be increased by 50 to 100% provided there are adequate provision of irrigation facilities. But it is unfortunate that even after 40 years of independence the farmers of this country have to depend solely on rains.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was listening to the speech delivered by Shri Bhajan Lal, who dwelt exhaustively on the unlimited work done by his Government. I admit that work is nothing if it is to compare with the time they took. This shows their indifferent attitude towards agriculture.

Hon. Sir, in 1950-51, in this country the irrigated land covered under the big and medium projects and small irrigation projects was 0.97 crore and 1.29 crore hectares respectively. Thus, the total national irrigation potential in 1950-51 was 2.29 crore hectares. In 1985 it touched the mark of 5.75 crore hectares. Thus, it was ample proof of dedication and sincerity of the earlier Government towards farmers that over a long period of 35-40 years they could raise the irrigation capacity just by 3.49 crore hectares.

This is our first irony while the another one relates to our viability to make the optimum another one relates to our viability to make the optimum utilization of the existing capacity. For example in 1970-71 the capacity to irrigate 1 hectare of land could be created by spending Rs. 2200 under big and small irrigation projects. And for want of optimum utilisation of our irrigation potential now we are incurring a loss of Rs. 14 thousand crores per year.

The third ironical situation is the coexistence of drought of flood. While on one hand the half of our population particularly the people living in South in Bihar have to face hardships because of acute shortage of drink-

[Sh. Amar Roypradhan]

ing water, on the other hand the people of North Bihar and many other states continue to reel under the devastating floods and inundation which open the gates of the destruction for them. The floods destroyed crops worth Rs. 2292 crores and Rs. 1650 crores in the year 1983 and 1984 respectively. Hon. Sir, according the Flood Control Commission if this situation continues to persist we will have to bear loss of our crops worth Rs. 2000 crores every year. But even more tragic is the loss and erosion of top soil by the floods while every inch of it is created by the nature over a period of 500 to 1000 years. but the top soil of 85 lakh hectares of land gets eroded every year due to rains, floods and soil erosion. And for that matter North Bihar in particular is the worst affected region. The total area of Bihar is 173.50 lakh hectares, out of it an area of 64.4 lakh hectares, that is 37% of the total area is always flood affected. The people of Bihar constituted 56% of the total flood affected population. What is the reason for it. The reason is the continuous neglect of Bihar. In North Bihar the Gandak project taken up in 1960 was scheduled to be completed in 1980-81. But to this date it is lying incomplete. As a result the expenditure incurred on this project has gone waste and may be debited under the head of unproductive expenditure.

Similarly many other projects like Bagmati Project and Masan Dam projects were taken up and even Kosi Project which was started much earlier has been lying incomplete to this date. All these projects are yet incomplete. Again, another project aimed at providing protection from flood to the people of Saran district, which is situated on the banks of the river Ganges, has been shuttling between the State and the Central Government. All this proves the continuous neglect of Bihar. Let alone the new facilities, this Government has tried to withdraw even the existing facilities.

The name of Sone Canal is known to all. Just now Shri Ram Prasad Babu was mak-

ing a reference to it. A canal system has been working there for the last 115 years, that is since the British period. That canal system used to provide adequate quantity of water but that too has been reduced due to this Ban Sagar Project. Later on, the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh jointly decided, on the intervention by the Central Government that the water would be released in the Sone canal from Rihand reservoir. But this agreement has been violated and water was never released for Sone canal. As a result as many as 22 lakh acres of land covering the districts of Gaya, Aurangabad, Bhojpur, Rohtas and Patna is turning into barren land. Time allotted to me is already over. Therefore, I would like to conclude only with some suggestions. All the projects which are already in hand should be completed as soon as possible. And the pending projects intended to control the menace of floods in North Bihar should be immediately revived. In order to maintain the flow of water throughout the year in Sone Canal, the water should be released in it under the agreement reached at between the Governments of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. All the rivers should be brought under a grid. For all such projects like Piparasi-Pipra Ghat Dam Project, Mahananda Dam project which are less beneficial to Bihar should be wholly financed by the Central Government. For example, Bihar gets just 1/3 share of the benefit from Piparasi Pipra Ghat Dam Project. While Uttar Pradesh gets 2/3 of the total benefit accruing from it, despite the fact that the entire expenditure is borne by Bihar. Similarly, in case of Mahananda Ghar Dam project Bengal gets 2/3 of its benefit, Bihar's share in it is just one-third. For all such projects entire expenditure should be borne by the Central Government. Most of the rivers of North Bihar have their origin in Nepal. The Government of Bihar has been repeatedly requesting the centre to undertake the construction of reservoirs in Nepal and to set up centres to collect information regarding the total rainfall in Nepal and the total quantity thereof flown in the territory of India. All this can be done only by the Central Government since it is an international issue. But the Central Govern-

ment has not shown any interest in this regard. Therefore centre should immediately talk to the Nepal Government to get the reservoirs constructed in their territory and set up such centres which may collect information in respect of the rainfall in Nepal and its inflow in India. But all these measures would not be effective enough to bring about agricultural development unless land reforms are implemented in all its seriousness. The land reforms would not only augment our agricultural production, but they would also exercise a check on the increasing social tension. The Parliament would be surprised to know that even after forty years of independence there are at least 10 thousand persons who possess as much 500-1000 acres of land and 500 maths (monasteries) or temples which have in their possession as much as 100-5000 acres of land. And the case of concessions that have been given to the sugar mills is a separate issue. Hon. Sir, with this existing system neither the social tension can be checked nor the production can be increased. Therefore, the implementation of land reforms needs serious efforts. I welcome the decision of the Central Government to include land reform laws in the 9th schedule and to take up the work of implementation of the same with utmost expediency. Once we succeed in implementing land reforms the tiller would have some kind of emotional attachment with his land and they would take it as their own land and cultivate even that land which has remained generally uncultivated. According to a survey, the entire cultivable land available with us can be exploited to produce as much as three times the present production from it and that too without any additional provision of irrigation, and fertilizers and better seeds.

With these words I support the demand for grants and conclude my speech with a hope that the Government would certainly think over my suggestions.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are having a discussion on the demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture. This National Front Government has promised to bring in an

Agricultural Policy resolution. At the moment, though Agriculture Minister Shri Devi Lalji is not present here, I am pleased to see that Shri Upendra Verma is present here. We cannot solve any problem by criticising each other. After all, the Government must specify its time bound programmes, an action which would make our country prosperous. You have been voted to power on your promise of allocating 50% of the total budget provision for rural areas and to waive loans of farmers and give pension to the aged and jobs or unemployment doles to the unemployed. I am pleased to see that you have made a promise to make India prosperous country. I wish you success in the fulfilment of your promises. We are ready to extend all our help to you in achieving this end.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the achievements of the democratic and socialist developing nations is exceptional as far as agriculture is concerned. It is the result of our excellent agricultural policies that the present foodgrains production of the country stands at the level of 18 crore tonnes as compared to earlier one of just 5 crore tonnes at the time of independence. It is an outcome of the hard work put in by our scientists and Government officials that our present foodgrain production has reached the level of 18 crore tonnes. They deserve congratulations for this. At the time of our independence, we had a poor, miserable and starving India. Is it the same India today? Do we import foodgrains today? I wish that you should work very smoothly, but I regret to say that since the National Front Government has assumed office, it has not even formulated the draft Eighth Five Year Plan. Six months have passed since then. Everybody knows that the duration of the Seventh Five Year Plan expired on 31st March and the draft Eighth Plan should not only have been ready by this time, but should have been approved by the Cabinet, the Parliament and the National Development Council; but everything remains yet to be done. How can a Government that could not prepare even a draft of the Eighth Five Year Plan achieve its objectives? Mere raising of slogans or indulging in character assassination are not solutions to

[Sh. Kalp Nath Rai]

the problems. Therefore, I ask if it was possible to develop agriculture without Bhakhra, Nangal and Nagarjun Sagar dams? Was it possible without tractors and industries? Was it possible to develop India in the absence of pesticides, insecticides or high quality seeds or even electricity?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the time of Independence, India generate just 1360 megawatts of electricity and today the generation has risen to 62 thousand megawatts. A target of generating 22,245 megawatts of electricity was set out in the Seventh Five Year Plan. We achieved that target. In the absence of this achievement, tube-wells and other pumps could not have functioned. The agricultural policy formulated by Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi created infrastructural base that could provide an impetus to the continuous development of agriculture so as to make India self-sufficient in foodgrains. The contribution of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, who gave the slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan", also cannot be under-estimated. It is because of their efforts that we are self-sufficient in foodgrains today. I agree that your Government wishes to add more to these achievements. (*Interruptions*) Everybody knows as to who is a corrupt person and who is an honest person. You may call anybody a corrupt man. How far is your Government fair and clean? You had been in power during the period from 1967 to 1980 and collapsed under the weight of your own wranglings. You have not done the work worth a single penny for India and 90 per cent of your MPs who played the politics of character assassination in this country had lost their deposits in the elections. You are not going to achieve anything through indiscreet and whimsical speeches. The issue of agriculture is being debated here. There is not a single honest and sincere person here. If anybody is honest, that is India alone. I would like to make two humble submissions through the hon. Deputy Speaker to hon. Upendra Nath Verma. There are two fundamental things in the country. If these are

settled national consensus can be achieved. There are river water disputes between the States of Punjab and Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra today and just now our colleague Shri Ram Bahadur Singh was making a reference to Bihar. We must keep in mind that entire India belongs to us and 80 crore citizens of this country are our brethren. Therefore, all the rivers of India should be nationalised. Arrangements should be made to channelise water through canals to those parts of India where there is need for the same. You know that condition in our country is very peculiar in the sense that certain parts of it experience drought while other parts present the dreadful sight of floods. It is imperative to channelise water through canals to the areas where there is scarcity of it so as to increase national production. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one can see for oneself the change that Ganganagar has undergone by virtue of Rajasthan Canal. The situation in the areas through which it passes has remarkably changed and this has provided a solid shape to the Green Revolution. Same thing applied to electricity as well. Without electricity we can neither bring about agricultural reforms nor increase industrial production. Technological revolution and comprehensive national development are not possible in the absence of electricity. Therefore, there is need to constitute a National Grid for Water and a National Grid for power. The National Grid for Power will make it possible to supply electricity to the areas where there is shortage of electricity and also launch the new technique for transfer of electricity from one zone to another. That is why the electricity passes from the Northern Grid to the Western Grid today. We can be able to cater to the need of electrification of the whole country if a National Grid is formed. Emphasis should be laid on producing electricity in the areas where it can be produced with the application of fewer resources and electricity should be transferred to the areas where there is dearth of it. In a similar manner, Water Grid can be set up to divert the water from the areas where it is in abundance. A network of canals can be laid in the country to achieve this end. As Shri Kumaramangalam has just said here

that our country faces a unique phenomenon of drought in certain parts and floods in others consequently inflicting heavy losses. Every year, we spend crores of rupees to combat both the calamities on war footing. This way, a large share of our economic resources goes down the drain. Despite that we suffer heavy loss of life and crops due to drought on the one hand and floods on the other. There should be a concrete point of view at the national level for the solution of these problems so that we can increase the national production more and more.

I would also like to urge upon Shri Verma that the Government should arrange for the export of agricultural goods produced in our country. A research should be undertaken to explore the markets for these agricultural goods abroad and for ascertaining which countries need which type of produce so that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce on the one hand and on the other we are able to push the consumption of our agricultural goods in the world market.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir it is necessary to encourage animal-husbandry along with agriculture today. The greatest achievement of India amongst the third world countries is its self-sufficiency in the field of agriculture but much emphasis has not been laid on animal-husbandry along with agriculture. There is great need of milk for the 80 crore people of India. Today, we have to see what is the consumption of milk per person in this country. When the slogan of "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" was raised in the country, it became imperative to see how much milk does an average jawan get, because he can be sturdy only when he consumes adequate quantity of milk. Very little has been done in the field of animal husbandry in India, and there is need to do more. I would, therefore, like to impress upon the Government to encourage animal husbandry at a war footing at national level so that the farmers will be able to get the organic manure through their cattle which will increase the fertility and consequently the productivity of the fields.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is also

scope for mechanisation in the fields of agriculture and animal husbandry. It is good to make use of tractors. I would also like to make another submission that priority should be given to the plantation of fruit-yielding trees in the country. Horticulture should be encouraged. I remember the days of my childhood when the gardens and orchards covered half of the village land consisting of mango, 'Jamun' and various other fruit-bearing trees but the situation today is that they are all vanishing today. It, therefore, becomes necessary for us to go for the plantation of crores of fruit-bearing trees for the maintenance ecological balance and all round development of our country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, steps should be taken in the direction of research and development in our country as well. Just now, one of our colleagues said that the recovery of sugarcane is the highest in Maharashtra. Sugar mills were first set up in Bihar and U.P. during the British rule, but in Maharashtra the recovery of sugar from sugarcane is the highest in India. This why the mills there earn more profits as compared to those in Bihar and U.P. Therefore, research should be made to develop improved variety of sugarcane for U.P. and Bihar keeping in view their climatic conditions and the kinds of soil like the black soil, the sandy fallow land and other kinds of soils. Thus research and development needs to be given priority in U.P. and Bihar where there is large scale sugarcane cultivation. We can develop high quality breeds of cattle fruit-bearing trees and achieve agricultural development by establishing research centres alone. I would, therefore, like to submit that emphasis should be laid on opening more and more agricultural research centres in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the greatest scientists of our country is Dr. Swaminathan who has contributed a lot to research and development in the fields of agriculture in India. I would like to thank him on behalf of our motherland. Crores of country's farmers are grateful to him today. Just now our colleague referred to the calamity of

[Sh. Kalp Nath Rai]

floods in Bihar. In this connection, I would like to submit that U.P., Bihar and Bengal can not be saved from the fury of floods unless and until the flow of Pancheshwari, Karnali and Bhalubandh rivers originating from Nepal is checked by constructing dams on them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a dialogue is going on between the Governments of India and Nepal now-a-days. By constructing big dams on Pancheshwari, Balubandh and Karnali rivers we can check the floods on the one hand and produce 25000 megawatts of electricity on the other. India produces 70% of electricity through thermal power today and the remaining 30% requirement is fulfilled by hydro-electric power.

In order to strike a balance, the ratio should be 40 per cent hydro-electricity and 60 per cent thermal power. It is, therefore, necessary that priority should be accorded to the generation of hydro-electric power. Ghaghara, Sharda and Rati rivers originate from Nepal. Construction of Pancheshwari, Karnali and Bhalubandh dams is of utmost necessity. Until and unless large dams like that of Bhakra and Nagarjun Sagar are constructed on rivers originating from Nepal, States such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal cannot be saved from the fury of floods. As long as these States are not saved from flood fury properties worth thousands of crores of rupees will continue to be destroyed every year. Apart from that, the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, though capable of meeting foodgrain requirements of whole Asia, cannot achieve that goal due to this calamity. The Pancheshwari, Karnali and Bhalubandh dams will not only control the devastating floods, but 25,000 MW electricity will also be generated from these dams. With that electricity can be supplied to each and every house in the country. The prices of agricultural produce should be fixed. The prices of agricultural produce should be fixed higher than their costs of production. This apart if the farmer sells wheat at Rs. 200 a quintal, it should be ensured that he gets it at a price of Rs. 210 throughout the

year, if needed. The price of industrial goods should be fixed and made available to the people at a price not more than one and half of their costs of production. No matter whether it is the Government of the Congress Party or the Government of the National Front, not much improvement can be made in agriculture until and unless it pursues the policy of dam construction and scientific development. Disparities will continue to be there and people will continue to migrate from villages to cities unless agriculture is made a profitable enterprise. 20 to 30 years ago from now the village artisans like goldsmith etc. started to migrate from villages. So were the village labourers who abandoned their jobs in the villages and came to cities to pull rickshaws. With the industrialisation of economy, more than half of the village population have come to cities leaving the villages. As such I would like to tell you that unless agriculture is made profitable, it will not be possible to provide jobs to unemployed people in the country. The people cannot be misled for long by populist slogans. The slogan "Aram haram hai" should be our national objective. Until and unless each and every citizen of the country engages himself in the task of nation building with a sense of patriotism and hard work, the dreams of Gandhiji to build a society based on the principle of equality cannot be fulfilled. As such, in order to fulfil the objectives of our freedom struggle, we have to build our future keeping our glorious past in mind. This will help us fulfil the dreams of our freedom fighters to build a strong India. With these words I conclude.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the subject on which we are holding a discussion is very wide and a number of problems and lives of crore population in the country are linked with this issue. It has been the misfortune of the country that the more we talk about the farmers, the more difficulties they are facing. A class comprising of big farmers, big landlords, high officials, big leaders, big leader has emerged in the country. They always give catchy slogans to tempt farmers who fall prey to such temptations. As a result, their condition is going from bad to

worse day by day and a handful of persons are growing richer and richer. This is the sum total of our political achievement in last 40 years.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it gives me pleasures, however, I do not want to thank or pat the National Front Government which in its manifesto has made a commitment to the slogan 'Land will be given to the tiller' raised by the Congress Party 42 years ago. But what we find today? Who is the owner of the land? Who gave this ownership right to them? The prevailing system of ownership of land is the creation of the Britishers and the then rajas. They used to give land in form of Jagirs to their adulators and agents. They allotted big jagirs to these people so that they could serve their interest. They possessed land during these 40 years also. We talk of socialism, but in practice it is quite the reverse. I appreciate the feelings of Shri Kalp Nath Rai. It would have been better had he expressed these feelings while they were in power. It is very unfortunate that such an idea struck to his mind after they are out of power.

I come from an area in Rajasthan bordering Pakistan. There are no constructions in the villages except barbed wires raised along the border. There is no provision of potable water for drinking purpose. I raised an issue yesterday that cows and large heads of cattle are dying for want of water. The area is experiencing severe drought. People are migrating from the area. While some of them are migrating to Madhya Pradesh, others are proceeding towards Haryana. People with their cattle are moving toward Punjab also. They are least mindful about the dangerous situation prevailing in Punjab. In fact this danger could not prevent them from going to Punjab. It is a question of life and death for them. Our heart starts sinking when we see the life of people living of 5 Star hotels, skyscappers and big mansions. Kalp Nath Ji, when I see people spending Rs. 2,500 per day in 5 Star hotels, I fail to understand how they can afford such a huge expenditure. It makes us restive and forces us to think as to who me this country belongs to?

I was just making a reference to fruits. Shri Kalp Nath Ji was telling that he used to take fruits. I would also like to tell him that I also used to take fruits in my childhood.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you making a speech on Shri Kalp Nath Rai or speaking on agriculture?

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: I am talking of the things that are linked with agriculture. Fruits such as mango and grapes also come under agriculture. If somebody now a days is seen purchasing vegetables or fruits in a shop, others think that a doctor may have prescribed it for him. If somebody sees that other taking milk in a sweetmeat shop, he thinks that the other is taking milk on a doctor's advice. Today one gets milk and fruits only when one falls ill. Today these things are beyond a common man's reach. Today fruits are a scarce commodity for our children. It is not the case with one child, but lakhs of children are seen begging at railway stations and traffic crossings in search of bread. When vehicles stop at the traffic crossings at the red light for two minutes and these children approach the riders begging money, there is every likelihood of their coming under the vehicles. Situation has assumed such a pass in the country today. Today it is a million dollar question before the country as to who created this situation, who should be held responsible for this and who should be punished for this? That is why I do not want to thank the National Front Government for their various pronouncements made recently such as waiver of loans, granting of old age pension, provision of crop insurance etc. which seems to be very tempting. The Government could very well implement these schemes. Our demand is very simple. We do not want that the Government should implement the election manifesto of our party or for that matter implement our party policies. We want that the Government should implement its own manifesto, otherwise it will create a crisis of confidence. The people of this country will lose faith in the political leaders—no matter whether they belong to Congress Party, the B.J.P., the C.P.M. or any other party. 40 per cent of this country's

[Sh. Shopat Singh Makkasar]

population live below the poverty line. What is the definition of poor people? They do not get even square meal. What are we doing here and about whose development we have so far been talking here?

I would like to make a few points about land ceiling. Who possesses land in the country today? Before coming to land, I would like to tell as to what the farmer needs today? Three things are necessary for the development of agriculture—land, water and prices of farm produce. If the farmers produce more they are penalised for that. Prices of agriculture produce are not being fixed. The intermediaries always took the lion's share in this country. For example, let me refer to the drought experienced in Rajasthan in 1987. The Congress Party spent Rs. 800 crores in the name of drought relief. But the whole amount was gobbled up? Who gobbled the money which was sanctioned for drought relief in Rajasthan? One can guess. It is none other than the party in power in the State at that time which swallowed the relief amount. We have heard stories from history that the kings looted people's money. The same thing is happening today also. Rs. 800 crores were spent in Rajasthan during 1987. But there is no proof as to the work on which the money was spent. You give me Rs. 800 crores. I can assure one thing that spending that money, Rajasthan will not experience drought any more. Alongwith that no animal will die, no human being will die of thirst. But where did that money go? There is no need to tell me as to who got that money. Our former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said a very good thing that out of rupee one only 15 paise reached the beneficiaries. Now Kalp Nath Ji, where did the remaining 0.85 paise go. The Government could not punish the culprits. It could not prevent people from indulging in corruption. The people who pocketed Rs. 85/- out of the Rs. 100 sanctioned are talking of development of the country. Whose development they are talking of? After remaining here for 5 years we will become useless. These air-conditioners

will spoil us. Air-conditioners have been fitted in our residences and the House in which we engage in discussion is also air-conditioned. By sitting in cosy air-conditioned rooms, do you think that you can ensure development of the country? It was Mao-Tsetung who ensured development in China. You go there and see the condition of that country. Please forget about the Chinese policies. We may have differences with them on this count. It is also all together a different thing whether you accept socialism or not. But see as to how much foodgrains the Chinese people are producing today. Two to three years ago, I had had the opportunity of visiting China. I saw there that large number of cranes had been pressed into service in construction work. Thousands of houses were being constructed all over the country. I was astonished and in reply to my question their people said that they have made adequate arrangements for food and clothes. They are supplying clothes all over the world. They have made bumper production of foodgrains. At present, the population of China is 110 crores and our population is 80 crores. At present China is producing more than 400 million tonnes of foodgrains, but where do we stand? We have been working hard for last 10 years. Bhajan Lal Ji made efforts and when there was good rain fall, he took the credit. When the country experienced drought, he was blaming God that the drought condition was created by Him.

If the production of crops is good, they themselves take the credit for that and if the crops are destroyed, they put the blame on God. I was referring to as to how the production of our agriculture can be increased. During the last 10 years, the Green Revolution ushered in the country with the use of quality and improved varieties of seeds of wheat, rice and other grains. But our agriculture production remained stagnant at 15 to 17 crore tonnes of foodgrains. In 1975 when there was emergency in the country, there was a heated exchange of words in the Legislative Assembly of Rajasthan over the question of import of millets having seeds of thorn-apple mixed in them. At that time, Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minis-

ter of our country. We exported 6 lakh tonnes millet adulterated with the seeds of thorn-apple from U.S.A. where such millet is used as cattle feed and it is not meant for human consumption. The people of our country fell ill after eating that adulterated millet. When the matter was raised in the Legislative Assembly, the Minister of the State Government stated in the House that they had displaced notice at the Fair Price shops to that effect and thus escaped of the responsibility. None production of foodgrains is stagnant. It is because of the hard labour of the farmers of Punjab and Haryana that we could be able to usher in green revolution in the country and produce foodgrains to feed our population. Had the farmers of Punjab and Haryana not put their hard labour, we would not have in a position to feed our country men. Therefore, I would like to say that farmers of our country do not get adequate reward for producing more. Gwar and Moth crops are grown over a large tract of land in our area. After 1987 drought, farmers raised gwar and moth crops on large scale. They purchased their seeds at a very exorbitant prices of Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 a kilo. After the drought in 1987, the year 1988 experienced good rainfall which led to bumper crops of gwar and moth and the farmers of my constituency were expecting good return from their crops and made many plans such as marrying off their daughters and repaying of loans with that amount. But their all hopes and aspiration shattered when they went to the market to sell their produce. Gwar could fetch a price not more than Rs. 2.50 a kilogram and that of moth not more than Rs. 4/- a kilo. The Government did not put any restriction on middlemen who exploited the situation and deprived farmers of getting remunerative prices of their produce. I am not referring to Rajasthan only, you see that condition of cashewnut growers in Kerala. My colleagues from Kerala are also present here. The cashewnut after packing is sold at Rs. 125 a kilogram in the market, but the growers do not get more than Rs. 10 a kilogram. So is the case with the apple growers who get not more than Rs. 1.25 a kilogram of their produce which is sold at a price of Rs. 12 to 15 a kilogram in Delhi and

other markets in India. You give a price of Rs. 5 a Kg. to the farmers, then see how their condition undergoes a change. But who will do it? No one wants to do it.

I would like to make many others points also but I would like to conclude after making one or two points. What is the condition of the farmers of our country today?

AN HON. MEMBER: State-Trading System should be introduced.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: State-Trading System should be introduced. All the foodgrains should be purchased by the Government and middlemen should be eliminated as they prosper on the toils of others. They exploit farmers by manipulating the prices of foodgrains. They indulge in blackmarketing. The Government should give a big blow to them. If it fails to do so, the people of the country will themselves do it. People would prefer to die fighting for their rights to die in misery.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the farmers of our country are debt ridden. The present Government will also meet its doom if it did not ridden farmers from the burden of debt. There is a burden of Rs. 100000 crore of foreign loan on the country. The money lenders have advanced loans to the farmers to the tune of Rs. 15,000 crores. They are exploiting the farmers. Banks of our country have also become usurer. Previously, the interest was converted into principal after one year by the banks, now the interest is being converted into principal after every six months. This is the State of affairs that Banks too have become usurer.

Farmers posses land in the country. 75 per cent of population of our country depends on land for their livelihood. But only 26.8 per cent of the total land of our country is with this 45 per cent population, and these farmers have less than 2 acres of land. The big farmers and landlords who are 2.4 per cent of the total population of the country have 10 hectares or more land each, possess 22.6 per cent of the total land of our

[Sh. Shopat Singh Makkasar]

country. This is the condition of marginal and small farmer of our country in the matter of land. Did the Government acquire the land of big farmers such as Badal, Chaughury Balram as for that matter any big land owners who have a lot of land with them. Did the Government acquire the land of big capitalists as Birlas or any other big houses. Today, big capitalists are being elected as our people representatives.

During the course of debate on Resolution on electoral reforms moved by Shri L.K. Advani, he cited an example of an M.P. of the England—"This time I am going to purchase another Constituency."

The capitalists purchase the parties of this country. I also attend the sittings of the House and also see the situation all around outside the House. The Government did not acquire even one acre land of any big landlords or princes under the Land Ceiling Act. The Government have acquired the land of only small farmers. But the Congress Government did not acquire land of any Maharaja whether he is a Maharaja of Udaipur or Bikaner. Just now, he was referring to landlords of Bihar, who have commanding voice in affairs of administration of the State. Shri Kalp Nath Rai was talking about the poor people. It is very strange that the Government mislead poor people of our country through slogans. The sons of poor people and labourers had sacrificed their lives in the freedom struggle of our country. They did not sacrifice their lives with an intention to get something. They had feelings for their nation.

The Congress Government had raised the slogan of alleviation of poverty from this country and prosperity for the farmers. I would like to say that irrigation and agriculture are the two basic things. If the farmer of our country will be prosper, the factories will also get boost in our country. With the increase in the purchasing power of farmers, the number of factories will increase. If poverty remains in this country, neither the in-

dustries nor the markets would be increased in our country. Nor would a social change come in our country.

I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Sir, some of our Members also want to speak and they cannot come on day after tomorrow. So, I propose that the House may be extended by one hour. I request that this may be accepted.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): We extend the time by another half an hour, i.e. upto 7.30 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the House is agreeable to this.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Singaravadivel.

19.00 hrs.

SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL (Thanjavur): I thank the Chair for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture. These Ministries are playing an important role in the development of the country. Water is an important input in agriculture. We need water for agriculture, for drinking purposes and also for industrial development. I request the Government to take earnest steps for the exploitation of the water resources available in the country. In this country, there is an imbalance. Water is available in one part of the country; it is not available in other parts of the country. We must take steps to take water from where it is available to a place where it is not available.

There has been a demand for several

decades for linking up the river Ganga with Cauvery. If this is done, this will benefit the people in the South, the farmers in the South. Likewise, major rivers should be connected. If this is done, we can make sufficient water available to the people. We can also remove the imbalance. In this connection, I may also suggest that the river Mahanadi may be linked with Tambarabarani in the South. In Kerala, water is flowing towards west and it goes waste. The diversion of water from the river flowing west to Tamil Nadu will help the farmers in Tamil Nadu.

Madras City is facing a drinking water problem. People have to stand in long queues to get water. They are given water on alternative days. Several schemes had been formulated but they are given up for one reason or the other. They only hope is the Telugu-Ganga Project. The concerned States have agreed to give water to Tamil Nadu, but there is delay in the implementation of the scheme. The Government of India should come forward and see that it is implemented as early as possible.

Cauvery water dispute has been pending for more than 20 years. I am happy that the Supreme Court has given its verdict in favour of a tribunal. It has also directed the Government of India to set up a tribunal within a month. I appeal to all concerned parties to accept this suggestion and to cooperate for an early settlement of this dispute. On account of the pendency of this dispute, agriculture in the Cauvery Delta in Tamil Nadu, especially in Thanjavur District has been affected heavily. Several lakhs of people, who were engaged in agriculture, are without jobs. The economy of that area has been totally shattered. Tamil Nadu is not getting its due share of water. It was getting about 380 TMC of water every year on an average till 1971-72 at Mettur. Thereafter, it had been reduced further. Now, we are getting about one-third of it. Tamil Nadu Government has asked for at least 280 TMC of water, but the Karnataka Government is not agreeable for this. That is why, 26 rounds of talks have failed between the two Chief Ministers. We had pressed for a tribunal.

Fortunately, the Supreme Court has come to the rescue of Tamil Nadu. It has directed the Government of India to set up a tribunal. I hope speedy steps will be taken to solve the problem of Tamil Nadu farmers shortly.

I also like to thank the Government for the clearance of the modernisation of Cauvery Delta Phase I programme with the help of World Bank assistance. Its estimated cost is Rs. 78.80 crores. If it is implemented, it will benefit 70,000 hectares of land. I request the Government of India to take all earnest steps to see that this modernisation is expedited and properly implemented.

I would like to say that we have made enormous progress in the field of agriculture; our achievements are notable and many in this field. However, the farmers are still not happy because they are not getting remunerative prices for their product.

In Tamil Nadu the farmers expect a support price of Rs. 250/- per quintal of paddy and a support price of Rs. 500/- for one tonne of sugarcane. For the other produce also remunerative price should be fixed by the Government so that the farmers will get the price which will help them to maintain themselves.

We are short of oilseeds. We have to rely on imports. We should give more incentives and subsidies for the production of oilseeds in this country.

Then, regarding the agriculturists' debt, the National Front promised waiver of loans up to Rs. 10,000/- to the farmers. The farmers who have incurred the debt from the nationalised banks from the scheduled banks and from the cooperative institutions should be given the benefit. Now a distinction is being made between wilful defaulters and other defaulters. They promised waiver of loans up to Rs. 10,000/- fully. That should be implemented, that should be kept in view and that should be complied with and conceded by this Government.

Then, Sir, I am told that Tamil Nadu is hit

[Sh. S. Singaravadivel]

by heavy rains and storms yesterday and today. Tomorrow being a holiday I request the hon. Minister to make an inspection of the flood-affected areas in Madras and other parts of Tamil Nadu and to render all possible assistance and steps may be taken to provide relief to the affected in Tamil Nadu.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the demands for grants relating to the Ministries of Water Resources and Agriculture.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, India is an agricultural country and 80 per cent of population of our country are engaged in agriculture. The land of our country is very fertile, labour is cheap, our farmers are hard-working and climatic condition is favourable as the country witnesses all the seasons such as winter, summer and rain. Despite all these favourable conditions, the country could not achieve desired progress in matter of agriculture and could not achieve food production. I am sorry to say that inspite of all these, lakhs of people in our country are still not meeting even their both ends. We have to import oilseeds, pulses and sugar. There must be some reasons for this.—I think, that there are some reasons, due to which our country has not made desired progress in the field of agriculture inspite of all these favourable conditions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the first reason is that the people who have land with them, do not cultivate it themselves and the people who cultivate it, have no land of their own. All the people want to possess land but no one wants to put one's toil. Today, 90 per cent land is in the hands of only 15 per cent people who do not cultivate it themselves. The slogan is given that the "Tiller is the owner of the land," but in practical, the people

who are cultivating, have no land of their own, and people, who are not cultivating, have land with them. That is why people are disinterested in farming these days in our country. Land should be taken from those people who are not cultivating it. This land should be either distributed among the farmers or it should be utilised for agriculture purposes on the basis of cooperative and collective farming.

The second reason is that more than double of the land under cultivation in our country is lying unused. The Government do not want to distribute this land among the landless labourers because if this land would be given to them, labourers, will stop cultivating in the fields of big farmers and their farming would not be done. So Government itself is not interested in it. The area of barren land in the country is double the cultivable land. The Government should do something to distribute wasteland and barren land to the people who are really interested in cultivation and who want to work hard on it. The farmers and the country both will be benefited by the distribution of wasteland.

Third thing I want to say is that our agriculture is not industrial based. The farmer of our country does not get the benefits of cultivation of land. He is incurring losses continuously. The farmers are not benefited to the extent the capitalists are benefited, be it under the Congress Government or the Janata Dal Government. The farmers have to sell their produce on loss. In the absence of remunerative prices, the farmers feel fed up with hard work in agriculture and are drifting to other occupations. The Government should ensure that farmers are benefited in the same way the capitalists are being benefited.

Fourthly, my submission is that agriculture in our country is not scientific. 80 per cent farmers of our country have useless bullocks and they are still sticking to old plough and traditional methods of agriculture. They do not have scientific means to attain progress. They should be provided with quality seeds, fertilizers and resources

so that they could make progress in the field of agriculture. Scientific technology is not reaching the small farmers in our country. If at all it reaches the farmers, it is big farmers and capitalists who benefit from it the most. The farmer of our country does not know what are the scientific achievements in the field of agriculture and how to make use of them. No training is being provide in the villages in the techniques of storage and fruit preservation. In the absence of these things, the farmers are becoming conservative. The agriculture is not progressing as the farmers are not making use of scientific achievements. It is my humble request to the Government that the benefits of scientific achievements should be made available to the farmers. I believe that the farmers can progress by availing of the benefits of scientific achievements.

There is hardly any change in the mental make up of the people engaged in non-agricultural occupations towards those who are engaged in cultivation. The latter are treated as inferior and untouchables. Other people like clerks, collectors, army officers and engineers are treated as upper class people and are given dignified treatment. What I mean to say is that as long as there is no dignity of labour in the country, agriculture cannot progress. Therefore, the people engaged in agriculture and those who toil hard should be given proper dignity. Erst-while princely families own huge properties. Our Prime Minister is also one of them. All that I mean to say is that they own huge properties. The land should be acquired from these land holders forcibly. I can say with certainty that as long as land does not belong to the tiller and the poor, no slogan would prove to be effective for the development of agriculture. Therefore what is needed most is that a law should be enacted under which all land should be acquired by the Government to be cultivated as cooperative farm. The land should no more be treated as private property. But I can sincerely say that none in this Parliament is prepared to come forward to take measures in this direction. Unless and until such a step is taken, the actual killer and the poor man who toils in the

fields is not going to be benefited.

I want to say that our farmers should be imparted proper training so that they could acquire knowledge about the developments taking place in the field of agriculture in other countries and use that knowledge for the advancement of agriculture in our own country. When it comes to visits abroad, only leaders and the people engaged in non-agricultural activities get chance. A farmer's son never gets a chance to Visit China and USSR. The result is that the farmers is that farmer is not able to acquire knowledge about the scientific techniques being developed in other countries. It is my conviction that agricultural development would not take place unless the son of the farmer acquires knowledge about the scientific techniques being developed in other countries. Therefore, I want that fundamental changes should be brought about in it. The farmer of our country can export their agricultural produce if the required fundamental changes are made, as our country is a predominantly an agricultural country and farmers here are very hard working.

I also want to make a few points about Ministry of Water Resources too. Drinking water is not available in our country even after so many years of independence. Recently, I visited Madhya Pradesh. There I found women bringing water from as long a distance as 3-4 mile. It is very shameful that in such a big country even after 43 years of independence, villagers pine for water whereas on the other hand, swimming pools are constructed for some people and fountains are installed for beautification. I demand that until drinking water is made available in every village of the country, luxurious facilities like fountains and swimming pools should not be constructed. They should be banned instead. Rivers flow in other countries too but flow of these big rivers has been tamed there, but in our country even small canals cannot be constructed. Therefore, unless fundamental changes are made, neither development of water resources can take place nor agriculture development in possible. Therefore revolutionary changes

[Sh. S. Singaravadivel]

should be brought in respect of these two great assets of our country i.e. agriculture and water resources so that both resources could be used for rapid development of our country.

[English]

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHAMANAN (Mukundapuram): Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. The first ever budget of the National Front Government was presented by the well-known socialist and hon. Minister Prof. Madhu Dandavate. But, as in other sections, in agricultural field too, the budget is 'Madhu' (honey) followed by Danda (means punishment). Parents may force the children to drink sour medicine or those which have bitter taste with Danda. But, this is for the first time, the children, the citizens of our nation, are forced to drink honey upon beating. The beating is so cruel that they are afraid of accepting the two or three drops of honey. The best adjective that can be supplied to this budget is only, in my opinion, 'trapped'. I still remember the starting words of his speech, 'over a hundred days ago winds of political change swept the country', exactly like the famous Abraham Lincoln's speech, 'Four score and seven years ago our fore-fathers fought for the freedom of our country. I am sorry to say that this budget marked a clear-cut socialist pragmatism. It is exactly what Patriot said, in its headline "Dandavate's Dilemmas". Farmers expected a gift, but this 'gift' is too heavy for them to bear.

I too agree the problems of our national economy are ticklish and complicated. We the Opposition have appreciation for Prof. Madhu Dandavate's sincerity. But, to fulfil his hopes, a lot of luck and pluck are needed. As the former Finance Minister, Shri S.B. Chavan, remarked: the new budget is only a 'jugglery of statistics'.

Even though there is the great 'Thavu' over and above all, I am wondering what benefit does the farmer get, through this

budget. Some of the rich peasants of Meham and Manda may get some more uplifts. No doubt in it. But we are worried about the lakhs of ordinary farmers who find it difficult to meet both ends in life. We have to save all categories of citizens. Let the daughters of ordinary men also get security like those who got the fortune of being the daughters of Ministers. The loan waiver programme may be a bonanza to the rich farmers, but what about the ordinary peasants?

Coming to my State, Kerala, it is our wish to declare coconut as an oil-seed in the list of Oil Seeds Corporation. The price of copra per quintal may be lifted at least up to Rs. 2,000. In the case of pepper, the 'black pearl' of India, it is facing quickwilt and flee beetle. Special care has to be given to this field of agriculture. I hope, the Government may be kind enough to fix a minimum price of Rs. 5000 per quintal for pepper. I am not touching the various other fields of agriculture in my State, solely because I have the humble wish of fulfilling at least these two major hopes of my State.

I heard with tremendous joy that you are going to right off the loans of the farmers. But there came the tale of the offering—the debt relief scheme will be introduced later. At once I remembered 'Ashwathama Hatha Mrinkunjara'—Ashwathama is dead but it is an elephant moulded out of mere mud. Even then, I am daring to make an appeal that please permit grant of loan to farmers by financial institutions or some other sources, enabling them to purchase cultivable land. To spread some rays of light to the darkness of farmers' life, please try to establish this fact by enacting a law.

Again, on the compound interest charged on farmers, I wish to draw the attention of the Government, through you, Sir, that these poor illiterate people do not have an idea of what they have to pay. A *buddu* king of good olden days was once terribly cheated by a wise player of *chaturangam*. If the king fails in the game, the wise man demanded only one bet. There are sixty-four columns in the board they are playing. Put

only one piece of grain in the first column, two in the second, four in the third, eight in the fourth, sixteen in the next column and thus by doubling the number of grains on each column, fill all the sixty-four columns and add the total number of grains wanted for the sixty-four columns and give him only that much of grains. The foolish king agreed. He was not bothered about the number of grains. But when only he lost the game, he came to understand that his full wealth may not be sufficient to fill the columns as directed. Likewise, the compound interest is swallowing the ordinary farmer. Sir, I request you to issue orders to give an assurance to farmers that no compound interest would be charged on loans in agricultural sector.

Various natural calamities are affecting the crops. So, please try to find some space in the budget to implement the Crop Insurance Scheme. There may not be any bar for any crop in any season.

There are a lot of biological instruments to control the diseases caused by the numberless pesticides. Sometimes, we may have to import some types of pesticides. By establishing agricultural centres at the village level, the illiterate farmers can be educated in the use of modern equipments, knowledge of price rise in all sectors, seeds needed for farmers and better quality of equipments.

Sir, I would like to mention a word about Fertilizer Corporation. Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore (FACT in Kerala) need more care. More financial assistance must be given to this good old factory of ours.

Due to the scarcity of electricity for the farmers, it is very difficult to use modern equipments which may require electricity for running them.

Sir, special attention may be given to the construction of drinking water projects especially in the rural areas, construction of better roads, availability of tractors, improvement of diary development, encouragement of fishing, marketing of the crops, introduction of Dryland Farming schemes and also

various other schemes like solving water-logging problem, development of fishing harbours or even starting an organisation for the welfare of the fishermen, etc. Necessary steps should be taken to undertake research works in various fields such as production of crops even in saline water areas, betterment of scientific poultry farms, provision of sewage, drainage and sanitation facilities in rural areas, etc. With these words, I conclude and I thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Demands.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It was agreed that we would continue to sit up 7.30 P.M. Now, I have four names with me and one of the Members wants to go to his constituency because of the weather conditions there. I am inclined to give them the time until we complete the participation of these Members. I would request the Members to take two or three minutes only. Now, I call upon Shri S. Vijaya Kumar Raju to speak.

SHRI S. VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU (Narasapur): Sir, I have been waiting since morning and now there is paucity of time. I will speak day after tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right. Now, hon. Member Shri Mathew to speak.

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW (Idukki): Thank you, Sir. Since we are at the fag end of the day, I wish to confine myself only to the points. In fact, I wanted to make a few comments on the Water Resource Ministry. Now, I am going to confine only to the points since you are limiting the time. Sir, ours is a country very rich in river water resources and we have an average rainfall of 40% to 45%. I am stating these facts only to show that the resources are already there, but what we lack is that we must have a good and integrated plan for the whole country. So, my submission or suggestion is that we must have an integrated water resource development plan for each State which should have a coordinated and consolidated plan, that is, covering an overall national master plan. I would rather suggest that the national master plan must include all the State Master

[Sh. Palai K.M. Mathew]

Plans. This is my first suggestion. We have got a very vast potentials which remain unutilised and untapped. If these resources are properly utilised, we could turn this agricultural country as one of the best in the world.

Sir, we have got about 6 lakhs of villages in our country and out of these, at least one lakh villages are waterless villages, 37,000 villages do not have even a single source of water. About three lakhs of villages have only one source of water supply and half the villages are water problem villages. In 90,000 villages water is not available even at a depth of 50 ft and at a distance of one mile. It is a total disgrace that one-third of our villages are without water, 2.1 lakh villages suffer from severe water scarcity and about one lakh villages are without any water. That is why I have suggested that a piecemeal approach will not solve the problem. Each State will have to adopt its own water resources development Master Plan and after that we must have an All India Master Plan.

My second point is that the National Front Government has not come up to our expectations especially with regard to the budget allocation regarding the Water Resources Ministry. We have been expecting a great leap forward by this Government because of their tall electoral pledges and high sounding promises in their manifesto. But all our hopes are being belied. Today the allocation for solving this most explosive problem is too meagre and inadequate. During the past years, the Five Year Plan have been progressively enhancing the amounts. The First Plan allocation was Rs. 385 crores, the Second Plan allocation was Rs. 475 crores, the Third Plan allocation was Rs. 845 crores, the Fifth Plan allocation was Rs. 3,073 crores, the Sixth Plan allocation was Rs. 7,516 crores and the Seventh Plan allocation was Rs. 11,555 crores. Compared with this, the yearly allocation now is too inadequate. So, the scheme for exploiting river waters, small irrigations, bore wells, tubewells, tanks, springs, ponds, canals etc. are small and

inadequate. They do not even touch a tip of the iceberg. If you go at this rate, it may take a hundred years before the drinking water is made available even to a totally dry area. The provision for flood control and compensation for flood damages is also negligible. The ground water survey and other similar projects are not seriously taken into consideration. There is no special emphasis for areas predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Adivasis and all these people are suffering very heavily because of the water scarcity.

Now, I will come to my own State of Kerala.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude, the time is up.

SHRIPALAI K.M. MATHEW: Only point, Sir. I am dispensing with all other general arguments.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That will be very useful and effective.

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Thank you.

In Kerala the people's habitation is scattered, not concentrated in clusters as in the villages elsewhere in the country. The western coastal low land, the mid land and the high land are different in vegetations, ground water conditions, soil, topography etc. But everywhere in Kerala March-July is summer with severe drought and water scarcity. Out of the thousand pachayats, only 300 have protected water supply. This is especially so in the highland of the districts of Idukki, which falls in my constituency, and Wynad. Forty-six panchayats in Iddukki are completely dry in summer.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, statistics please, because this is something which has to be done by the State Government also. We are talking about the policy of providing drinking water throughout the country.

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Sir, what I am trying to point is that even the water supply schemes cleared by the Central Government and also assisted by the World Bank are neglected and are in total disarray. That is my point. 18 irrigation projects cleared by the Central Government are remaining incomplete by the State Government. I would suggest that the Centre should give direction to the State Government to speed up and see that things are completed within the fixed time-frame.

Another point was suggested by my hon. friend. I am just emphasising that the price of pepper is very low. Kerala is producing 95 percent of pepper. Two years back, the price was Rs. 6,000 per quintal. Now it is about Rs. 3,000 though the cost of production has not come down. It is still as it was two years back when the price was at Rs. 6,000. The Ministry should take steps to see that the farmers do not suffer because of the price crash of pepper.

Now I come to copra. 'Kera' means coconut and Kerala means the a land of coconut. Our people are mostly depending on coconut but the price of coconut has gone down. The price of copra must be raised to at least Rs. 2,000 per quintal. The price of rubber should also be kept at least above Rs. 26 per kg.

I would request the Minister to give more importance to Kerala with regard to small irrigation schemes as well as for completing, repairing and maintaining water supply schemes assisted by the Central scheme as well as by the World Bank.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministries of Water Resources and Agriculture. First of all, I want to say a few words about the decision of the National Front Government to spend 49 per cent of the total budget on villages. The stress which had been given on industrial-

sation for the economic development of the country during last 40 years, should now be shifted to flood control and water schemes because the country which does not make proper use of water and does not pay attention to agriculture and villages cannot march towards prosperity. India is a country of villages. Unless villages, agriculture and farmers prosper, the country cannot prosper. I would like to say a few things about Flood control. All the hon. Members are aware of the flood problem in the country, particularly, in the states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal, Assam, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. The country has spent huge amount of funds on flood control measures that were taken from time to time after independence right from the First Five Year Plan in 1954 till the seventh plan. An amount of Rs. 1320.80 lakhs was spent on flood control measures in the country during the First Five Year Plan. The amount rose to Rs. 94,729.00 lakh in the Seventh Plan. It is clear from these figures that we are increasing our Budget allocation day after day for solving this flood problem. From the report it appears that most of the funds were spent on embankments and drainage channel system constructed for flood control and on protective measures taken in urban areas. In contrast, funds were not spent in that proportion, on other works such as flood forecasting net work, whereas priority should have been given to this work.

Factual position with regard to the usefulness of the flood control measures will become evident if we have a glance over the average loss suffered due to floods. Rs. 8209.20 lakhs were spent on flood control measures from 1961 to 1966 and the loss suffered due to flood during the period were Rs. 23,660 lakhs i.e. three time more. During 1980-85 losses due to floods were eight times more as compared to the amount spent on flood control. The figures reveal that the situation aggravated with each flood control measure. Perhaps, these flood control measures were taken only for self-satisfaction. What is needed is that we must take a fresh look at our flood control policy with a view to identifying its drawback.

[Sh. Devendra Prasad Yadav]

In this context, it would not be out of place to mention that National Flood Commission was set up by the Government of India to make in-depth study of the problem of flood and to make necessary recommendations for solving it. The Commission submitted its detailed report but it is very regrettable that no concrete steps have been taken so far on the recommendations given in the report. All the works have been going on as before and perhaps the officials connected with flood control measures have forgotten about the report of the National Flood Commission.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the area of North Bihar to which I belong is adjacent to the border of Nepal. 37 per cent population of the country is affected by floods. Of the total flood affected people, Bihar accounts for 67 to 69 per cent and within the State to North Bihar is the worst affected. The main cause of floods in the Kosi, Kamla, Gondak, Bagmati, Bhutahi, Balan and Adhwara group of rivers of North Bihar is the heavy rains in the Upper catchment areas of these rivers, most part of which is located in Nepal. Therefore no flood control project can be completed in these rivers until proper attention is paid to the catchment areas of these rivers in Nepal. A proposal for construction of dam on these rivers in Nepal is pending since independence. An agreement was reached on setting up of flood forecasting network in respect of Indo-Nepal rivers following the talks held between the foreign ministers of India and Nepal during the rule of last Janata Government in 1977-78. But this scheme has not been implemented so far.

Another point that I want to make is that out of the total flood affected area in the country, Bihar alone accounts for 37 per cent. 69 per cent population of the State is affected by floods. Rs. 1000 crores have already been spent on flood in Bihar but flood prone area as well as expenditure to control it go on increasing. From this one thing is clear. Earlier flood problem was affecting 3 to 4 crore people of North Bihar

alone but now flood prone area is spreading and Munger, Bhagalpur, Santhal Pargana district and area along the banks of Ganges in South Bihar are also facing the havoc of floods. The Ganga Flood Control Commission is a Commission which does not enjoy any powers. It simply sends its recommendations to the Centre which keeps them pending for years and no schemes gets clearance from them. The schemes which were received during last few months are also pending. I am mentioning these things because a proposal was finalised in 1948 for constructing high level multi-purpose dam at Barar on Kosi river. Thereafter, a high level committee recommended construction of similar dam at Shishapani in Nepal on Kamla river. Hathi Commission was set up for the same purpose. Keeping in view the history of basins of the river of the border areas of Nepal, a high level technical committee had also recommended in its report that high level dams should be constructed at Shisapani on Kamla and at Lunther on Bagmati because experts were of the view that 20,000 M.W. of electricity would be generated by constructing high level dams on Kosi river. But the project was shelved at that time saying that what will Bihar do with 20,000 M.W. of electricity. In view of the current power shortage in Bihar and in the country as a whole, it can be said that the scheme was given a wrong turn and barrages or canal system were constructed instead on all these rivers whether it was Kosi, Gandak or Bagmati. But this barrage or canal system proved to be useless as sand got deposited in the canal beds making them shallow. If this situation continues the entire North Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and parts of Bengal and Assam, where water logging is increasing will be swamped after 10 years. A schemes was to be evolved for flood control by constructing embankments on rivers but instead of that, a scheme was formulated for irrigation. These schemes were not implemented at all and all canals have breached whether it is on Kosi canal or elsewhere. The Government should consider seriously the proposal that if high level dams are constructed on these rivers, as much as 35,000 m.w. hydro electric power can be generated.

Not only Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Orissa but the entire country can get electricity from this project. Cottage industries can be set up in rural areas, the problem of electricity can be solved in border areas and eastern region and industries can also be set up there.

Due to paucity of time I would like to say only one thing more in the end. There is a proposal to formulate a scheme to consider water as one unit under the National Water Policy. I would like to say that water available in the country, whether it is rain water, surface water or underground water should be considered as one unit and a scheme should be evolved by keeping this in view. The Ministry of Water Resources should formulate a model project on the basis of this policy, so that the State Government may prepare a scheme accordingly. Thirdly a point high powered Water Commission consisting of three States i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal should be set-up. That commission should be given the power to conduct talks with the Nepalese Government about the rivers originating from that country. The Commission need not consult the Ministry of External Affairs as it would involve delay in implementation of the Scheme. The Commission should give priority to flood control. The fourth thing is that a master plan be formulated in Bihar for providing protection from flood and steps should be taken expeditiously for its implementation, then only flood can be controlled. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are just repeating the points. Now you shall have to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:
With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jeevarathinam to speak. You will please speak for only two minutes. It is only for you because as your state is suffering from cyclone, the time has been extended.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to say a few words on the demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Agriculture.

A large number of sugar mills are in North Arcot District. I, therefor, request the Hon. Minister to set up a sugarcane Research Centre in my district. I also request the Hon. Minister to take steps to increase the production of jaggery for exporting to foreign countries.

The Government has promised the electorate to waive agricultural loans upto Rs. 10,000/-. This should be fulfilled without delay. Besides this, the Government must also waive the loans the small farmers owe to big farmers. I also request that fertilizers should be distributed to farmers through Cooperative Societies so that the subsidy provided on fertilisers reaches direct to the farmers.

Farmers who own less than 5 acres of land must be exempted from land-tax. Free electricity should be provided to these farmers who irrigate their fields in a small way with 5 H.P. pump sets. The small farmers should also be covered with a special insurance scheme.

Sir, in my area, paddy is the main crop of cultivation I request the Hon. Minister to establish a paddy Research Centre in my District.

The talk of linking Cauveri with Ganga has been going on since the days of Sir C.P.

[Sh. R. Jeevarathinam]

Ramasamy Iyer. The time has now come to take up the project seriously. Even the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri M. Karunanidhi has assured his cooperation in the matter. The project must be implemented in all sincerity. The Tølgu-Ganga project should also be completed without any further delay. The water under the Project should be brought from Rayalaseema via Palamaneru to Palar river upto 100 miles. This would help irrigate vast areas of parched lands in Tamil Nadu.

Sir, big lakes like Kaveri pakkam, Thoo-simanandur and Perungattoor in my district which have the potential of irrigating 10,000 acres of land have to be desilted. The Government must seek World Bank assistance for desilting the lakes.

Arakkonam is facing acute drinking water shortage. Water is not available even at 300 to 400 feet below ground level. Several times, I urged upon the State Government to seek the assistance of the army for digging giant wells to tackle the drinking water problem. I appeal to the Central Government to direct the State Government to take effective steps to solve the drinking water problem.

Sir, I take this opportunity to appeal to the Government nationalise all water resources in the country. The Cauveri river water dispute which has been hanging fire for more than 24 years has come nearly to a settlement. The Supreme Court has directed the Government to appoint a Tribunal to adjudicate on the issue. The efforts taken by the Congress AIADMK Members of Parliament in drawing the attention of the Prime Minister to this contentious issue are praise-

worthy. The Government must quickly announce the members of the Tribunal and settle the dispute at an early date.

Sir, vast areas of waste land are lying unused in my district. Government must, at its cost, dig wells on this land and distribute it to poor farmers.

Sir, I also request that a regional centre of the ICAR may be set up in Madras. For long, elections to the Milk Coop. Societies have not been held. These societies are—presently managed by special officers. There are reports of malpractices. I, therefore, request the Central Government to issue necessary directive to the State Government to hold elections to the Milk Coop. Societies.

Fruits and vegetables are produced in our country in plenty. With a view to increasing their production further, the farmers cultivating fruits and vegetables must be given subsidy. Jeevan Dhara and Jawahar Rojgar Yojana Schemes must be implemented with added vigour.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to re-assemble on Thursday at 11 a.m.

19.58 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, May 10, 1990/
Vaisakha 20, 1912 (Saka)*