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Thursday, May 12, 1994

Vaisakha 22, 1916 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Ninth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 12, 1994/ Vaisakha 22, 1916
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

WELCOME TO THE MALDIVES PARLIAM- ENTARY DELEGATION

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Abdulle Hameed, Speaker of the Citizens' Majlis of the Republic of Maldives and the hon. Members of the Maldivian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other hon. Members of the Delegation are:-

1. Mr. K. Dh. Ahmed Maniku
2. Mr. Mohamed Waheed

3. Mr. Hussein Manikufaan

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 11 May, 1984 evening. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Excellency the President, the Citizens' Majlis, the Government and the friendly people of the Republic of Maldives.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.01 hrs

[Translation]

Distribution and Storage of Water

* 661 SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the study conducted by the Central Water Commission in regard to water distribution and storage in the main reservoirs of the country ;

(b) whether less water is being stored in these reservoirs than their installed capacity;

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

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
AND MINISTER OF WATER RE-
SOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON):

(a) to (d) . A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Central Water Commission has been monitoring the storages in as many as 61 important major reservoirs spread all over the country.

The study consists of reservoir-wise weekly storage position during the current season, last season and a comparative analysis of this year's position with re-

spect to last year and average of past ten years on the same date. Similarly, another study is also conducted on weakly basis, with respect to various important river basins reflecting current year's, last year's as well as average of last ten years' capacity and percentage departure therefrom.

On the basis of compilation of such data, the storage build-up during various years as percentage of designed capacity has been analysed. The storage build-up depends on the rainfall in the catchment and resulting run-off Therefrom. Details of basinwise maximum live storage build-up during the last 10 years is give at Annexure-I and the storage build up in some of the important reservoirs during 1983-92 is given at Annexure-II.

Using the results of the analysis by Central Water Commission, the States concerned can draw up operation plans accordingly, for the judicious use of available water for various purposes.

ANNEXURE - I

Basinwise Maximum Live Storage Build-Up In Central Water Commission Monitored Reservoirs (1983-92)

S.No.	Basin	Live capacity (cubic kilometres)	Average over last 10 years as %	Maximum in last 10 years %	Minimum in last 10 years %	Year	Year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Ganga	24.25	67	1990	88	1992	50
2.	Indus	13.77	85	1988	100	1987	61
3.	Narmada	1.94	90	1989 1990	100	1983	78
4.	Tapi	7.62	74	1988	84	1985	34
5.	Mahi	3.43	73	1990	96	1983	35
6.	Sabarmati	0.78	67	1990 1992	100	1987	1
7.	Godavari	11.35	57	1990	93	1985	26
8.	Krishna	27.67	86	1991	98	1987	56

S.No.	Basin	Live capacity (cubic kilometres)	Average over last 10 years as %	Maximum in last 10 years Year	Minimum in last 10 years Year	%	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Mahanadi & East Flowing Rivers.	10.13	86	1990	1984	99	61
10.	Cauvery & East Flowing Rivers	8.43	54	1992	1987	75	25
11.	West Flowing Rivers	7.75	70	1992	1987	99	33

ANNEXURE - II

Storage Build-Up in Some Of The Important Reservoirs in India (1983-92)

S.No.	Name of the reservoir	State	No. of year in which design live capacity attained
1.	Nagarjunasagar	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Srisailem	Andhra Pradesh	7
3.	Ukai	Gujarat	5
4.	Gobindsagar	Himachal Pradesh	1
5.	Tungabhadra	Karnataka	9
6.	Idukki	Kerala	1
7.	Gandhisagar	Madhya Pradesh	1
8.	Jayakwadi	Maharashtra	1
9.	Hirakud	Orissa	6
10.	Mettur	Tamil Nadu	1
11.	Rihand	Uttar Pradesh	2

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per a report of the Central Water Commission in as many as 61 important major reservoirs of the country, 30 percent less water is being stored than their installed capacity. Even the reservoirs related to the Ganges, Tapti and Cauvery did not have hundred percent water for the last ten years. The reason generally given is that adequate water storage could not be done due to lesser or excessive flow of water in these rivers.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken to ensure that the reservoirs have water according to their installed capacity. What measures have been taken by the Government for desilting the reservoirs as to improve their storage capacity?

[*English*]

SHRI P.K. THUNGOON : Sir, the reason for not filling up the reservoirs fully is mainly because of lack of proper rainfall in the catchment area and it also depends on the topography of the catchment area and the vegetation of the catchment area and the water used in the upper regions of the river.

Therefore, the Government has, from time to time, taken up programmes for improvement of catchment areas and also for proper utilisation of water in the upper areas of the rivers. So, these are the steps the Government is taking.

As regards the question that water in the reservoirs is collected only up to about seventy percent of the capacity of the reservoir, I would like to inform the

hon. Member that to some extent he is right that on an average, in 61 storage reservoirs, only 71 per cent of the capacity of the reservoir is filled up. But that cannot be termed as bad because it is fairly good. We have about 14 reservoirs which have chronic problems of not being filled up properly. The rest of the reservoirs are doing fairly good. As on today, 23 reservoirs are filled up less than eight per cent of their capacity and the rest 38 are filled up more than eight per cent of their capacity.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir what the hon. Minister is doing for desiltation deposited in the reservoirs.

[*English*]

SHRI P.K. THUNGOON : As regards silting, at times, the programmes are made for dredging of for taking out the silt, wherever possible. But I must state at this stage that such programmes are carried out by the respective State Governments.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the report of the Central Water Commission loss of water for drinking purposes and irrigation in North India in the process of distribution from the main canals and their tributaries to proper places in 17 and 55 respectively. If this loss of water is prevented and proper irrigation arrangement is made, then the national irrigation capacity will greatly increase. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what measures are being taken to prevent such

loss of water?

[English]

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, as far as loss of water for irrigation is concerned, we have taken various steps from the Government side also, though it is the work of the State Governments. We advise them and give them technical guidance as to how this can be minimised. We have Centrally-sponsored CAD programme to encourage the farmers and the State Governments for taking up such programmes.

As regards the use of water for*Interruptions.*

MR. SPEAKER : What are those steps which are suggested by you to reduce the loss of water?

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, I have stated the steps taken to minimise the loss of water for irrigation. Now I would like to give some statistics.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member wants to know what can be done to reduce the loss of water.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : That is exactly what I was stating.

MR. SPEAKER : No, you are giving the statistics.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : I was telling how to reduce the use of water so that the water is not wasted. Now, how is water wasted?

MR. SPEAKER : By canal lining and so many things.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Leaking of the channel, more water-logging etc., are

the main causes for loss of water. Therefore, to prevent water-logging, we have the CAD programme, under which grant is given from the Central Government to the State Governments.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you to the last sentence of the reply wherein it is stated:

“Using the results of the analysis by Central Water Commission, the States concerned can draw up operation plans accordingly, for the judicious use of available water for various purposes.”

Sir, it is a matter of national importance. Water is a national priority. It is in great demand. I would like to know whether this method has ever been discussed in any conference of the Irrigation Ministers and if so, what is the recommendation thereof. Has any request been made to the Government of India in this regard? The State Governments complain of paucity of funds to take up these measures of silting clearance or other things. I want to know whether any study has been made on what sort of programme has got to be taken in which project to maximise the optimal filling of reservoir. I also want to know what plan has been made and whether any assistance has been sought by the State Governments and whether any assistance is going to be given, in terms of.....

MR. SPEAKER : Please, it is becoming confusing now. Please sit down.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, I want to give one instance.

MR. SPEAKER : No instances and

examples. There are other Members to ask questions. No examples need be given now. Just the questions only be put.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, the point which I have stated here is that the States concerned can draw up operation plan accordingly on a reservoir.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, I want to know whether any assistance has been sought or not.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : I will come to that also. For example in Rehan tank, the available water supply is.....

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, I am sorry to interfere. But the simple question is : Has the study been made to find out what amount of money would be required? We do not want examples from him as well as from you.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : All right sir. The study is carried out from time to time and almost every week the study is carried out by the Central Water Commission. *(Interruptions)* Let me clarify.

MR. SPEAKER : You may not have the information. You can collect and give it to him.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, this is regarding the reservoirs. I am talking about reservoirs. For the reservoirs, the study is made on weekly basis by the Central Water Commission. He is talking about a larger study. We do have such studies for the river basins. We have made studies.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
What are the remedial measures and the

amount required and whether assistance has been sought and if so, the reaction of the Government of India? *(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER : Now, it is a very good question. Questions are good. Do not confuse the Minister. He is replying properly.

Mr. Minister, the Member wants to know what can be done to see that the capacity created is utilised and what is the amount of money required for that purpose. He does not want to know how much water is getting collected in the basins.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, I was first coming to the question of reservoirs because the question was of reservoirs. If he wants the details of basin-wise studies, I will need separate notice for that. What I can state here at this stage is that through Central Water Commission and National Water Development Association, the basin-wise studies are made. If the details are wanted, I can give them but I need a separate notice.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send it later.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : In the second part of the question, the hon. Minister wanted to know whether any financial assistance is given for this purpose. No assistance has been sought by the States so far. We do not have programmes in general. But we do have programmes for giving matching grants. *(Interruption)*.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very attentively hearing what you are saying.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : As I have

already stated, we have centrally-sponsored Command Area Development programme and the Catchment area programme etc. Under those schemes, we are providing whatever assistance, as per the programme, is to be provided by the Government of India. This is no specific provision as such for the study.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are right that this is a very important question. As many as 61 important major reservoirs in the country are directly under the Central Water Commission and are monitored by it. The hon. Minister has said that there is some vegetation problem and topography is also changing which is resulting in decline in the capacity of these reservoirs. In view of the fact that the monitoring is undertaken by the Central Water Commission, has a complete study been carried out to decide as to what steps can be taken to increase their storage capacity? Sir, billions of rupees have been spent on these projects and the farmers are incurring losses. Have any suggestions given to the Government to increase the capacity of these projects and is the Government formulating a scheme based on those suggestions with a view to ensure the full utilisation of the capacity?

[*English*]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Sir, so far as maintenance of the reservoirs is concerned, it is not directly under the Central Government. These are taken care of by the respective State Governments. What is concerned with the Central Water Commission is the study as to how much of water is filled up in which

year. I have got the details for the last ten years. After doing the study we can advise the State Governments about the water level coming up or going down. On the basis of that the respective State Governments can chalk out their.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV : The work of the Central Water Commission is only to winter. The reservoirs and inform the Govt. That the water level is going down. This can also be done by an Engineer silting there

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : This is what is being done by the Central Water Commission.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question about silting is most important and the hon. Minister is repeatedly saying that desilting is the responsibility of the State Government. Sir, Bhakhara Dam is in my constituency but not an inch of land in Himachal Pradesh is irrigated nor the Himachal Pradesh gets any share in it. Govind Sagar Dam is also infested with siltation but the Central Government is not paying any attention to it. The water is being used up by other States, the State has no means and there has been no representation from the State but these are national projects. In view of these will the government take steps and under take desilting in their hands?

[*English*]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very important question. I quite agree with him. I would like to say that at the time of designing steps are taken. These are certain tech-

nical matters which we will have to understand. So far as the silting is concerned, the first step taken is at the time of designing of the dam, proper care is taken so that that part is taken care of. Secondly, after the dam is constructed, steps are taken for dredging or whatever other methods that are required.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the water coming to Eastern States from China and Nepal flows into Kosi river. The water of Kosi river is utilised for agriculture and drinking purposes. The Central Water Commission has investigated the cause of the loss of water and Bihar Government has submitted a proposal in this regard because we are incurring losses worth billions of rupees on account of this loss of water. Has Central Water Commission sent any proposal for making arrangements for undertaking irrigation in the State.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : This does not come out of this question. If you have information, give it.

SHRI P.K. THUNGON : Sir, that is what I was going to say. The question is about the details of the study conducted by the Central Water Commission in regard to water distribution and storage in main reservoirs of the country. It is not a study in totality. It is a study of the reservoirs which are already in existence.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : I am giving protection, to the Minister.

[*English*]

Mr. Minister, you have heard the Members. Let us not be very technical on the point. The real issues have been projected. If it is possible, please get them examined. They are the real issues.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, storage and distribution network all over the country is affected because the lines are not properly built. There was a proposal for modernisation. About 45 per cent of the water is getting wasted. Modernisation is the only way out for this problem. If we spend 10 per cent of the total construction cost for modernisation, 45 per cent of water will be saved. So, may I know from the hon. Minister whether this modernisation scheme for the distribution network which is pending for years together will be given priority ?

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Sir as I have already stated, there are programmes from the State Governments and also there are Centrally assisted programmes. Under these programmes these points, which the hon. Member has stated, are taken care of .

[*English*]

Linguistic Minorities

*662. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the safeguards and protection given by the Government to the linguistic minorities in the country;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to enable them to pursue their studies in their mother tongue; and

(c) the provisions made to provide them job opportunities in the public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE. (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) to (c) : Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The safeguards for Linguistic Minorities in the country derive their authority from 2 sources:

- (1) The provisions contained in Articles 29, 30, 347, 350, 350a, 350B of the Constitution. These provisions, in a nut-shell, are as under:-
 - (i) Article 29 gives the linguistic minorities the right to conserve their language, script and culture;
 - (ii) Article 30 gives them the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice;
 - (iii) Article 347 provides for a presidential direction for official recognition of a language ;
 - (iv) Article 350 confers the right to use any language in representation for redress of grievances;
 - (v) Article 350A provides for

facilities for instruction through mother tongue at the primary stage of education; and

- (vi) Article 350B provides for the institution of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, formally designated as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India.
- (2) The Scheme of safeguards agreed to at the all India level from time to time contained in the decisions at various Conferences, etc. such as Provincial Conference in 1949, Government of India Memorandum of 1958 statement of Language, 1958, Southern Zonal Council Decisions, 1959, Chief Ministers' Conference, 1961, Meeting of the Committee of Vice Chairmen of zonal Councils, 1961.

Part (b) Article 350-A of the Constitution lays down that 'it shall be the endeavour of every state and of every local authority within the state to provide adequate facility for instruction in the mother tongue at primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups'. Accordingly, it has been the policy of the Government to provide such facilities for students belonging to linguistic minorities where at least 40 students in a school or 10 in a class so desire.

Part (c) There is no specific provision in the Constitution which would provide for job opportunities for the linguistic minorities in the Public Sector. How-

ever, such candidates from the linguistic minorities enjoy all fundamental rights available to the citizens of India in regard to employment under the State.

The statement issued by the Chief Ministers Conference of State Governments held in 1961, inter alia, had laid down that in recruitment to State services under the State Government, language should not be a bar. The resolution lays down that besides the official language of the State option should be given of using English or Hindi as the medium of examination and that a test of proficiency in the State's official language should be held after selection and would not be a pre-requisite for recruitment of State services.

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the border areas of linguistic States are bilingual and linguistic minorities live in large numbers there. The hon. Minister has stated that there are constitutional safeguards and protection to the linguistic minorities and he has also stated about the decisions arrived at by the All India Body. But often these constitutional provisions and the decisions arrived at, are flouted. May I know from the hon. Minister the steps taken by the Government for the linguistic minorities to pursue their studies in their mother tongue by opening adequate number of schools and classes in such areas and also by the appointment of teachers.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : Sir, there are representations from the linguistic minorities conveying their complaints and grievances. These are forwarded by the Commissioner of Linguistic Minorities to the concerned State Governments and

Union Territories. This is in accordance with the article 350 (B) (1) (2) of the Constitution. The Commissioner, through his reports submitted to the President, informs on the grievances of the linguistic minorities and the steps taken is already an inbuilt mechanism existing in the Constitution and in the person of the Commissioner of Linguistic Minorities who is the constitutional authority to protect the interests of the linguist minorities. He is taking time and again and reporting the matter to the State and requesting the States to implement the policy.

In regard to answer to part (b) of the question, the policy laid down by the Government with reference to the linguistic minorities has stipulated that there should be provisions for opening schools up to the primary level to pursue their studies in respect of the mother tongue. The States are expected to follow this policy and provide adequate schools, classes and teachers too. The States are known to have provided these facilities also.

However, if the hon. Member has any specific instance where such facilities are not provided or extended, we will certainly look into it and see that remedies are taken.

SHRI N. DENNIS : In job opportunities, discrimination is often made for the linguistic minorities. May I know from the hon. Minister whether representatives of the linguistic minorities would be accommodated in the recruitment bodies and also whether the pre-condition of the knowledge of the State language would be waived and relaxed in the case of appointment.

The grievances of the linguistic minorities regarding this matter could be monitored by a monitoring cell and whenever there are grievances from the linguistic minorities, a direction should be sent.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : Regarding appointment, there is no proposal, at present, from the Government side. With regard to waiver of language, the Commissioner, Linguistic Minorities has been pursuing with the State Government that for recruitment in the State services, prior knowledge of State official language should not be a pre-requisite. That is what he has asked. In this connection, I would mention that certain States and Union Territories like Dadra Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh have already implemented this scheme.

In regard to other States, the linguistic minority Commissioner is pursuing the matter with them.

With regard to monitoring, the Linguistic Minority Commissioner is the Constitutional authority who is regularly monitoring these proposal with the State Government and getting reports time and again also.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : It has been reported in the recent State Minority Conference that there are minority institutions which are facing a lot of problems in respect of admissions, in respect of other related policy matters and in respect of maintaining minority character guaranteed under article 29 and 30 of the Constitution.

MR. SPEAKER : All these things

are not necessary. You put a specific question.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to amend these articles 29 and 30 of the Constitution in order to give much more absolute power to all these minority running institutions.

SHRI. K.V. THANGKA BALU : The question is very specific on linguistic minorities.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you going to amend the Constitution to provide the facility?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : At present, we have no such idea.

[*Translation*]

DR. G.L. KANANUJIA : The hon. Minister has said in his reply:

[*English*]

There is no specific provision in the Constitution which would provide for job opportunities for the linguistic minorities.

[*Translation*]

Whether the government are aware that the Uttar Pradesh Government has said that Urdu-Knowing people will be given preference in the proposed security force.

[*English*]

I will not allow you to read the Answer. Shri Paswan.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter of linguistic minorities is an important matter relating to National Integration. If somebody wants to learn Tamil language in Delhi or Hindi language in Madras, then there is no provision for this. As a result, confrontation become English and Hindi language takes place everywhere. As the Government has replied that they have financial crunch and we also understand it, but I would like to know that just as the Government had convened Chief Ministers, conference in this regard in 1961, is it planning to take some steps to resolve and linguistic problem by convening Chief Ministers' Conference in the near future?

[*English*]

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : Sir, in the past, we have taken a number of steps. The Chief Ministers and the Vice-Chairmen of the Zonal Councils have dealt with this matter at length and recommended to the Government the various steps to be taken in this matter. Accordingly, the Government is pursuing the matter with the state Governments and we are trying to implement this policy.

With regard to the Chief Ministers Conference, at present it is a good suggestion to be considered.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : Sir, no steps have been taken for teaching of Punjabi language to the minorities in Delhi and in the States of Haryana, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh. I would like to know whether the Government of India is considering to implement the formula of

teaching Punjabi as the second language or as the language of the minorities in all these States so that Punjabi's can nurse their language in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : This is a matter to be dealt with by the State Governments.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the problems being faced by our linguistic minorities, whose mother tongues are having the status of minorities in their respective states. I would, especially, like to draw the attention of the Government to the three language formula. Every language enjoys a minority status at some place or the other including Hindi, but Hindi is a permanent language in the three language formula. That is why, the Hindi speaking children get the opportunity to read Hindi alongwith other languages of the state, but they only face difficulties when they go out of their states. The regional languages of that area include English and Hindi. The third category includes Urdu and Sindhi speaking children and they are facing difficulties in every non-Hindi state. There is no scope for them in the three language formula. In other words, they study Hindi, English and the regional language but they do not have any opportunity to pursue their studies in their mother tongue. I feel that this is the biggest drawback of the three language formula. I have drawn the attention of the Government paying any attention to solve this problem? What steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : There are 130 linguistic languages.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I am only thinking of the national language. The languages mentioned in the Constitution are the modern Indian languages. I am not concerned with those 200 languages in the country.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : The question relates very clearly to linguistic minorities.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Member says that these languages which are mentioned in the Constitution are also the languages of minorities in certain cases. What can we do?

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU : I do agree that it is a problem. Time and again, we get this problem from various sections of the society, particularly non-Hindi speaking people or other areas. We have advised the State Governments to look into this matter and try to solve this problem.

Oil Exploration

[*Translation*]

*663. SHRIMATI. BHAVNA
CHIKHLIA :
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

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

(a) whether the Government are leaving aside the areas with potential reserves for oil exploration by the foreign companies;

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

(c) whether the decision is in tune with the existing policy of the Government?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS *CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA* : (a) to (c). Government of India offers specified block for exploration of oil and gas at at specified intervals to Indian and foreign companies. These blocks are identified by Government of India in consultation with ONGC/OIL and cover areas where ONGC/OIL have no firm exploration programme in the near future.

Under the continuous round-the-year bidding scheme, the seventh round is currently in progress. The objective is to augment the exploration activities of the national oil companies and intensify exploration activities of the various sedimentary basins of India. This is an important component of the policy of the Government to attract private investment in the exploration for hydrocarbons.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that owing to the scarcity of resources and out limited means, foreign companies are invited for oil exploration activities in areas having vast potentials of oil and these areas are identified and programme of oil exploration chalked out after having consultations with our Indian companies like ONGC and OIL? I would

like to ask the hon. Minister as to why not the big foreign companies like Oxon and Sovor on take up drilling operations in India? For instance, there is a company in Andhra Pradesh.....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will not allow this kind of a question. You are pleading for a company.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : I would like to know are the difficulties in inviting the big companies having greater capacity? Are not else ready to come to India?

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to share with the hon. Member her concern about this aspect. On the one hand, the exploration effort is not being adequate and on the other hand, the big companies are coming in. The hon. Member is right in telling that. I would like to say that no country in the world - whether it is India or China or the CIS States - is capable of investing the kind of capital which is required in the area of exploration on its own because this is risk capital. So, in addition to what a country can do of its own, every country tries to get the foreign companies, the foreign capital to come in and supplement its efforts. That is what is exactly being done here. Besides what the ONGC and Oil India Ltd. can do on their own, we are trying to get the foreign capital and the international companies are coming in. I am glad to inform you that the trend is changing. It is because

of competition and no other reason. It is because of competition that India has to compete with the CIS States, China, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia. So, we have a brutal competition there. But let me assure the hon. Member that starting from fifth round, six round - at present we are in the seventh round - onwards, there is a continuous round of bidding in January and June. We are improving. Our figures are improving. In the fourth round, the success ratio was about 18 per cent, to quantify. In the fifth round, it went to 22 per cent because of my personal involvement in going all over the world, trying to invite the foreign capital. In the sixth round, it has gone up to 26 per cent. The seventh round is on. So, the big companies, which you have mentioned, are now slowly coming to India.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that a vast oil reserve has been explored in Gujarat? Is the Government taking proper action in this connection? I am asking this because an oil exploration operation was undertaken in Una Tehsil of my constituency, Junagarh but I did not receive any details thereof. A similar operation was taken up on the Bhavala and Dholakha lines in Ahmedabad but the details of that too have not been received. I want to know about that also.

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : We are all aware that Gujarat has a very high hydro-carbon prospectively. We have found gas and oil there, My personal belief is, there is much more to be found

out in that area. Gujarat is a high prospectivity area. Efforts are on for exploration activity. In Gujarat, all the areas and all the blocks were exploration will take place further, have been offered to the international companies and to our own companies. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, it is his personal belief; you should give a ruling on it.

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling is that you should not interrupt off and on.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Has it gone on record?

MR. SPEAKER : It is very much a part of the record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is entering into agreements with and awarding contracts to the foreign companies for conducting oil exploration and identifying oil reserves in the country and yet, there is shortage of oil in the country. As your figures reveal - production of oil in 1992-93 was 269.5 lakh tonnes and this year your target of production is 305 lakh tonnes but I am afraid that you will not be able to achieve your target. Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government is going to take for raising the production

of oil fields and for achieving the targets. An exploratory survey for oil was carried out in North Bihar by the Government which has revealed the presence of oil reserves there. I would also like to know what action the Government is going to take for drilling oil wells in North Bihar?

[*English*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Let me answer the first part of the question which relates to the oil production. Let me put the record straight here. Because of the short and medium term measures taken, oil production this year is to go up by at least five million tonnes. Next year, it will be ten millions more and in the terminal year of the Eighth Plan, the production will go up by 15 million tonnes over the present level. We are doing very well on the production front. My concern, the Ministry's concern and the country's concern is that it is the reserve accretion which should go up simultaneously. It is not happening. That is why, the exploration effort is very important. To intensify the exploration effort whether it is in respect of Bihar or any other area of the country is, in fact, the most serious issue of my Ministry.

The second part of the question relates to Bihar. The ONGC has been carrying out exploratory activities since 1956. So far, ONGC has carried out 7396 SLK/LK of seismic survey work apart from the aero-magnetic, ground magnetic and the periodic survey that has been carried out there. 6 oil wells have been drilled without any commercial success, ONGC has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 70 crore on exploration activities in Bihar till 31st March, 1993. However, having said that, I have no intention to abandon Bihar. I have plans

to have 3-D seismic work which is a more comprehensive, more technologically advanced work to be done in the States of Bihar and West Bengal so that if there are possibilities of finding hydrocarbons there, we should not let it slip by.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Hon. Minister has said that due to lack of resources and infrastructural facilities, the ONGC has not been able to explore enough oil and enough oil fields during the last ten years, and that is why, bids have been given to the foreign companies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much of oil the Government is expecting to generate through these foreign oil companies in the next four to five years? What is the basis of your contracting with these foreign companies to allow them to explore the oil fields - whether it is on a profit-sharing basis or whether they are going to pay the royalty?

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA : Sir, my friend Murla has just enquired about a most fundamental issue. There are again two parts in this question. The important part here, which has to be understood, is that our balance recoverable reserves as on 1.4.93 are : onshore 313 million metric tonnes and offshore 466 million metric tonnes. It makes a total of 779 million metric tonnes. It is all that we have got as balance recoverable reserves. When I say that our reserves position has to be improved, that is when we talk about exploration. Exploration efforts have to be intensified so that this balance recoverable reserves position improves. Just OIL or ONGC or our other efforts which are being put in right now are not sufficient. We have to intensify our efforts by having this found-the-

year bidding to allow the international companies to come in, by having Oil India and ONGC also to intensify their efforts to do more than what they are doing right now; even that, I believe, is not enough. Thirdly, we are encouraging our domestic companies to come into the area of exploration. That is what is required if India has to sustain the production levels starting from 1997-98. We had produced 27 million metric tonnes last year and we are going to go upto 44 million metric tonnes. If we have to sustain 44 million metric tonnes or more, we have to make sure that our exploration efforts go up so that our balance recoverable reserves position improves. It is the reason why the international companies are coming in. And obviously, as I mentioned, there are many other countries which are competing with India in this area. So, our financial package that is being offered is as attractive as any others. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, a Member of Parliament was talking to the officials in the Officials Gallery. He has just now retreated.

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I would request the Members not to do that please. That is not proper.

[*Translation*]

Anti - Rabies Vaccine

*664. **SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN :**
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

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

(a) whether an anti-rabies vaccine

centre has been set up with WHO assistance for imparting training in quality control;

(b) if so, the location thereof;

(c) whether any new vaccine and technique been developed by the centre for the treatment of rabies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) and (b) . The Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, has been designated as WHO Collaboration Centre for training in Rabies Vaccine production and quality control.

(c) and (d) . The Rabies Vaccine Inactivated (Absorbed) Cell culture derived for canine use was released in 1988. This has been followed by further purification methods of BPL (Beta Propylactone) Inactivated Rabies Vaccine prepared on continuous cell line voro.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to come directly to the question without giving any background. Has any anti-rabies vaccine production programme been started with the collaboration of the World Health Organisation or not; if so, whether this programme comes under the purview of public sector or has been assigned to the private sector companies and in the latter case, what are the details and how is it going to benefit the Government and the people?

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, this Institute belonging to the public sector has been designated as WHO Collaboration Centre. There is no such collaboration with any other private sector institution. This collaboration is only with the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my other supplementary is what are the medicines produced by the Anti-rabies vaccine Centre set up with the collaboration of WHO and what are the prices of these medicines; and whether there exists any programme for the health-care of the aged, the orphans and the handicapped and if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, this question is related to anti-rabies vaccine. The collaboration is with our Coonoor Institute. They are trying for a modern medicine for the anti-rabies vaccine. There are already two types of vaccines which are available in our country. By this collaboration they are giving financial and scientific help in develop more of these vaccines.

DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA : For curing rabies there is the chicken embryo vaccine and the other one is the human deployed cell vaccine. He said both are freely available. But even in CGHS it is not available. Actually poor people are more prone to the dog bite. The Minister should make it available in all the Government hospitals at least.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR

: The vaccine is available in the centres selected by the Organisation itself. At present 13 public sector and one private sector institutions are producing this vaccine. We are self-sufficient and they supply according to the order they get from the respective Government or the organisation concerned. There is no shortage of vaccine in this country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, anti-rabies vaccines are in short supply throughout the country today and it may have fatal consequences. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether these vaccines will be imported from abroad until the new technology developed and the production of these augmented with the foreign collaboration?

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR

: At present the installed capacity for the production of vaccine is 40 million. We have not reached that target because these institutions supply according to the demand of the State Government. They have to pay a certain price and these institutions supply. There is no shortage and there is no question of bringing it from outside the country.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : The

hon. Minister has not replied to part (c) of the question fully. He answered it partly. The treatment for rabies is already there in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, in the Department of Anesthesiology developed at the time of Dr. Gowde who has already spend Rs. 1 crore on that. What is the fate of the

treatment centre? The hon. Member mentioned about CGHS supply of Rebipure and human deployed cell vaccine. Dr. Nakajima was telling that till the World Health Organisation came to the rescue of these vaccines, which are now being produced, they were not allergic free. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will consider the suggestion of my colleague Dr. Padma to improve human deployed cell vaccine and Rabipure vaccine? The Chairman of the WHO, Dr. Nakajima is willing to help our country in this respect.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR

: There are two types of vaccines; one is known as NTV and the other is known as safe tissue culture vaccine. The name is the Human Diploid Cell Vaccine (HDCV) and the purified Chick Embryo Fibroblas Cell Vaccine (PCECV). These are the two new types of vaccines. They are so much used. For further development of vaccine, we are collaborating with the WHO further development of vaccine, we are collaborating with the WHO.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, we are all aware that a person bitten by dog cannot be cured and for this purpose, Kuchla i.e. nux or Bishtindukh (Stickening) is the best for Ayurvedic medicine. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether his department has conducted any research on nux? If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereof?.. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this can be experimented by first inviting a dog to bite a person.

MR. SPEAKER : The second question is on whom should this experiment be conducted?.. (*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : We are very rich in ISM (Indian System of Medicine) tradition and there are so many medicines in that. It is a very good suggestion for action.

DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Rabies is an incurable disease. But the Rabipur and human delayed cell vaccine are very costly, costing about Rs. 2,000 for the prevention of rabies. About the ARV supplied by the CURO the Minister said that it is self-sufficient. It is not self-sufficient because I have deposited some money about five years back. Till now they are not supplying the medicine. That is the position. Only the district headquarters hospitals are being supplied this vaccine. But in the rural areas it is not available. Will the Minister increase its production? Jackals and dogs are more common for this infection. To prevent this disease, one has to do away with dogs and jackals. What measures are being taken in this respect?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : More production of these vaccines is very much on there.

MR. SPEAKER : He has asked a very pertinent question. He said that the price of the medicine is very high and because of that the demand is not coming. That does not mean that it is not required. Can we do something in that respect?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : We have to look into that.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : My hon. colleague asked about the medicine for the prevention of rabies. But after a person is bitten by dog or any other animal the vaccine that we have to take is very very expensive. Recently only I had that experience. What our Minister is saying is that the two types of vaccines - human deployed cell vaccine and the chick embryo vaccine - are freely available and that they cost around Rs. 200 to Rs. 300. The human deployed cell vaccine costs around Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 per one vaccine. So how can our Minister say that it is freely available to the poor people also? The production is sufficient, but these medicines are out of reach of the poor people.

MR. SPEAKER : He has agreed to look into it.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : I would like to know whether he could consider that these medicines would be made available for the poor people also.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : I have already stated that the State Governments have to give the indent and the price for making this medicine available to the respective State.

MR. SPEAKER : That would be a correct technical reply. But the problem the Members are raising is that the prices are very high. Can we do something to reduce it?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : It is a good suggestion for action.

MR. SPEAKER : You have said that you will look into it.

Coal Mines

*665 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has undertaken a cost study on outright sale of 50 coal mines, mostly for thermal power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Coal India Limited has also asked the Institute of Costs and Works Accountant of India (ICWAI) to undertake such study;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that private parties manage collieries very badly and resort to slaughter mining; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No Sir, Coal India Limited has not undertaken any cost study on outright sale of any of its coal mines.

(b) Does not arise.

(d) to (f). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(c) and (d). Government had amended, in 1973, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 to permit pri-

vate sector participation in coal mining inter-alia for power generation.

In pursuance of that Coal India Limited (CIL) has identified 40 virgin or unworked mine blocks for captive mining. With a view to recovering from the prospective lessees the cost of exploration, CIL had engaged the Institute of Costs and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI) to study and to make appropriate recommendations.

(e) and (f). Prior to nationalisation a few instances of slaughter mining had come to notice. However, adequate precautions are now being taken to ensure scientific development of mining and conservation of coal by the prospective private sector participants.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what was the need to sell the 50 coal mines? Why did not the Central Mining, Planning and Design Institute, which has efficient and competent officials, carry out the cost study? Why do not you transform it into a joint sector with the Government participation?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : As I answered already there is no question of outright sale of any coal mine whatsoever. So far as the joint sector is concerned, it is open. If any joint sector is made along with the State or with Coal India Ltd., that is also welcome. These are individual applications made, some of the States directly like Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Some individual persons are coming in terms of the amendment car-

ried out to the Coal Nationalisation Act by this House.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

[*Translation*]

Naturopathy

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir my question was why does not the Central Government extend any co-operation in it? There should be a Central Government involvement in it. Will not the prices of coal shoot up indiscriminately once the coal-mines are entrusted to the private sector?

Is not it a fact that there will be a price-rise in coal and electricity tariff in the absence of Government interference? You did not answer my second question which was why are not you conducting a costs today through the Central Mining, Planning and Design Institute?

[*English*]

SHRI AJIT PANJA : One of the reasons for allowing private enterprise to come in is resource constraint. If the Central Government had the fund, then the question of "resource constraint" one of the reasons for giving lease to the private enterprise to come in would not have been there. For the resource availability and for quick implementation, it is done because we need a lot of power for the purpose of development of industry in this country; and that is why, arrangements are being made. Captive coal mine is given only in respect of power and also for iron and steel.

MR. SPEAKER : Sorry, Basudeb Acharia, Question Hour is over.

*666. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI TARA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to promote Naturopathy in the country;

(b) if so, the target allocation earmarked during the current plan period;

(c) whether the State Government have been directed to promote Naturopathy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the concrete steps the Government propose to take to promote Naturopathy?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (e) . Necessary steps are being taken to promote Yoga and Naturopathy in the country. The Central Council of Health and Family Welfare which includes the Health Ministers of all the States, has recommended that appropriate life style enshrined in Yoga and Naturopathy should be promoted.

Rs. 3 crores have been allocated to

Central Council of Yoga and Naturopathy for promotion of research in Yoga and Naturopathy. Rs. 1 crore has been allocated to National Institute of Naturopathy for promoting naturopathy.

[*Translation*]

Gas Pipelines

*667. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI PHOOL CHAND
VERMA :

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

(a) the details of proposals received from the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka for laying new gas pipelines during the last one year;

(b) whether the Union Government have granted approval to these proposals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) while no proposal for a pipeline has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Karnataka have asked for the laying of a Southern Gas Grid for Karnataka and other Southern States.

(b) to (d). The Government have accepted in principle the concept of laying a natural gas pipeline to the Southern States from a suitable point on the Western Coast.

Blood Donation

*668. SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU :
SHRI RAJENDRA
AGNIHOTRI :

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

(a) whether several needy patients die annually for want of precious blood;

(b) whether the Government propose to evolve scheme to encourage voluntary blood donation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which scheme is proposed to be launched ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No specific information is available on this subject.

(b) to (d) . voluntary blood donation is being encouraged by Government institutions, Indian Red Cross Society and Non-Governmental Organizations through various methods including inter alia mass media and camps.

[*Translation*]

Coal Stock

*669. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of COAL be

pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of coal was lying at pit-heads of coal mines in the country at the end of March 1994;

(b) if so, the quantity and the value thereof;

(c) whether the average quantity of this coal reserve during 1993-94 has been more in comparison to the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have

fixed any limit for the average of this quantity; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) . Pithead coal stocks in the country as on 31.3.1994 (Provisional) were 50.89 million tonnes. The value thereof will be known only after audit for the year 1993-94 is completed.

(c) and (d) . Pithead coal stocks in the country as on 31.3.91, 31.3.92, 31.3.93 and 31.3.94 are given below:

<i>As on</i>	<i>(million tonnes) coal stocks</i>
31.3.91	42.56
31.3.92	48.58
31.3.93	51.30
31.3.94	50.89

(e) and (f) . Yes, Sir. According to instructions issued to Coal India Limited on 12.8.1985 by the then Department of Coal a subsidiary company as a whole should hold a stock equal to one month's production.

[English]

Bombay High Field

*670. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had invited leading multinationals for talks on their proposals for Enhanced Recovery (EOR) from the Bombay High field;

(b) if so, the details of companies which responded to ONGC's offer; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c) . ONGC had

ascertained the interest of companies with adequate technology and financial capability for additional development of the Bombay High field. Five bids have been received by the last date for receipt of bids of 10th April, 1994.

The companies which have indicated interest are Amoco, Chevron, Occidental and Arco (All of the USA) and Total of France.

The bids are under evaluation.

[*Translation*]

Oil India Limited

*671. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

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

(a) whether the Oil India Limited had started exploration and production programmes for the next few years; and

(b) if so, the targets fixed for production of oil and LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAP. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA). (A) . Yes , Sir.

(b) The Oil India Limited expect to produce a quantity of 2.95 million tonnes, 3.08 million tonnes and 3.25 million tonnes of crude oil during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, respectively. The LPG production is expected to be 50,000 tonnes per year during these three years.

[*English*]

Child hood Asthma

*672. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether childhood Asthma is more prevent among Indian children than other countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of children in each State affected by this disease; and

(d) and steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to control Asthma among children?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). No comparative information is available.

(c) No reliable information is available.

(d) Health education, improvement in sanitation and efforts to control pollution help in reducing the incidence of asthma.

[*Translation*]

Surface Water

*673. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA.
SHRI NITISH KUMAR.

Will the Minister of WATER RE-SOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) the estimated quantum of sur-

face water annually available in the country at present;

(b) whether more than fifty percent surface water is not being used;

(c) the quantum of surface water being used for irrigation and other purposes, separately; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for the maximum utilisation of surface water?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RE-

SOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) to (d). The country receives annual precipitation of 4000 cubic kilometers out of which the average annual flow available in rivers is around 1869 cubic kilometers. Owing to the topographic, hydrological and other constraints, the utilisable surface water as assessed by the Central Water Commission is 690 cubic kilometers. Out of this, the present (1990) utilisation of surface water for irrigation and other purposes is as under:-

<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Surface water (in cubic kilometers)</i>
Irrigation	310
Other usages such as domestic, industrial, energy etc.	52

The steps taken for maximum utilisation of surface water are as under:

(1) 194 major and 811 medium projects have been completed upto 1992 creating a live storage capacity of about 166 cubic kilometers.

(2) 158 major and 226 medium projects are under construction which will create an additional live storage capacity of about 76.7 cubic kilometers.

(3) The Eighth Plan strategy is for strict prioritisation of funds to ensure completion of on going major and medium projects.

(4) A total of 146 Extension/Renovation/Modernisation (ERM) schemes have been taken up for rehabilitation of major and medium projects of which 51

have been completed upto 1992 and 95 are under construction for increasing utilizing of created storage.

(5) Speedy completion of large number of ongoing surface water minor irrigation schemes.

(6) Encouragement to repair and improvement of minor irrigation tanks.

(7) The Government has also prepared perspective for transfer of water from surplus areas to water deficit areas which comprises two components viz., Himalayan River Development Components. A total of 36 water transfer links, 17 under Peninsular component and 19 under Himalayan component have been identified by National Water Development Agency. Preliminary feasibility reports

have been prepared for 13 water transfer links in the Peninsular component which have been sent to the concerned State Government for concurrence.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Medicines

*674. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Union Government have been supplying medicines under various Health schemes to the State Government;

(b) if so, the quantity and value of medicines demanded and supplied to each State Government during the last

year;

(c) whether these supplies as were despatched to the respective States in time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity and value of medicines supplied under the National Programmes for control of Malaria, Leprosy and Tuberculosis are given in the enclosed statement I, II & III.

(c) The drugs were supplied as per schedule through the concerned Central Medical Store Depots.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT - I

STATEMENT SHOWING ANTI-MALARIAL DRUGS SUPPLIED TO STATES/UTS. DURING 1993-94

Stores Section	Sl. States/UTs. No.	Chloroquine Qty.	Chloroquine tabs Cost	Amodiaquine Qty.	Amodiaquine tabs Cost	Sul.py.comb. Qty.	Sul.py.comb. tabs Cost	Primaquine (7.5)		Primaquine (2.5)		Qty. in lakhs Cost in Rs.		
								Qty.	Cost	Qty.	Cost	Qty.	Cost	Qty.
	1.	Andhra Pradesh	215.00	102,55,500	-	-	-	5.10	69,100	1.30	10,400	-	-	
	2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	7,15,500	1.00	37,400	0.05	5,000	1.50	17,700	0.50	4,000	0.50	41,900
	3.	Assam	70.00	33,39,900	7.10	2,65,540	1.20	1,40,000	5.50	64,900	2.70	21,600	0.60	50,280
	4.	Bihar	120.00	57,24,000	-	-	-	7.70	90,860	2.60	20,800	-	-	
	5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.20	1,600	-	-	
	6.	Gujarat	135.00	64,39,500	2.00	74,800	-	23.00	2,71,400	-	-	-	-	
	7.	Haryana	115.00	54,85,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	0.50	5,900	-	-	-	-	
	9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10.00	4,77,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	10.	Karnataka	125.00	59,62,500	-	-	-	0.10	1,180	-	-	-	-	
	11.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	5.70	67,260	1.60	12,800	-	-	

Sl. No.	States/Uts.	Chloroquine Qty.	Chloroquine tabs Cost	Amodiaquine tabs. Qty.	Amodiaquine tabs. Cost	Sul.py.comb. Qty.	Sul.py.comb. tabs. Cost	Primaquine (7.5) Qty.	Primaquine (7.5) Cost	Primaquine (2.5) Qty.	Primaquine (2.5) Cost	Quinine tablets Qty.	Quinine tablets Cost
12.	Madhya Pradesh	220.00	104,94,000	8.00	2,99,200	1.00	1,00,000	11.90	1,40,420	3.00	24,000	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	300.00	143,10,000	4.00	1,49,600	0.80	80,000	23.10	2,72,580	11.00	88,000	-	-
14.	Manipur	18.00	8,58,600	2.00	74,800	-	-	2.07	24,426	0.03	240	0.50	41,900
15.	Meghalaya	-	-	7.00	2,61,800	0.62	64,000	0.70	8,260	0.30	2,400	0.50	41,900
16.	Mizoram	0.50	23,850	1.00	37,400	0.10	10,000	2.70	31,860	0.30	2,400	0.70	58,660
17.	Nagaland	-	-	1.50	56,100	0.10	10,000	1.09	12,862	0.11	880	0.20	16,760
18.	Orissa	195.00	93,10,500	7.00	2,61,800	1.25	1,25,000	38.10	4,49,580	17.00	1,36,000	-	-
19.	Punjab	143.00	68,21,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	Rajasthan	95.00	45,31,500	-	-	-	-	8.94	1,05,492	-	-	-	-
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	118	-	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	80.00	38,16,000	-	-	-	-	24.20	2,85,560	8.40	67,200	-	-
23.	Tripura	10.00	4,77,000	-	-	-	-	1.30	15,340	0.70	5,600	0.50	41,900
24.	Uttar Pradesh	348.00	165,99,600	-	-	1.00	1,00,000	7.64	90,152	3.50	28,000	-	-
25.	West Bengal	90.00	42,93,000	1.00	37,400	-	-	3.10	36,580	-	-	0.139	11,646
Total : States		2304.50	1099,24,650	41.60	15,55,850	6.12	6,34,000	173.95	20,52,610	53.24	4,25,920	3.639	3,04,946

Sl. States/Uts. No.	Chloroquine Qty.	tabs Cost	Amodiaquine Qty.	tabs Cost	Sul.py.comb. Qty.	tabs Cost	Primaquine (7.5) Qty.	Cost	Primaquine (2.5) Qty.	Cost	Quinine tablets Qty.	Cost
U.T. with legislature:												
1. Pondicherry	1.50	71,550	-	-	-	-	0.17	2,006	0.08	640	-	-
U.T. without legislatures :												
1. A & N Islands	2.00	95,400	3.50	1,30,900	0.60	70,000	-	-	0.05	400	0.50	41,900
2. Chandigarh	10.00	4,77,000	-	-	-	-	2.00	23,600	-	-	-	-
3. D & N Haveli	1.50	71,550	-	-	-	-	0.30	3,540	0.20	1,600	-	-
4. Daman & Diu	1.00	47,700	-	-	-	-	0.07	826	0.03	240	-	-
5. Delhi	22.00	10,49,400	-	-	-	-	1.60	18,880	0.30	2,400	-	-
6. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	118	-	-	-	-
Total : UT w/t Legis :	36.50	17,41,050	3.50	1,30,900	0.60	70,000	3.98	46,984	0.58	4,640	0.50	41,900
Grand Total :	2342.50	1117,37,250	45.10	16,86,740	6.72	7,04,000	178.10	22,80,580	53.90	4,31,200	4.139	3,46,846

STATEMENT - II

**QUANTITY OF ANTILEPROSY DRUGS RELEASED TO STATE/UTS DURING 1993-94
(IN LAKHS) AND VALUE (RS. IN LAKHS)**

S. No.	State	Rifampicine Cap. 300 mg.	Clofazimine Cap. 50 mg.	Dapsone Tab. 100 mg.	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49.05	12.00	365.23	141.34
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.32	0.45	2.00	0.42
3.	Assam	1.90	1.00	1.50	2.49
4.	Bihar	31.18	41.00	523.59	141.58
5.	Goa	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.45
6.	Gujarat	7.75	10.00	0.00	23.68
7.	Haryana	0.40	0.00	1.00	1.02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.70	3.00	0.00	4.18
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.20	0.00	1.00	1.51
10.	Karnataka	12.19	0.00	0.00	27.29
11.	Kerala	16.50	0.00	0.00	36.91
12.	Madhya Pradesh	37.85	72.47	424.60	154.60
13.	Maharashtra	24.25	25.00	0.00	60.95

No	State	Rifampicine Cap 300 mg	Clofazimine Cap 50 mg	Dapsone Tab 100 mg	Value (Rs in lakhs)
14	Manipur	0 39	0 20	0 00	0 93
15	Meghalaya	0 32	0 00	1 00	0 76
16	Mizoram	0 52	0 50	1 50	1 74
17	Nagaland	0 52	0 25	1 00	1 64
18	Orissa	35 60	4 50	243 00	109 40
19	Punjab	0 90	1 00	1 00	1 53
20	Rajasthan	2 25	2 50	0 00	6 40
21	Sikkim	0 42	0 25	1 00	1 35
22	Tamil Nadu	32 80	0 00	0 00	141 32
23	Tripura	0 92	2 20	2 00	2 97
24	Uttar Pradesh	92 90	79 00	991 70	237 13
25	West Bengal	48 50	45 00	310 15	133 26
26	A & N	0 12	0 20	1 00	0 46
27	Chandigarh	0 20	0 00	2 00	3 45
28	D & N Haveli	0 30	2 00	0 00	1 01

S. No.	States	Rifampicine Cap. 300 mg.	Clotazimine Cap. 50 mg	Dapsone Tab. 100 mg.	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
29.	Daman & Diu	0.10	1.00	0.00	0.40
30	Delhi	0.75	3.00	2.00	3.66
31.	Lakshadweep	0.40	0.60	0.31	1.15
32.	Pondicherry	0.66	2.00	2.00	2.99

STATEMENT - III

STATEMENT SHOWING QUANTITY OF DRUG INDENTED BY THE STATES/UTS AND COST OF DRUG SUPPLIED DURING THE YEAR 1993-94 FOR NATIONAL T.B. CONTROL PROGRAMME

S.No.States/Union Territories	S.M. vials	INH 100	Etham. 300	Comb. Big	Etham. 200	Etham. 800	Rifam. 150	Pyz. 500	Rifam. 450	Cost of Drug Supplied Fig in lakhs (Provisional)
1. Andhra Pradesh	6.13	39.11	61.95	73.40	22.25	34.20	18.35	17.85	-	68.94
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2.05	6.70	9.75	6.75	3.05	4.25	6.10	2.20	-	7.43
3. Assam	21.55	28.75	45.50	56.75	34.40	44.30	21.50	23.65	-	48.51
4. Bihar	25.75	57.80	73.20	52.95	39.00	60.90	19.85	12.35	-	9.90
5. Goa	0.95	-	7.00	-	0.15	-	3.00	2.50	-	1.21
6. Gujarat	14.25	39.55	12.00	169.50	51.40	81.20	67.00	38.25	-	111.84
7. Haryana	9.95	34.50	39.50	53.80	13.30	25.80	0.9	1.7	0.45	23.12
8. Himachal Pradesh	4.95	30.8	36.80	19.10	12.30	19.90	6.00	3.25	-	55.51
9. Jammu & Kashmir	3.10	22.50	45.60	12.55	6.35	27.85	4.20	2.55	2.65	7.58
10. Karnataka	6.15	36.73	98.10	48.70	25.30	66.50	15.15	16.45	-	102.31
11. Kerala	6.10	81.98	82.27	6.90	56.15	70.30	19.50	13.25	-	37.18
12. Madhya Pradesh	16.43	86.90	158.90	96.15	64.60	104.40	35.47	43.07	6.28	142.15
13. Maharashtra	36.95	426.50	434.20	91.75	246.00	274.80	65.30	77.66	23.88	161.51

S.No./States/Union Territories	S.M. vials	INH 100	Etham. 300	Comb. Big	Etham. 200	Etham. 800	Rifam. 150	Pyz. 500	Rifam. 450	Cost of Drug Supplied Fig in lakhs (Provisional)
14. Manipur	1.57	1.80	3.80	3.80	2.85	3.60	1.19	3.20	-	4.52
15. Meghalaya	2.10	1.30	3.50	2.60	3.00	3.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	7.66
16. Mizoram	0.44	1.50	4.10	0.45	1.02	2.70	0.56	0.65	-	24.10
17. Nagaland	0.70	1.85	2.20	0.30	1.00	1.80	0.80	0.50	0.30	2.19
18. Orissa	8.38	49.54	68.30	22.00	25.16	49.30	10.95	7.50	-	56.82
19. Punjab	12.38	29.25	35.15	21.15	16.47	32.00	2.85	4.50	-	28.72
20. Rajasthan	15.75	20.95	78.50	62.95	20.85	48.70	4.05	6.40	4.90	36.08
21. Sikkim	1.00	1.00	3.00	0.25	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.50	-	0.74
22. Tamil Nadu	10.90	181.40	212.40	46.50	88.00	130.00	24.75	20.30	-	114.25
23. Tripura	1.05	2.50	12.00	11.70	2.25	5.50	1.25	0.50	0.25	6.14
24. Uttar Pradesh	41.60	46.20	431.70	346.50	206.30	235.10	81.45	54.05	34.04	234.96
25. West Bengal	39.80	31.00	58.50	76.00	57.25	68.30	30.70	18.80	-	139.14
26. A & N Island	0.25	2.00	3.00	0.25	2.50	3.00	1.50	0.50	-	1.70
27. Chandigarh	0.50	0.50	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.30	0.30	1.94
28. D & N Haveli	0.40	1.00	2.00	-	0.80	1.70	-	-	-	0.09

S.No. States/Union Territories	S.M. vials	INH 100	Etham. 300	Comb. Big	Etham. 200	Etham. 800	Rifam. 150	Pyz. 500	Rifam. 450	Cost of Drug Supplied Fig in lakhs (Provisional)
29. Daman & Diu	0.40	-	1.50	0.10	0.40	1.50	-	-	-	0.01
30. Delhi	1.00	30.00	80.00	30.00	20.00	40.00	8.00	10.00	-	110.03
31. Lakshadweep	-	1.00	0.75	-	0.30	0.25	-	-	-	0.58
32. Pondicherry	0.75	10.00	10.00	-	5.00	8.00	-	-	-	4.59
									Total	1551.45

[English]

Medical Education

*675. SHRI VILAS MÜTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India propose to affect wide ranging changes in medical education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the major changes are proposed to be introduced in the curriculum ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Gas Plants

*676. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of PETRO-

LEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petroleum and natural gas plants functioning in the country at present;

(b) the details of production of these plants during 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up some new plants in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) 13 refineries, 80 LPG bottling plants, 3 LPG processing plants and a number of exploration and production projects are functioning in the country;

(b) The details of the production of the above plants are given below:

	1992-93	1993-94
	(000 Tonnes)	
(i) Production of crude oil	26950	27015
(ii) Refinery (Crude through put)	53482	54344
(iii) Production of LPG bottling	2743	2794
Plants (Capacity)	as on 1.4.93	as on 1.1.94
(iv) LPG processing plants	347.13	417.69

(c) to (e). The following plants/projects are proposed to be set up by

the public sector oil companies in Gujarat:-

(i) Two bottling plants in Ahmedabad and one in Bhavnagar with a total capacity of 100 TMTPA.

(ii) A joint venture Gas Processing Complex in Gandhar for 8 MM SCMD of gas through-put.

(iii) Setting up of LPG import facilities at Kandla.

Refugees

*677. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI ANNA JOSHI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees from different countries residing in the country at present, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether the Government are considering the question of granting Indian citizenship rights to certain categories of refugees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AF-

FAIRS : (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) At present 2,67,340 refugees from Sri Lanka, Tibet, Bangladesh (Chakmas and Hajong) and Myanmar are residing in various States/Union Territories of India, as per details give in enclosed statement.

In so far as refugees from Sri Lanka are concerned, as they are Srilankan nationals, there is no question of granting them Indian citizenship. As regards the Tibetan refugees, these who moved to India after March, 1959, following the Chinese occupation of Tibet and the Dalai Lama's flight into India, they are allowed to continue to stay in India, as Tibetan refugees and treated as foreigners subject to registration and grant of residential permits. The Tibetan refugees who migrated to India earlier than March, 1959, and have been since then ordinarily resident in India are considered for grant of Indian citizenship of individual merits. The Government is considering grant of citizenship to such of the Chakmas and Hajong refugees in Arunachal Pradesh who came to India before 25.3.1991. No proposal for grant of citizenship to refugees from Myanmar is under Government's consideration.

STATEMENT

AS PER THE LATEST INFORMATION, THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES IN EACH STATE IS GIVEN BELOW:

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Refugees from				
		Sri Lanka	Myanmar	Tibet	Bangladesh (Chakmas & Hajong)	
1.	Tamil Nadu	1,01,918 (as on 31-3-94)	-	-	-	-
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	4,817	-	-
3.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	14,427	-	-
4.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	12,252	-	-
5.	Punjab	-	-	7	-	-
6.	Haryana	-	-	10	-	-
7.	Chandigarh	-	-	75	-	-
8.	Delhi	-	-	895	-	-
9.	Bihar	-	-	39	-	-
10.	West Bengal	-	-	3,396	-	-
11.	Sikkim	-	-	4,967	-	-

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Refugees from				
		Sri Lanka	Myanmar	Tibet	Bangladesh (Chakmas & Hajong)	
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	5,911	30,000	
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	183	-	
14.	Orissa	153	-	3,249	-	
15.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	1,798	-	
16.	Maharashtra	-	-	1,023	-	
17.	Pondicherry	-	-	78	-	
18.	Karnataka	-	-	26,833	-	
19.	Tripura	-	-	-	54,710	
20.	Manipur	-	37	-	-	
21.	Mizoram	-	17	-	-	
22.	Nagaland	-	545	-	-	
		1,02,071	599	79,960	84,710	

The figures for displaced persons from former West and East Pakistan who had migrated to India and were settled with Government assistance, or have settled on their own, are not included for the reason that they are to be taken to have merged in the mainstream of national life and are no longer considered refugees.

Coal Mining in N-E Region

sulphur Dioxide, Nephthalene and Benzol from Assam coal?

*678. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) During 1993-94, 35 lakh tonnes of coal was produced in the States of Assam, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh in the North-Eastern Region. State wise details of production during the last three years are given in the Statement I laid on the Table of the House.

(a) the details of coal extracted from the North-Eastern region during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the plan for utilisation of high sulphar, low ash coal from Assam;

(c) the other chemicals likely to be produced from Assam coal; and

(d) whether the Government propose to execute plans for production of

(b) and (c) A statement II is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) No. Sir.

STATEMENT-I

Details of coal produced from North-Eastern region during last 3 years, Statewise, are given below:

(lakh tonnes)

State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Assam	9.51	11.00	11.99
*Meghalaya	—	—	23.00
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	0.01
Total	9.51	11.00	35.00

* Government of Meghalaya have informed that local tribals are undertaking mining operations in Meghalaya claiming such mining as their traditional and customary rights.

properties and are low in ash content with high sulphur content. About 3.0 lakh tonnes of such coals are being utilised by the steel plants every year.

STATEMENT-II

Some of the coal from the north-eastern region exhibits superior caking

One coke oven plant has been established in Assam for production of low ash coke primarily for graphite industry.

Coal of this region being of sapropelic origin with high fixed carbon, high hydrogen and low ash, possibility of conversion of Assam coal into liquid fuel is high. A pilot plant (through-put of 25 KG per day) based on continuous two stage liquefaction is in advanced stage of construction at Oil India Limited, Duliajan.

Ground Water

*679 SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA.
SHRI RAMESHWAR
PATIDAR.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water level is gradually going down in the country;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government for artificial recharge of ground water, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether the Government have received some proposals of artificial recharge of water from the State Governments;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

(f) whether the Central Ground Water Board has conducted any survey of the availability of ground water in the country;

(g) if so, the details thereof State/UT-wise;

(h) whether any financial assistance

has been given to the State Governments for ground water recharge programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Gradual fall in ground water level has been observed in the localised pockets in the country.

(b) As per the observations made in January, 1994, fall of more than four metres in the level of ground water in relation to similar observations made in January, 1993 has been observed in localised part of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and National Capital Territory of Delhi. Fall in ground water level is mainly attributed to heavy withdrawals of ground water and insufficient rain-fall.

(c) The Central Ground Water Board has taken up a model Ground Water Recharge Scheme in Maharashtra, Karnataka, National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Chandigarh. The Board has also prepared guide-lines for formulation of Artificial Recharge Schemes by the State Governments and the draft manual containing guide-lines for formulation of such schemes has been circulated by the Board to the State Governments.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Proposal for Artificial Recharge

of Ground Water have been received from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) A statement giving details of Ground Water Resources in various States/Union Territories is enclosed.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (G) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 679 FOR 12.5.1994
GROUND WATER RESOURCES POTENTIAL OF INDIA

S.No.	Name of the State/ UTs	Provisional & Tentative	
		Total replenishable Ground Water Resource MCM/Year	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43365.87	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1438.50	
3.	Assam	21670.87	
4.	Bihar	33521.00	
5.	Gujarat	22551.71	
6.	Goa	605.33	
7.	Haryana	8523.58	
8.	Himachal Pradesh	356.58	
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4425.85	

Provisional & Tentative

S.No.	Name of the State/ UTs	Total replenishable Ground Water Resource (MCM/Year)
1	2	3
10.	Karnataka	16186.94
11.	Kerala	7900.28
12.	Madhya Pradesh	59718.00
13.	Maharashtra	38835.60
14.	Manipur	3154.00
15.	Meghalaya	1226.00
16.	Mizoram	Not assessed
17.	Nagaland	724.00
18.	Orissa	23279.22
19.	Punjab	17832.01
20.	Rajasthan	12707.64
21.	Sikkim	Not assessed
22.	Tamil Nadu	26391.25

<i>Provisional & Tentative</i>		
S.No.	Name of the State/ UTs	Total replenishable Ground Water Resource MCM/Year)
1	2	3
23.	Tripura	2512.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	83815.00
25.	West Bengal	22050.24
	All States	452791.47
UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	Not assessed
2.	Chandigarh	35.00
3.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	42.00
4.	Delhi	292.00
5.	Daman & Diu	13.00
6.	Lakshadweep	Not assessed
7.	Pondicherry	244.00
	All UTs	626.00
	All India	453417.47

Health Programmes

*680. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Health Programmes with the aid of UNICEF has been launched in the country during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether more programmes are likely to be launched during 1994-95; and

(d) the States likely to be covered under these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme was launched in August, 1992 with the assistance of UNICEF and World Bank to cover all districts in a phased manner by the year 1996-97. UNICEF also provides assistance to other Health Programmes such as Leprosy, Malaria, AIDS, IDD Control and Kala-azar control.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Postponed Question**Anti -Erosion Schemes**

*566 SHRI RUPCHAND PAL:
SHRI AJOY
MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalised any anti-erosion schemes pertaining to Ganga Basin States, particularly West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Union Government during each of the last three years for this purpose? *

THE MINISTER OF WHEATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b). Investigation, planning and execution of anti-erosion schemes are undertaken by the State Government out of their own plan funds for flood control sectors and in accordance with their own priorities. The Centre renders assistance in works that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature. However, due to fund constraints experienced by the State Governments, an amount of Rs. 30 crores have been provided in 8th Plan for assisting the Ganga Basin States on matching basis for undertaking critical anti erosion measures for villages, towns and monuments of national importance.

(c) The Central Assistance provided for critical janti erosion schemes in Ganga Basin States during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 was nil, Rs. 1.2 crores and Rs. 1 crore respectively.

Kidnapping of Children

7287. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of kidnaping of children below 3 years from

hospitals registered in Delhi during 1993 and 1994 so far;

(b) the number of persons arrested in connection with such cases;

(c) the number of cases solved and those pending; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be

taken to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c) : The number of cases of kidnapping of children, the number of persons arrested and the number of cases solved and those pending during 1993 and 1994 (upto 8.5.94) is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases of kidnapping</i>	<i>No. of persons arrested</i>	<i>No. of cases solved</i>	<i>No. of cases pending</i>	<i>No. of cases untraced</i>
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1993	1	—	—	—	1
1994 (upto 8.5.94)	2	1	1	1	—

(d) The steps taken to check such cases are as under:-

(i) The Beat/Division staff detailed for duty at Hospitals have been briefed to be more attentive and vigilant to prevent the incident, of child kidnapping from the Hospitals.

(ii) The Hospital staff have been advised to restrict the frequent visits of outsiders to the Hospital at odd hours.

FLU-Rise IN Tooth Pastes

7288. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several multi-national companies are still selling tooth pastes

with excess content of flud-ride;

(b) if so, the permissible fluried content allowed to be added in tooth pastes;

(c) whether the Government have taken steps to prevent the sale of these tooth pastes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d) . No such reports have been received. The Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945 provides that fluoride content in tooth paste shall not exceed 100 p.p.m. Marketing of tooth paste containing fluoride in excess of the prescribed limit would attract punitive action under the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.

Complaints From SCs/ STs

7289. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the complaints of atrocities are being registered under the SCs/STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from the State Government and Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Hospitals As An Industry

7290. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recognition of hospitals as an industry and rationalisation of tax structure that would enable the hospitals to provide health care of international standards have been pleaded by a forum of hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.

SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). No specific proposals in this behalf have been received.

[*Translation*]

Import of Oil

7291. Will the Minister OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries and the agreements which were signed with them for import of oil during the last year; and

(b) the quantity of oil to be imported from each country under the agreement and the rate thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAP. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). During 1993-94 Indian Oil Corporation have imported about 17.50 MMT of crude oil under term contracts from National Oil Companies of Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait, Iran, Malaysia, Qatar, Yemen and Russia at official selling price declared by the individual country.

[*English*]

Singareni Collieries

7292. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme of capital restructuring of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is under consideration of the Government;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) the profit/losses earned by SCCL during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93; and

(d) the reasons for losses, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) and (b). The scheme on capital restructuring of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) which was declared a sick company, has since been finalised and orders issued on 31.3.1994. The details of the scheme are as under:-

(i) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh would invest Rs. 487 crores during the 8th Plan period in addition to Rs. 32.95 crores already invested during 1990-91 and 1991-92.

(ii) Outstanding loans of Govt. of India to the extent of Rs. 402 crores shall be covered into equity to match the equity by Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

(iii) Govt. of India shall release Rs. 96 crores to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh as loan for investment in SCCL as equity during 1993-94.

(iv) Govt. of India shall write off interest of Rs. 260.43 crores and panel interest of Rs. 107.73 crores due from SCCL upto 31.3.1993.

(v) Govt. of India shall also allow moratorium on payment of interest during the balance of the 8th Plan period and reschedule the same for payment during 9th Plan in 5 equal instalments.

(vi) Govt. of India shall allow to the Company one time adhoc increase in the selling price of coal to the extent of Rs. 30.00 per tonnes effective from 1.4.1994.

(c) and (d). SCCL has incurred loss during the years 1990-91 to 1992-93. The details are as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Working Results Including Coal Chemicals Complex	(-) 16572.18	(-) 20484.00	(-) 12211.02

The major reasons for losses were adverse law and order situation, low level of production, deteriorating debt-equity ratio, etc.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI :

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

Leprosy Patients

7293. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH :

(a) the total number of leprosy patients at present in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been urged to

implement the recommendations of the Dr. Swaminathan Committee;

(c) if so, the extent to which the leprosy patients in Andhra Pradesh are likely to be benefited on the implementation of the report; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to check the increasing number of leprosy patients in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) 79701 (Feb. 1994)

(b) and (c) . The National Leprosy Eradication Programme which is based on the recommendations of Dr. Swaminathan Committee and is being implemented throughout the country, including the State of Andhra Pradesh. As a result, there has already been a substantial decline of 89% in the prevalence of leprosy in the State between 1981 and February, 1994.

(d) There is no increase in the number of leprosy patients in the country. In fact, there is over 75% decline in the number between 1981 and February, 1994.

Medical Facilities

7294. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued any Circular to the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) in regard to stopping of Medical facilities to the

spouses of its employees covered under CGHS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the same Circular was also circulated to other Public Sector Undertakings /Banks /Autonomous Bodies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for issuing the Circular to BHEL employees only; and

(f) the steps being taken to withdraw the said Circular?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

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

UNICEF Aided Projects

7295. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the UNICEF aided projects under his Ministry presently in operation in various parts of the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred under these projects; and

(c) the success achieved so far under these projects, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) UNICEF's cooperation with the Government of India under the agreed India Country

Programme of cooperation, is set out in the joint Master Plan of Operations for 1991-95. Programmes area for which UNICEF cooperation is being provided as of 1991, are:

(i) Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances;

(ii) training of official functionaries involved in implementation of Juvenile Justice Act;

(iii) Orientation of police of Juvenile Justice Act and street children;

(iv) NGO Forum of street and working children;

(v) Innovative projects of NGOs;

(iv) Advocacy and public awareness on issues relating to street children in especially difficult circumstances. No State/UT-wise allocation of projects is made.

(b) Estimated allocation for 1994 all India expenditure is US \$ 900,000/- out of which US\$ 650,000/- is for activities to be undertaken in cooperation with Ministry of Welfare.

(c) The Projects are generally successful in all States/UTs.

Purchase of Crude Oil

7296. PROF. M. KAMSON : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any procedure for spot purchase of crude oil has been laid down;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether spot purchase of crude oil has been canalised through nominated agencies;

(d) if so, the details thereof with quantum of oil purchased throughout this system during 1993;

(e) whether the Government proposed to lay down similar procedure for spot purchase of other petroleum products;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (g). Spot purchases of crude oil is canalised through Indian Oil Corporation. The purchase are made through issue of tenders of parties already registered with the Oil Company and contracts awarded based on the maximum gains. Indian Oil Corporation has firmed up about 9.661 MMT of crude oil from spot market during 1993. Spot purchases of petroleum products are also made through the above procedure except that contracts are awarded based on the lowest offer received.

Carcinogenic Substances

7297. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be please to state:

(a) whether any studies or new tests for identifying carcinogenic sub-

or any other expert body in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Import of Petroleum Products

7298. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions on which permission is being granted for import of petroleum products and natural gas in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government are providing any financial assistance to the companies for import of petrol and natural gas;

(c) if so, the conditions on which this assistance is being provided to these companies; and

(d) the conditions on which these companies are being permitted to sell these products in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAP. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) : All decanalised petroleum products can be imported by any party under the Import-Export Policy in force.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Private parties are free to market the decanalised petroleum products throughout the country at market related prices. However, importer of Naphtha has to sell the return stream to oil refineries only.

[*English*]

Health Schemes

7299. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have aided health schemes for rural areas in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of schemes sanctioned during the last three years pertaining to Kerala, and

(c) the amount given under the schemes and utilised by Kerala during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir. Assistance in the form of supply of drugs, insecticides and cash support as per the pattern of each national health programme was provided to Kerala State mainly covering the rural areas.

(b) and (c). The Central assistance provided to Kerala State during the last 3 years in respect of the major health programmes is given in the enclosed statement. The amount reported to have been spent/utilized by the State is also indicated.

STATEMENT

FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS EXPENDITURE FOR 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 IN THE STATE OF KERALA

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Programme	1991-92 Alloca- tion	1991-92 Expendi- ture.	1992-93 Alloca- tion	1992-93 Expendi- ture	1993-94 Alloca- tion	1993-94 Expendi- ture
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme including Filaria Control Programme.	8.50	8.50	42.59	42.59	17.74	17.74
2.	National Tuberculosis Control Programme.	38.00	30.64	47.00	91.85	77.00	37.18
3.	National Leprosy Eradication Programme.	105.00	87.10	105.00	146.15	135.00	140.76
4.	National Programme for Control of Blindness.	40.70	21.73	29.69	20.42	52.78	15.89

Crimes Against Women

taken to curb such crimes:

7300. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of rapes, dowry-deaths and other crimes against women reported in Delhi during 1993 and 1994 for far, month-wise;

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

(c) the number of cases solved and those pending; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to check such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The month-wise number of cases of rapes, dowry deaths and other crimes against women registered in Delhi during 1993 and 1994 (upto 31.3.1994) is given in the enclosed statement-I.

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

(d) The following steps have been

(i) Offences under the Dowry Prohibition Act have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

(ii) A new Section has been added in the Indian Penal Code making the offences of harassment and cruelty to women by their husbands and in-laws a cognizable offence.

(iii) New Sub-Sections, 113-A and 113-B have been inserted in the Indian Evidence Act providing for presumption by a Court as to abatement of suicide/dowry death by a married women if cruelty or harassment for dowry is proved.

(vi) It has been made mandatory to hold inquest by SDM where death of women occurred in suspicious circumstances.

(v) A Special Cell for Crime Against Women has been set up. Such Cells have also been set up in each District of Delhi Police.

(vi) Policemen are detailed for duty at Girl's Colleges and Schools, running buses and also at important market places which are frequented by women to check cases of eve-teasing etc.

STATEMENT - I

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 7300 FOR ANSWER ON 12.5.1994

Year Month	Dowry Death	Rape	Molestation of Women	406 IPC (Relating to Dowry)	498-A IPC (Cruelty by Husband & in-laws)	Dowry Prohibi- tion Act	Ev- teasing
1993							
January	5	28	15	16	46	-	148
February	9	39	14	30	41	1	158
March	5	26	20	32	70	1	169
April	15	37	24	22	61	-	165
May	12	27	26	19	58	1	184
June	18	28	35	26	75	1	226
July	10	22	33	26	76	2	189
August	8	18	26	23	79	-	223
September	10	32	22	28	91	1	173
October	13	20	20	17	58	-	199

Year Month	Dowry Death	Rape	Molestation of Women	406 IPC (Relating to Dowry)	498-A IPC (Cruelty by Husband & in-laws)	Dowry Prohibi- tion Act	Eve- teasing
November	11	15	11	21	49	-	131
December	6	14	15	47	88	1	143
1994							
January	9	19	22	34	66	1	142
February	4	18	18	22	71	1	166
March	7	21	22	24	72	2	214

STATEMENT - II

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases cancelled	No. of cases solved	No. of cases instituted in the court	No. of cases ended in conviction	No. of pending Trial	No. of pending Investigation	Cases Un- tra- ced	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons against whom cases instituted in the court	No. convicted	No. persons acquitted	No. of persons against whom cases are pending trial	No. of persons charged		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
DOWRY DEATH																
1993	122	-	119	91	-	-	91	31	-	327	257	-	-	257	70	-
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	20	-	18	1	-	-	1	19	-	49	4	-	-	4	45	-
RAPE																
1993	306	17	274	201	-	2	199	82	6	423	315	-	2	313	97	11
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	58	-	54	4	-	-	4	54	-	89	4	-	-	4	85	-
MOLESTATION OF WOMEN																
1993	260	4	247	206	4	-	202	46	4	331	275	5	-	270	53	3

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases cancelled	No. of cases solved	No. of cases instituted in the court	No. of cases ended in conviction	No. of pending Trial	No. of pending Investigation	Cases Untraced	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons against whom instituted in the court	No. of persons convicted	No. of persons acquitted	No. of persons against whom pending trial	No. of persons whom are pending investigation	No. of persons charged	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	62	-	56	20	-	-	20	42	-	67	26	-	-	26	41	-
406 IPC (RELATING TO DOWRY)																
1993	307	14	185	113	-	-	113	178	2	441	257	-	-	257	180	4
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	80	-	32	5	-	-	5	73	2	51	8	-	-	8	43	-
498-A IPC (CRUELTY BY HUSBAND OR IN-LAWS)																
1993	792	5	669	440	1	1	438	344	3	2004	1389	1	1	1387	612	3
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	209	1	126	26	-	-	26	180	2	297	83	-	-	83	210	4

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases cancelled	No. of cases solved	No. of cases instituted in the court	No. of cases ended in conviction	No. of pending Trial	Cases Un-traced	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons against whom cases instituted in the court	No. of persons convicted	No. of persons acquitted	No. of persons against whom pending trial investigation	No. of persons charged			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT																
1993	8	1	5	4	-	-	4	3	-	12	10	-	-	10	2	-
1994	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	12	-	-	-	-	12	-
(upto 31.3.94)																
EVE-TEASING																
1993	2108	-	2106	2101	1995	17	89	6	1	3458	3452	3321	18	113	6	-
1994	522	-	522	516	505	3	8	6	-	835	824	810	4	10	11	-
(upto 31.3.94)																

Coal Production

7301. SHRI S.B. SNDIAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for coal production by the Western Coal Fields Ltd. during each of the last three years and the actual production of coal during this period; and

(b) the efforts made to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) and (b). Coal production targets set for Western Coalfields Limited during the last three years were achieved. Details are given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>(million tonnes)</i> <i>Coal Production</i>	
	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>
1991-92	24.60	24.73
1992-93	25.00	25.75
1993-94 (Provisional)	26.00	26.51

Coal Mines in N-E Region

7302. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to exploit the coal mines in North-Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the desulphurization plant is proposed to be set up in N-E region;

(d) is so, the details thereof; and

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) and (b). Coal India Limited (CIL) is already operating coal mines in North-Eastern region. Coal production from CIL mines in North Eastern region was 1.2 million tonnes (provisional) in 1993-94.

(c) With a view to finding a solution to the problem of high sulphur in the coal from the North-Eastern region, CIL had initiated a search for suitable technology for desulphurization of these coals. So far no suitable technology for removal of organic sulphur has been identified.

(d) and (e). Do not arise in view of (c) above.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF

Pension of Freedom Fighters

7303. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the freedom fighters prisoned in Andaman are getting more pension than those prisoned in native land; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The sufferings undergone by the ex-Andaman Political prisoners in the Cellular Jail were of unique type and cannot be compared with the sufferings undergone in any other jail.

Contraceptives For Males

7304. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee or Task Force for male contraceptive development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any research going on in male Reproductive Biology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether AIIMS has got a separate Department of Reproductive Biology with priority of conducting research in male Reproductive Biology and develop-

ment of male contraceptive; and

(f) if so, the researches conducted and likely to be conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b). The Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, has constituted a Task Force comprising reputed medical scientists for monitoring research in male contraception.

(c) to (f). Yes, Sir, The current research include development of male contraceptive, sperm specific antigens for immuno contraception and studies on male infertility.

Coal Mines

7305. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Coal mines which can be reorganised to make them either profitable or to reduce their losses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : The number of coal mines for which re-organisation schemes have been taken up in order to make them turn-around are 61 in the coal companies viz. Eastern Coal-fields Limited, South Eastern Coal-fields Limited, Central Coal-fields Limited and Western Coal-fields Limited.

The number of coal mines for which action programme has been drawn

up in order to reduce losses are 86 in the aforesaid coal companies and Bharat Cooking Coal Limited, Northern Coalfields Limited and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited.

(b) The various steps taken are summarised below:

1. Adoption of various economy measures like rationalisation of manpower, reduction in controllable costs, sharing of infrastructural facilities with adjacent mines, quality control leading to better sales realisation.

2. Augmentation of production capacity by introduction of improved method of mining by increasing number of districts worked, by increasing haulage capacity etc.

3. More gainful utilisation of resources in mines having potential for improvement instead of investment in mines having no future.

4. Closure of mines having minimal reserve and having no potential for improvement in a phased manner.

Drive Against Beggars By Delhi Police

7306. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police have launched a drive against beggars spread over different areas in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the drive has been a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Delhi Police has reported that a special month-long drive has been undertaken from 1.4.1994 against child beggars in different parts of Delhi to ascertain *inter-alia* whether any gang is operating using these children for purposes of begging. Enquiries have so far been made from 1248 child beggars and they were all sent to Juvenile Welfare Board.

Extinction Of Tribals

7307. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the dirhors (forest dwellers of Chotanagpur region of Bihar) are facing extinction;

(b) if so, the population of this tribe as per 1981 and 1991 census; and

(c) the specific measures taken/proposed by the Government to prevent extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) No, Sir. According to Registrar General of India the population of Birhor in Chotanagpur region in Bihar has increased from 3262 in 1972 to 4330 in 1981.

(b) The population figures of Birhor tribe as per 1991 Census have not been tabulated by the Registrar General of India.

(c) Does not arise.

Pipe Lines Bridges

7308. SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India (GAIL) process to construct any footpath pipeline bridges for gas transportation in K.G. Project area of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c). There is no proposal to provide footpaths along the bridges that may be constructed for laying gas pipelines in the K.G. Basin area.

LPG Agencies in Orissa

7309. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG agencies in Orissa as on March 31, 1994;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the number of LPG agencies in that State by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) As on 1.1.1994, there were 85 LPG distributorships functioning in Orissa.

(b) and (c). Proposals for 6 more LPG distributorships for Orissa have been included in the current LPG Marketing Plan 1992-94. As per present policy, subject to economic viability, the locations having population of 20,000 and above are considered for setting up of LPG distributorships, in a phased manner. Further increase in the LPG distributorships during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in the country, including for Orissa, would depend on the availability of the product and economic viability of new locations.

[Translation]

Construction of Barrages

7310. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for construction of barrages on the rivers flowing in the State for its approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the approval is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT
STATUS OF CLEARANCE OF BARRAGE PROPOSALS OF GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH

Sl. No.	Name of project	Date of receipt in Central Water Commission	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)	Benefitted area (hectares)	Present status
MAJOR IRRIGATION					
1.	Bewar Feeder project	9/88	2791	9,800 (additional)	State Government is required to obtain clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest.
MEDIUM PROJECTS					
2.	Providing Kharif channels in Hindon Krishni Doab	4/93	1553	3,000	State Government is to obtain concurrence of State Finance Department.
WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES					
3.	Gokul Barrage	7/87	2975	Water supply to Agra and Mathura	Technically cleared by Central Water Commission in February, 89 subject to environmental clearance, review of design flood, clearance of water supply component by Ministry of Urban Development.

Sl. No.	Name of project	Date of receipt in Central Water Commission	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)	Benefitted area (hectares)	Present status
4.	Kanpur Barrage	9/93	17291	Water supply to Kanpur	Technically cleared by Central Water Commission in November, 1993 subject to morphological study, detailed investigations for barrage, environmental clearance.
5.	Agra Barrage	12/93	6042	Water supply to Agra	State Government has to comply with the observations of Central Water Commission on hydrology, inter-State matters and designs, sent in March, 94.

NOTE : Clearance of the project depends on how soon the State Government complies with the observations of Central appraising agencies and obtains environment and forest clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests.

[English]

New Municipal Corporation Law

7311. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the new Municipal Corporation law for UT Chandigarh, various deviations from the provisions of Part IX-A of the Constitution have been proposed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Law is likely to be enacted and the Municipal Corporation Law set up in Chandigarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c). The Administration of Union Territory of Chandigarh has proposed to extend the Punjab Municipal Act, 1976, as amended up to date, to the Union territory of Chandigarh under section 87 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966.

The Constitution makes it obligatory for all States and Union Territories to harmonize their laws with Part IX-A of the Constitution by 31st May 1994. This applies to Chandigarh also.

Basic Liquified Petroleum

7312. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to

manufacture basic liquified petroleum in India; and

(b) if so, the results of research and development done in regard to the mixture of natural gas for cooking purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) Liquified petroleum gas is being produced in the country from processing petroleum crude oil and natural gas and use, among other purposes for cooking also.

[Translation]

Bogus Agencies

7313. SHRI BRISHIN PATEL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether crores of rupees are being looted from citizens in the name of providing jobs abroad by setting up bogus agencies in Delhi and other big cities;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which came to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the guilty persons?

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

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P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c). The Delhi 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 (upto
Police has reported that such cases have 31.3.94) and action taken against the
come to notice. The number of such guilty persons are given in the enclosed
cases registered in Delhi during the years statement.

STATEMENT

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons against whom the cases have been instituted in the Court	No. of persons convicted	No. of persons Acquired	No. of persons against whom cases are pending trial	No. of persons against whom cases are pending investigation	No. of persons dis-charged
1991	16	18	18	-	2	16	-	-
1992	10	11	9	-	-	9	2	- (3 persons have been declared as P.Os).
1993	33	48	38	-	-	38	10	-
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	4	6	3	-	-	3	3	-

**Conference On Environment And
Health - Care**

7314. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV :
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the experts on environment and health-care was held on March 21, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the subjects discussed at the conference; and

(d) the follow-up action taken by the Government to implement the recommendations made at the conference?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d). The Indian Law Institute recently hosted an international conference in New Delhi from 21st to 25th March, 1994 in which the issue of effective use of law for Protecting environment, promoting human health and safeguarding the interest of children was discusses.

[English]

Tihar Inmates

7315. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has drawn to the news item captioned '26 Tihar inmates threaten

suicide' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' for March 13, 1994;

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

(c) whether the Tihar Jail convicts undergoing life imprisonment have filed a writ petition in the High Court for delay in holding the meetings of the Sentence Revising Board;

(d) if so, when the last meeting of the Board was held and the reasons for the delay in holding the meeting; and

(e) the steps taken to hold the meeting periodically?

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

(b) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that the Sentence Revising Board met on 29.3.94 and 12.4.94 to review the eligible cases.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The last meeting was held on 12.4.94.

(e) As per the provisions of Delhi Jail Manual, not less than 6 months before the expiry of completion of 14 years of substantive imprisonment of a prisoner convicted on or after 18.12.1978 and offence punishable also by death, the Superintendent release the prisoner on completion of 14 years of substantive imprisonment. The meeting of SRB are fixed as and when the cases of eligible convicts mature.

[*Translation*]**Investigation Of Missing Flag Case**

7316. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR :
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigation into the case relating to the missing historic Flag of the last Queen Laxmibai of Jhansi has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed?

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

(b) The Central Bureau of Investigation, Delhi, has reported that despite through investigation, the case could not be worked out.

(c) A Closure Report was filed in the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate on 1.4.1991. The Report is under consideration of the Court.

Sarkaria Commission

7317. SHRI RABI RAY :
SHRI GEORGE
FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Sub-committee of the Inter-State Council has been set up to examine the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission;

(b) if so, the constitution of the Sub-committee;

(c) the number of times the Sub-committee deliberated on the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission;

(d) the recommendations of the Sub-committee; and

(e) the steps taken to implement them?

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

(b) The Sub-Committee has Union Home Minister as its Convener. Union Finance Minister and Union Welfare Minister are the members of the Sub-Committee. Chief Ministers of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu are also Members of the Sub-Committee.

(c) The Sub-committee has so far held six meetings on 26th September, 1991, 7th December, 1991, 15th January, 1992, 15th September, 1992, 11th February, 1993 and 24th April, 1993.

(d) and (e). Out of 247 recommendations, 191 have so far been considered. Of these 119 have been accepted without modification, 36 accepted with modification, 24 have not been accepted. There has been no consensus on 11 and 1 recommendation has been partially considered. The Sub-Committee after completion of its deliberations on all the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission would submit its views for consideration by the Inter-State Council. The Government would take decisions on

various recommendations after views of the Inter-State Council become available.

helped ONGC to recover huge arrears from the defaulting industries;

Pharmacy Course

7318. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been made in 1993 to Government not to enforce the Education Regulation 1991 for the Diploma in Pharmacy course; and

(b) is so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Pharmacy Council of India has been asked to relax the provisions of Education Regulation 1991 related to the minimum qualifications for admission in Diploma in Pharmacy Course Part-I for the year 1993-94, if sufficient candidates of the prescribed categories are not available.

(b) if so, the total amount recovered by ONGC during the last three years from the defaulting industries;

(c) whether the recovered amount is being utilised to explore new areas and undertake many innovative methods to increase output; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b). ONGC have recovered Rs. 9.57 crores from the defaulting industries in the last three years.

(c) and (d). Such income form a part of the total resources of the ONGC which are utilised for exploration and development.

[Translation]

Sale Of Chemical

7320. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has spent additional amount of rupees seventy lakhs for sale of any chemical.

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

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter;

Recovery Of Arrears

7319. SHRIBOLABULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court's decision upholding ONGC's stand on gas prices and its order on the issue has

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (e). ONGC does not sell any chemicals. However, as per the COPU's 59th Report presented to the Parliament in July 1989, an extra expenditure of Rs. 70.31 lakhs was incurred to air freight 300 MT of PPD in packed containers. This expenditure was incurred for getting the material on priority basis to meet the operational requirements. As per the recommendations made in the aforesaid COPU Report, the case was referred to CBI for a probe. CBI in its Report, had recommended departmental action against 6 officers of ONGC and on that basis departmental action has been initiated against all these officers except one Board level officer as it was found that no change of commission was sustainable against him in any department enquiry.

[English]

Pipe Laying Norms

7321. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH ; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Courting death Courtsey GAIL" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated July 18, 1993 regarding flouting of pipe-laying norms in DESU-Maruti Udyog Ltd. and DESU-Sonepat pipelines laid under the supervision of the Gas Authority of

India Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

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

(b) to (d). An Enquiry has been ordered into the deviations from contractual specifications. A Technical Audit of these pipelines is being taken up through an internationally reputed firm.

[Translation]

Refugees From Developed Countries

7322. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the developed countries are continuously sending refugees to India;

(b) the number of refugees sent by these countries to India during 1992, 1993 and 1994 so far, country-wise;

(c) the benefits being derived by India out of it?

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

(a) No, Sir.

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

Water Logging

**Joint Venture With Britain For Oil
Exploration**

7323. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any joint venture for oil exploration with Britain has been undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) the areas identified for exploration?

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

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

7324. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the problem of water logging, soil erosion, salinity and alkalined lands in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON):(a) Areas under problem of water logging, soil erosion, salinity and alkalined lands in Andhra Pradesh are:

i) Waterlogging	3.39 lakh hectares
ii) Soil erosion	115.02 lakh hectares
iii) Saline including Coastal Sandy areas	1.76 lakh hectares
iv) Alkali Soils	0.64 lakh hectares

(c) In this regard, various Programmes are going on in Andhra Pradesh. Major programmes include;

i) The Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development programmes operated by Command Area Development Division, Ministry of Water Resources.

ii) World Bank aided National Water Management Project.

iii) Centrally sponsored scheme of 'Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects' being operated by Soil and Water Conservation Division of Ministry of Agriculture.

Deputationists To WHO

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

7325. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

[*Translation*]

(a) the number of Indian Government servants presently on deputation to the World Health Organisation;

(b) whether such officials are eligible for pension;

(c) whether the Government propose to discontinue this system of deputation to WHO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) Nil.

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

[*Translation*]**Oil Refinery In Bihar**

7326. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an oil refinery in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

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

Blood Pressure And Diabetes Patients

7327. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of diabetes and blood pressure patients has increased in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the number of persons suffering from the above diseases at present;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide financial assistance for the development of 'Dhanvantri Health Institute' in Dehra Dun for the treatment of these diseases and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). No, reliable intimation is available. However, with rising life expectancy and changing life styles the incidence of diabetes and blood pressure is expected to increase.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

on-shore regions of Gujarat during 1992-93 and 1993-94; and

Non - Associated Gas

7328. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4532 on August 6, 1992 and state:

(a) the quantum of non-associated gas produced in Western Off-shore and

(b) the details of places where this gas has been distributed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The production of non-associated gas was as follows:

		(MMSCMI)	
		1992-93	1993-94
I.	Western Offshore	7497	8341
II.	Western Onshore	909	1179

(b) While the non-associated gas from the Western Offshore region is brought to Hazira and distributed to various consumers at Hazira and along the HBJ pipeline, the non-associated gas produced in the Western Onshore is distributed to various consumers in Gujarat itself.

(b) if so, the amount provided to Bihar during each of the last three years: and

(c) the progress made in eradication of malaria in Bihar?

[Translation]

Natiaonal Malaria Eradication Programme

7329. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LALLBABU RAI:

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b). The National Malaria Eradication Programme is implemented in Bihar and other States with Central assistance on the approved pattern and the assistance provided during the last three years is as under:-

(a) whether the Union Government have provided special assistance under National Malaria Eradication Programme to Bihar;

1991-92	Rs. 70.70 lakhs
1992-93	Rs. 374.41 lakhs
1993-94	Rs. 1099.45 lakhs

(c) The programme has succeeded in arresting any significant rise in Malaria cases.

[*English*]

Expenditure On Containing Terrorism

7330. SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been compensating for the loss of lives of the civilians, police or army in dealing with terrorism in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and North-East;

(b) if so, the amount of ex-gratia payment fixed for the widows and children of the deceased; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on containing terrorism in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and North-East during the last three years?

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

(b) A statement is attached.

Jammu & Kashmir:

(a) Security Personnel:

i.	For death	:	Rs. 1.25 lakhs
ii.	For permanent disability	:	Rs. 0.25 lakhs
i.	For partial disability	:	Rs. 0.10 lakhs

(b) Civilians:

i.	For death	:	Rs. 1.00 lakhs
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(c) The subject matter is the concern of respective State Governments.

Punjab : Government of Punjab is paying ex-gratia of Rs. 1,00,000/- to the next of kin of innocent persons killed in terrorist violence. Widows of the deceased persons are also allowed subsistence allowance of Rs. 1000/- per month (enhanced to Rs. 1500/- w.e.f. 1.4.1992) till one member of the family is absorbed in Government service. A compensation upto Rs. 10,000/- is paid for loss of property. Marriage grant of Rs. 10,000/- is paid for the marriage of daughter and sister of persons killed. Facility of loan at concessional rates and free education to the children of victims of terrorist violence are also provided.

Ex-gratia grant of Rs. 2,00,000/- is paid to the next of kin of dependents of security personnel killed by the terrorists. Subsistence allowance @ Rs. 1,000/- per month (Rs. 1500/- w.e.f. 1.4.1992) is admissible to the orphans, destitutes and 100% physically disabled security personnel as a result of terrorist violence. Marriage grant of Rs. 10,000/- is also given for the marriage of each of daughter and dependent sister of security personnel killed.

- | | | | |
|------|--|---|----------------|
| ii. | For permanent disability | : | Rs. 0.25 lakhs |
| iii. | For serious injury
(hospitalisation for
less than 24 hours) | : | Rs. 0.05 lakhs |
| iv. | For injury
(i.e. hospitalisation for
more than 24 hours) | : | Rs. 0.01 lakhs |
| v. | For minor injury
(discharged after first-aid, | : | Rs. 500.00 |

(c) *Central/State Government Employees:*

- | | | | |
|------|--|---|----------------|
| i. | For death | : | Rs. 1.00 lakhs |
| ii. | For permanent disability | : | Rs. 0.25 lakhs |
| iii. | For serious injury
(i.e. hospitalisation for
more than 24 hours) | : | Rs. 0.05 lakhs |
| iv. | injury
(. hospitalisation
less than 24 hours) | : | Rs. 0.01 lakhs |
| v. | Minor injury
(discharge after first-aid, | : | Rs. 500.00 |

Besides above benefits dependents of above categories of persons men-

tioned are also eligible for other retirement benefits under the relevant rules.

NORTH-EAST

Assam :

- | | | | |
|------|---|---|---|
| i. | Civilians killed | : | Rs. 1.00 lakhs plus to one eligible member of the family. |
| ii. | Security personnel killed | : | Rs. 1.00 lakhs each |
| iii. | Parsons hired by
Government and killed | : | Rs. 50,000 each |

Manipur : Government of Manipur makes payment of compensation/ex-

gratia in the event of death of its employees as under:

i.	Class I	: Rs. 1 lakh
	Class II	: Rs. 80,000/-
	Class III	: Rs. 60,000/-
	Class IV	: Rs. 50,000/-
ii.	Security Forces personnel killed	: Rs. 20,000/-
iii.	Any other person	: Rs. 20,000/-

Nagaland : According to Government of Nagaland Rs. 1,00,000/- has been sanctioned as es-gratia to the next of kin of police personnel killed.

Tripura : According to Government of Tripura, State Police has paid Rs. 20,000 to the next of kin of Police personnel killed. For other than police personnel killed in terrorist violence, Rs. 5,000 is paid to the next of the kin of persons killed from the Chief Minister's Discretionary Fund.

[*Translation*]

Homeopathic Dispensaries

7331. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to open more Homeopathic dispensaries in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number and locations thereof; and

(c) the time by which these dispensaries are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There are proposals to open two homeopathic units in Sahibabad and Pitampura under CGHS, Delhi, during 1994-95.

[*English*]

Oil Drilling Centres

7332. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to privatise twelve oil drilling centres under ONGC and the Oil India Ltd. in Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). In October, 1993 Government of India offered 33 small and 8 medium sized fields for development by Indian and foreign companies. Of these, 12

fields - 10 small and 2 medium sized-fall in Assam. Their names are:

Small sized fields: Badarpur, Hill area, Uriamghat, Nahorhabi, Amguri, Tinali, Sarojani, Dholiya, Bogapani-Samdang, Dipling.

Medium sized fields: changmaigaon, Digboi (EOR)

The offer of these oil and gas fields for development by private companies is intended to bring quickly into the production system discovered hydrocarbon reserves in the country and thereby augment the indigenous availability of petroleum.

[*Translation*]

Grants To Voluntary Organisations

7333. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:
SHRI VILASRAO
N A G N A T H R A O

GUNDEWAR:

SHRI DHARMANNA

MONDAYYA SADUL:

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the grants-in-aid provided to voluntary organisations functioning for various welfare activities in the country during 1993-94 and earmarked for 1994-95, State/ Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) A statement showing the amount of grants-in-aid provided during 1993-94 to Voluntary Organisations engaged in various welfare activities falling within the purview of Ministry of Welfare is annexed.

For the year 1994-95, the Budget allocation for grant-in-aid in respect of the various welfare activities is as follows:-

	(Rs. in Lakh)
1. Scheduled Caste Devl.	800.00
2. Tribal Development	660.00
3. Handicapped Welfare	1778.00
4. Minorities Welfare	49.98
5. Social Defence	2139.80
Total	5426.78

No State-wise allocation of funds is made in respect of grant-in-aid to Voluntary

Organisations.

Statement

State/UT wise grant-in-aid provided to Voluntary Organisations for Various Welfare Activities During 1993-94

Name of State/UTs	Social Defence (Rs. in Lakh)					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Scheduled Caste Development	Tribal Devel.	Handicapped Welfare	Weaker Section	Social Defence	
1. Andhra Pradesh	91.01	16.03	170.77	11.82	72.13	
2. Arunachal Pradesh	-	71.89	2.00	-	-	
3. Assam	1.47	20.65	3.01	-	3.25	
4. Bihar	-	31.64	71.05	-	88.44	
5. Goa	-	-	4.40	-	4.91	
6. Haryana	5.63	-	20.65	-	55.99	
7. Gujarat	-	29.66	48.82	3.29	55.76	
8. Himachal Pradesh	2.43	-	-	-	0.38	
9. J & K	2.42	-	3.48	3.97	-	
10. Karnataka	72.01	19.44	143.17	-	28.87	

Name of State/UTs	Scheduled Caste Development	Tribal Devel.	Handicapped Welfare	Weaker Section	Social Defence (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Kerala	-	24.64	60.08	13.67	70.39
12. Madhya Pradesh	14.44	51.06	20.86	4.80	19.35
13. Maharashtra	48.49	48.96	109.12	1.50	88.80
14. Meghalaya	-	52.34	2.98	-	-
15. Mizoram	-	-	-	-	29.60
16. Nagaland	-	1.09	-	-	8.20
17. Orissa	30.10	75.13	88.97	-	101.05
18. Punjab	-	-	8.04	-	16.10
19. Rajasthan	7.15	26.65	149.24	7.63	77.46
20. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	1.53
21. Tamil Nadu	13.90	12.20	100.88	5.52	105.02
22. Tripura	1.06	-	3.11	-	8.54
23. Uttar Pradesh	102.05	1.28	607.76	9.91	184.12

Name of State/UTs	Scheduled Caste Development	Tribal Devel.	Handicapped Welfare	Weaker Section	Social Defence (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
24. West Bengal	117.98	14.74	197.63	-	159.33
25. Manipur	9.10	1.05	8.40	-	116.91
26. Andaman Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-
27. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-
28. Delhi	217.08	29.80	197.00	15.91	104.91
29. Chandigarh	-	-	34.01	-	5.20
30. Pondicherry	-	-	-	-	4.58
Total	736.32	528.25	2136.53	78.02	1410.91

[*Translation*]**Trials Of Contraceptives**

7334. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trials of Contraceptives being carried out in various laboratories/institutes at present;

(b) whether these trials are being carried out on human beings;

(c) if so, the details of the success achieved in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage this type of trials in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). The main contraceptive trials being carried out now are as under:

1. *Indian Council of Medical Research*
 - i. Phase III clinical trials with Norplant I.
 - ii. Phase I clinical trials with Quinacrine Pellets.
 - iii. Comparative study on Copper-T 2008 and 380 A.
 - iv. Occlusion of the male sperm carrying duct.
2. *Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Sidha (CCRAS), New Delhi.*

Clinical and experimental

studies to evaluate the contraceptive potential of herbal drug preparations.

3. *Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, New Delhi*

Three coded unani drugs have been taken up for clinical screening.

(c) The trials are still on.

(d) The Government has constituted a National Committee for Research in Human Reproduction in March, 1992 to co-ordinate the research efforts on contraceptives by various institutions/organizations to support the development of newer contraceptives as well as to improve the utilisation of existing contraceptives.

[*English*]**Gas Connections**

7335. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial pipeline gas connections released by his Ministry during the last two years in Gujarat;

(b) the criteria followed by the Government for releasing the connections; and

(c) the number of applications so far received by the Government for new industrial pipeline natural gas from Gujarat during 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR

SHARMA) : (a) Three new connections for the supply of natural gas were given by GAIL in the two years in Gujarat.

(b) Allocations of natural gas are made by the Government. Pipelines are laid by the Gas Authority of India Ltd. in terms of agreements with the consumers.

(c) No new applications are being entertained as the available gas is fully allocated.

Central Coalfields Ltd.

7336. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI KHELAN RAM
JANGDE:

SHRI HAR CHAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for coal production by the Central Coalfields Ltd. during each of the last three years and the actual production of coal during this period; and

(b) the efforts made to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b). Coal production targets set for Central Coalfields Limited during the last three years were achieved. Details are given below:-

(million tonnes) Year	Coal Production	
	Target	Actual
1991-92	31.00	31.21
1992-93	32.00	32.38
1993-94 (Provisional)	33.50	33.51

Crimes In Union Territories

Territories; and

7337. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some FIRs about crimes are not being registered in the police stations in the Union Territories;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending with the courts against police in the Union

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check this negligence on the part of police?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI P.M. SAYEED). (a) No, Sir. FIRs are registered in all cognizable cases of crime in police stations under the relevant provisions of law in all the Union Territories.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Strict instructions have been issued to all police stations to take cognizance of all complaints lodged by public and register cases under Indian Penal Code and other relevant laws.

Assistance To Non-Government Organisations

7338. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a time bound schedule of processing the proposals of Non-Governmental Organisations seeking financial assistance for various health schemes has been adopted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of application received during last three years from these organisations from each State; and

(e) the financial assistance provided to these roganisations during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). While all efforts are made to process the proposals expeditiously, the final clearance depends upon the furnishing of relevant data and recommendations of the respective State Governments/authorities.

(d) and (e). A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

States/UTs	No. of applications received					Financial assistance provided during the last three years.
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	4	5	
1	2	3	4	5		
Andhra Pradesh	31	29	175			
Assam	-	2	2			
Bihar	124	87	259			Rs. 264.60 crores
Delhi	25	21	21			
Gujarat	17	10	19			
Karnataka	11	13	59			
Kerala	10	10	45			
Madhya Pradesh	25	22	95			
Mizoram	2	-	1			
Nagaland	1	-	3			
Orissa	28	43	296			

States/UTs	No. of applications received			Financial assistance provided during the last three years.
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	
1	2	3	4	5
West Bengal	66	63	241	
Maharashtra	48	77	147	
Himachal Pradesh	2	3	8	
Jammu & Kashmir	3	-	4	
Pondicherry	-	-	-	
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	
Uttar Pradesh	80	101	359	
Tripura	2	2	-	
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	-	-	1	
Goa	-	-	-	
Meghalaya	-	-	-	
Sikkim	2	-	3	
A & N Islands	-	-	-	

States/UTs	No. of applications received					Financial assistance provided during the last three years.
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	4	5	
1	2	3	4	5		
Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-		
Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-		
Tamil Nadu	30	19	156			
Haryana	12	5	18			
Punjab	17	5	4			
Rajasthan	26	32	57			
Manipur	6	11	69			
Chandigarh	-	2	16			

Issue Of Certificate To OBCs

7339. SHRITEJ NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the authorities nominated or appointed in each State to issue other Backward Class Certificates for all purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE : (SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU). The following authorities are prescribed to issue Caste Certificates for Other Backward Classes:-

(a) District Magistrate/Additional District Magistrate/ Collector/ Deputy Commissioner/ Additional Deputy Commissioner/ Deputy Collector/ 1st Class Stipendary Magistrate/ Sub-Divisional Magistrate/ Taluka Magistrate/ Executive Magistrate/ Extra Assistant Commissioner (not below the rank of 1st Class Stipendary Magistrate).

(b) Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate/ Presidency Magistrate.

(c) Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar: and

(d) Sub-Divisional Officer of the area where the candidate and/or his family normally resides.

[Translation]

Eye Treatment

7340. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

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

(a) the total number of blind at present

in the country;

(b) whether the number of blind are increasing constantly due to non-availability of proper facilities for treatment of eye diseases in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of the blind in India as compared to other countries of the world;

(e) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide proper eye treatment: and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a). It is estimated that there are more than 12 million blind persons in the country.

(b) and (c). The number of blind persons due to cataract is increasing.

(d) 20% of the total blind population of the world is Indian according to international standard of blindness.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. National Programme for Control of Blindness is in operation since 1975-76. This involves strengthening of Ophthalmic infrastructure in Medical Colleges, District Hospitals and Primary Health Centres and establishment of District Blindness Control Societies and Mobile Units to provide comprehensive eye care services.

[English]

Militant Attack in Doda, J & K

7341. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN : Will

the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether militants struck in a big way in Doda District of Jammu and Kashmir on April 12, 1994 looting the belongings of several families at gun point, while an abducted youth was killed by the militants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such cases in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). According to available information, during the night intervening 8/9.4.94, a group of 25/26 armed militants entered village Sazar, PS Gulab-Garh, District Doda, and looted cash, ornaments and other domestic items.

On April 11, 1994 dead body of a youth belonging to Village Sindra, Doda District, was recovered from a forest. The deceased was reportedly abducted by militants during the night intervening 8/9 April, 1994 and later killed.

(c) Patrolling by security forces in the district has been intensified. Pickets manned by security forces have been established at sensitive and vulnerable places to check militants activities. Besides, search operations, based on information, are also being conducted to apprehend elements indulging and involved in terrorist/violent activities.

Jail Reforms Committee

7342. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jail Reforms Committee

(JRC) has recommended for setting up of a National Academy to issue guidelines to the Jail Administration;

(b) if so, whether the National Academy has been set up;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal for setting up the Academy in Ahmedabad; and

(e) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

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

(b) and (c). Though no decision to set up a National Academy of Correctional Administration has yet been taken, two Regional Training Institutes covering Southern and Northern states, are already functional. In addition, Central Grant is available to States for strengthening their training arrangements.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Royalty/Cess on Coal

7343. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of royalty/cess on coal at present, State-wise; and

(b) the estimated production of coal at present in Andhra Pradesh ?

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

(a) The Statewise information on the rate of royalty and cesses on coal at present are given in the statement attached.

(b) The target of production of coal for Singareni Collieries Company Limited during 1994-95 is 25.60 million tonnes.

STATEMENT

PRESENT RATE OF ROYALTY ON COAL IN RUPEES PER TONNE

Grade	West Bengal	Assam	Arunachal Pradesh Meghalaya & Nagaland	M.P., Bihar, Orissa, Maharashtra & U.P.	Andhra Pradesh
COKING COAL :					
Steel Grade - I	7.00	-	-	150.00	
Steel Grade - II	7.00	-	-	150.00	
Washery Gr - I	7.00	-	-	150.00	
Washery Gr - II	6.50	-	-	120.00	
Washery Gr - III	6.50	-	-	120.00	
Washery Gr - IV	5.50	-	-	75.00	
SEMI-COKING COAL :					
SC - I	6.50	-	-	120.00	
SC - II	6.50	-	-	120.00	

Grade	West Bengal	Assam	Arunachal Pradesh Meghalaya & Nagaland	M.P., Bihar, Orissa, Maharashtra & U.P.	Andhra Pradesh
NON-COKING COAL :					
A	6.50	-	-	120.00	
B	6.50	-	-	120.00	
C	5.50	-	-	75.00	
D	4.30	-	-	45.00	
E	4.30	-	-	45.00	
F	2.50	-	-	25.00	
G	2.50	-	-	25.00	
Hand Picked Coal	-	150.00	150.00	-	
Ungraded Rom Coal	-	120.00	120.00	-	
Coal produced in the State of Andhra Pradesh (Singareni)					70.00

German Aid to Health Care Projects

7344. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA
URS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted Rs. 300 crore project for secondary Taluk and district level hospital development and upgradation for assistance from German Development Aid agency;

(b) if so, the districts in Karnataka proposed to be covered under the above project;

(c) whether the Government have posed the above project to the German Development Aid Agency;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the assistance is likely to be provided by the German agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :
(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A project proposal with an outlay of Rs. 314 crores covering all the districts of Karnataka has been received from the State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). A Consultant Team from Germany is scheduled to visit Karnataka during May, 1994.

Surface Coal

7345. SHRI KABINDRA
PURKAYASTHA : Will the Minister of COAL
be pleased to state :

(a) whether exploitation of surface coal

is being done in Meghalaya and Nagaland
Foot hills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for
conservation of coal mines in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COAL SHRI AJIT PANJA):

(a) and (b) Coal India Limited has produced 905 tonnes of coal in the year 1993-94 from an experimental mine in the State of Meghalaya. Government of Meghalaya have informed that local tribals are undertaking coal mining operations in Meghalaya claiming such mining as their traditional and customary rights. According to Coal Controller about 2.3 million tonnes of coal was produced in Meghalaya during 1993-94. No mining is undertaken in the Foothills of Nagaland. Government of Nagaland has, however, reported that only stray unauthorised extraction of coal by the land owners in very small quantity is taking place in the foothills of Nagaland.

(c) Major steps taken are :-

(i) Coal India Limited has started an experimental mine in Meghalaya to promote scientific mining.

(ii) Regional Institute of Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) has been set up at Tura in Meghalaya to render advice with regard to scientific and safe mining.

New Hospitals

7346. SHRI BHEEM SINGH
PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH
AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up hospitals in collaboration with Russia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith special facilities likely to be provided therein ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Economy in Use of Water

7347. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have quan-

tified delivery cost of irrigation system;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Govern- ment propose to reflect the scarcity value of water resources to the users to foster economy in use of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS- TRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b). The Working expenses on operation and maintenance per hectare of irrigation potential utilised under major and medium irrigation projects at All India level in 1984-85 with Statewise details works out as under :

S.No.	State	Year 1984-85	(Rs.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	114.58	
2.	Bihar	116.78	
3.	Gujarat	397.86	
4.	Haryana	169.98	
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	199.24	
6.	Karnataka	189.45	
7.	Kerala	44.22	(1979-80)
8.	Madhya Pradesh	312.40	
9.	Maharashtra	311.84	
10.	Orissa	43.88	

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Year</i>
		<i>1984-85</i>
11.	Punjab	486.72
12.	Rajasthan	212.03
13.	Tamil Nadu	89.99
13.	Uttar Pradesh	118.45
15.	West Bengal	111.27
All India		141.66

(c) As per the National Water Policy, 1987, water rates should be such as to convey the scarcity value of the resources to the users and to foster the motivation for economy in water use. They should be adequate to cover the annual maintenance and operation charges and a part of the fixed cost. Efforts should be made to reach this ideal over a period, while ensuring the assured and timely supplies of irrigation water.

Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension

7348. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to pay *suo-moto* Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension to the eminent freedom fighters who have not applied for it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to grant pension to those eminent freedom fighters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). The Central Government has, so far, offered the Swatantra Sainik Samman Pension on *Suo Moto* basis to 279 eminent freedom fighters who have not applied for it. 16 of them have declined to accept the Samman Pension.

(c) Does not arise.

Ayurvedic Drugs

7349. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether V.M.S. of Directorate General of Health Services, Delhi had included four Ayurvedic drugs of Malwa Drug House in 1988;

(b) if so, whether Directorate General of Health Services, has granted permission to change these drugs into modern drugs with the same brand name and being supplied by Government Medical Stores Depot, New Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Karnal, Guwahati and Hyderabad for the last six months;

(c) if so, the reasons for changing the formulation from Ayurvedic to modern medicines; and

(d) if not, the action being taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No purchase has been made by the Depots for these drugs during last six months.

AIDS Control

7350. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH :

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

(a) the total number of AIDS patients identified in Andhra Pradesh as on March 31, 1994;

(b) the financial assistance provided to the State under AIDS Control Programme during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to set up AIDS Surveillance centres in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) One.

(b) Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	-
1992-93	70.49
1993-94	25.09

(c) and (d). Four AIDS Surveillance Centres are functioning at the following Medical College-Institutions in Andhra Pradesh :

1. Department of Microbiology, Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad.
2. Department of Microbiology, S.U. Medical College, Tirupati.
3. Department of Microbiology, Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam.
4. Institute of Preventive Medicine, Hyderabad.

[Translation]

Medical Equipments

7351. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether several Medical Colleges of Uttar Pradesh have requested the Union Government to provide financial assistance for the purchase of medical equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) Several institutions including medical colleges approach the Government from time to time for financial assistance for medical equipments. Government have received such requests earlier from Uttar Pradesh also. It has however not been found possible to consider such requests as there is no scheme to provide such assistance.

[English]

Welfare of Minorities

7352. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman, National Commission for Minorities inaugurated the schemes for welfare of minorities sponsored by the Andhra Pradesh Minorities Commission recently;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes that have been prepared for the welfare of the minorities;

(c) the total amount likely to be allocated to implement these welfare schemes;

(d) whether the poor section among the minorities will be given priority in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the estimated number of beneficiaries under these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Chairman, National Commission for Minorities inaugurated the schemes for welfare of minorities formulated by the Andhra Pradesh Minorities Commission on 19.4.1994 at Hyderabad.

(b) and (c) details of the schemes with proposed allocation are as follows :-

<i>Schemes</i>	<i>Likely allocation</i>
1. An Integrated Entrepreneurship Development programme for Minorities in Andhra Pradesh.	22.50
2. Total Literacy-cum-Vocational Skill Generation campaign in Minority Concentration Slums in Hyderabad.	9.00
3. An Integrated Project on improving Class Room Performance of School Children Belonging to Minorities: An Ongoing Research-cum-Training Scheme.	9.00
4. A Comprehensive project on Improving the Participation and Performance of Minorities Competitive Examinations.	9.00

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). Further details of the

schemes are

Scheme - 1 Initially this scheme is for 500 persons

Scheme - 2 It is proposed to cover 4700 persons under this scheme

Scheme - 3 The scheme is to initially cover Hyderabad where there are 50 Urdu Medium Secondary Schools

Scheme - 4 This scheme would include -

(a) A Foundation Course covering subjects common to a large number of competitive examinations, including Distance (Postal) Coaching also

(b) Career Information and Guidance facility for minorities

Cancer Control Programme

7353 SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether allocation for National Cancer Control Programme were fully utilised in the last three years,

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(c) whether there has been reduction in its allocations for the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B SHANKARANAND) (a) to (c) An amount of Rs 46.62 crores has been released during the last three years under National Cancer Control Programme (Plan), as against the amount of Rs 19.34 crores

during the entire 7th Five Year Plan period. A plan allocation of Rs 18.00 crores has been made for the year 1994-95 as against an expenditure of Rs 18.15 crores during 1993-94.

Gas Pipeline Project

7354 DR R MALLU Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether a major gas pipeline project is underway for bringing gas from Bombay to the Northern States,

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating whether it has been cleared from safety and security angles,

(c) whether common causes and others have drawn pointed attention to many serious inadequacies in the planning and implementation of the projects, and

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) and (b) The Government have recently approved the GAIL's proposal for the capacity upgradation of the HBJ pipeline from 18.2 MMSCMD to 33.4 MMSCMD. All statutory clearances have been obtained.

(c) A letter from "Common Cause" has been received in this regard.

(d) The requisite safety measures are adopted in the design, construction and operation of the pipelines. A detailed integrity audit survey of the pipelines in the urban/suburban areas is being taken up.

Joint Ventures with Foreign Companies

(b) the details of such joint ventures ?

7355. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the oil companies which have entered into joint ventures with foreign companies during the last three years; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The details of the joint ventures entered into by the public sector companies in the Oil Sector with foreign companies are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

THE DETAILS OF THE JOINT VENTURES ENTERED INTO BY THE PUBLIC SECTOR OIL COMPANIES WITH FOREIGN COMPANIES

Name of the Public Sector Oil Company	Partners	Purpose
1. IOC & Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.	NYCO SA FRANCE IOC Balmer Lawrie & Co., Ltd.	Setting up of a Joint Venture Company (JVC) AVI-OIL India (P) Limited for manufacture and marketing of synthetic, semi-synthetic and mineral based aviation lubricants.
2. IBP Co., Ltd.	IBP Caltex Ltd.	Setting up of a JVC IBP Caltex Limited for blending and marketing of lubricants.
3. HPCL	HPCL Oman Oil Co. Public	Setting up of a Joint Venture - refinery in West Coast.
4. BPCL	BPCL Oman Oil Co. Public	Setting up of a - Joint Venture - refinery in Central India.
5. BPCL	Bharat Petroleum Shell	Setting up of a JVC Bharat Shell Overseas Investments B.V. for marketing of Shell branded lubricants in India.
6. IOC	IOC and Mobil Petroleum Co., Inc., USA.	Setting up of a JVC Indo (P) Limited for import, manufacture and marketing of mobil branded lubricants in India as well as Nepal and Bhutan.
7. EIL	EIL and AMEC Engineering International Ltd. (AEIL).	Setting up of a JVC with M/s. AMEC Engineering International Ltd., U.K. to provide technical consultancy services as well as to undertake turnkey projects in the Hydrocarbon Industry in the International market.

Prevention of AIDS

would arise only after the project is finalised.

7356. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of United States of America has offered donations to voluntary organisations and Government agencies to control and prevent the spreading of AIDS in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details of amount offered and utilised; and

(c) the organisations which have received these funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). The USAID has offered an assistance of US \$ 10 million for AIDS Control Project in Tamil Nadu to be implemented through the Voluntary Health Association of India. The question of release of funds

[*Translation*]**Delhi Police Personnel**

7357. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received against the Delhi Police personnel during 1993 and in 1994 so far; and

(b) the action taken against the personnel against whom the charges have been substantiated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). The number of complaints received against the Delhi Police personnel and the action taken against the personnel against whom the charges have been substantiated during 1993 and 1994 (upto 31.3.94) is as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of complaints Received</i>	<i>In which charges have been proved</i>
1993	5693	198
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	1060	54

The details of the action taken against the police officials are as under :-

	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994 (upto 31.3.1994)</i>
1. Officials Dismissed	2	1
2. Criminal cases registered	5	1

	1993	1994 (upto 31.3.1994)
3. Officials Censured	72	19
4. Officials Warned etc.	19	7
5. Officials issued Advisory Memo	1	-
6. Departmental Enquiry initiated	96	20
7. Preliminary Enquiries	3	7

[English]

Laying of Pipelines

NRI Hospital in Bhubaneshwar

7358. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a modern hospital at Bhubaneshwar with Non-Resident Indians assistance;

(b) whether the proposal has been approved; and

(c) if so, the details of NRIs who are funding that hospital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). Government have approved a proposal of M/s Orissa Heart Institute Private Limited for setting up of a hospital in Bhubaneshwar with the participation of two Non Resident Indian Investors from USA.

7359. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total kilometres of pipeline commissioned by the Gas Authority of India Limited during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent thereon;

(c) whether the Rajasthan portion has been completed;

(d) if not, the extent to which it has been completed; and

(e) the details of the pipelines commissioning work in hand with GAIL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) GAIL has commissioned nearly 410 kms of pipelines during the last 3 years.

(b) Total cost of laying these pipelines

(c) and (d). The pipeline from Gamnewalan to Ramgarh for the RSEB has been completed.

(e) GAIL has taken in hand the following pipeline projects :

1. HBJ Upgradation.
2. Pipeline to NTPC, Gandhar.
3. Pipeline from Dhandewalan to Gamnewalan in Rajasthan.
4. Pipeline from Thal to Dharamtar in Maharashtra.
5. Pipeline in Cauvery and K.G. Basins.

Surrender of Militants in J & K

7360. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Kashmiri militants surrendered before the Minister of State for Internal Security during his visit to the Kashmir Valley in April, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have information that some more militants are likely to surrender in the coming weeks and motivation therefor is continuing;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether in the past several militants who had surrendered or who were released by the authorities, rejoined the militant outfits later;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government propose to formulate a new policy for social rehabilitation of militants who surrender and give up militancy and wish to join the mainstream; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Six militants surrendered before the Minister of State for Internal Security, alongwith their arms at Warson, District Kupwara on 7 April, 1994.

(c) and (d). It is the endeavour of the Government to motivate those who have been lured into militancy to shun violence and come back into the mainstream. It would not be possible to give any estimation or details in this regard.

(e) and (f). There have been reports of persons who had surrendered earlier, having joined the militant outfits again mostly under threat, intimidation, etc.

(g) and (h). The State Government has set up a Rehabilitation Centre with the aim of providing training in various Arts & Crafts, etc. to enable re-settlement of persons who may surrender.

Irrigation Projects

7361. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided by the World Bank and other foreign organisations for implementation of irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

funds provided by the World Bank for implementation of irrigation projects in the State during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as under :-

1991-92 - US \$ 31.450 million

1992-93 - US \$ 26.700 million

1993-94 - US \$ 61.024 million (uptil 28.2.1994)

(b) the present status of on going irrigation projects; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase irrigation facilities in Andhra Pradesh ?

Besides, Andhra Pradesh is one of the participating States under World Bank assisted National Water Management Project (a multi-State Project).

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) In Andhra Pradesh, World Bank assisted irrigation projects are under implementation. The position regarding

(b) As regards present status of on-going irrigation Projects, the same is as under :-

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Credit closing date</i>	<i>Total assistance as on 28.2.1994 (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Cumulative utilisation of assistance as on 28.2.94 (US \$ million)</i>
1. Second A.P. Irrigation Project	28.5.86	30.6.94	174.11	133.00
2. National Water Management Project	12.5.87	31.3.95	127.27	90.00

(c) For Andhra Pradesh, in the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97), a target of additional irrigation potential of 9.19 lakh hectares has been fixed. The strategy being followed to increase irrigation capacity, inter alia, include :-

(ii) taking up of programmes like training, farmers' participation, monitoring and evaluation.

[Translation]

(i) thrust on completion of on-going irrigation projects; and

Working of Women Crime Branch

7362. SHRISURENDRA PAL PATHAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

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

(a) whether the Bureau of Police Research and Development has completed its research project on 'Working of Women Crime Branch' in the States, Union Territories during 1993;

(a) the present capacity of Tihar jail;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(b) the actual number of prisoners as on March 31, 1994 as well as the lowest and highest number of prisoners on any day during the year 1993-94;

(c) the reaction of the Government on this project report; and

(c) the number of undertrials among the prisoners as on March 31, 1994;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement the important features of this report ?

(d) the break-up of undertrials by the period of detention, less than one year, between one and two years, between two and three years, between three and four years, between four and five years and over five years;

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

(e) the sanctioned per capita per day expenditure on provision of food to the prisoners; and

(b) to (d). The report of the study group recommends, inter alia, strengthening the infrastructure and staff of Special Cells and increasing the number of women police personnel in the Cells.

(f) whether the Government are considering any amendments to the Prisoners Act and Jail Manual ?

Since 'Police' is a State subject, the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are responsible for implementing the recommendations. Copies of the report have been circulated to all State Governments and U.T. administrations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that the present capacity of Central Jail, Tihar, is 2487 prisoners.

[English]

Tihar Jail

7363. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN

(b) A total number of 8577 prisoners were lodged in the Tihar Jails as on 31.3.94. The lowest and the highest number of prisoners lodged in respective jails on any date during the year 1993-94 is as under :-

<i>Jail No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest</i>
1	17.1.94 11.7.93	1994	2572

<i>Jail No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Lowest</i>	<i>Highest</i>
2	19.6.93 6.2.94	505	1451
3	18.4.93 21.3.94	1830	2679
4	25.12.93 13.7.93	2336	3057

(c) 7505

(d) The break-up of the undertrials as on 31.3.94 is as under :-

Less than 1 year	5007
Between 1 to 2 years	1074
Between 2 to 3 years	742
Between 3 to 4 years	312
Between 4 to 5 years	257
Above 5 years	113

(e) The average per capita per day expenditure on food is as under :-

'B' Class Rs. 13.99 approximately

'C' Class Rs. 10.49 approximately

This excludes establishment and all essential service costs.

(f) There is no proposal to amend the Prisons Act at this stage. Amendments to Jail manual are made from time to time, whenever considered necessary.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Projects in Gujarat

7364. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the

Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the details of sub-projects cleared under National Water Management project by the Government for implementation in Gujarat during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : 2 numbers of sub-schemes from Gujarat, namely Sabarmati (Dharoi) left bank canal with a culturable command area of 12980 hectares and Mesho with a culturable command area of 6880 hectares at an estimated costs of Rs. 3.338 crores and 1.855 crores respectively have been approved by the Government of India for implementation under World Bank assisted National Water Management Project (NWMP) credit No. 1770-IN.

[*English*]

Compensation to Families of Terrorist Victims in J & K

7365. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether compensation and other assistance are being provided to the families of the terrorist victims in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the number of cases in which such assistance was provided during each of last three years and the current year so far; and

(c) the amount of ex-gratia payment made to such families during the above period ?

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

policy of the Govt. of J & K, ex-gratia relief is paid @ Rs. 1 lakh to civilians killed in terrorist violence and amounts varying from Rs. 500 to Rs. 25,000 to injured persons, depending upon the nature of injuries.

(b) and (c). As per information furnished by the State Govt. of J & K, the details of ex-gratia payment sanctioned/paid during the last three years in respect of persons killed/injured in terrorist violence in the State are as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>No. of injured</i>	<i>Ex-gratia relief sanctioned/paid (Rs. in Crores)</i>
1991-92	829	920	
1992-93	1254	1183	35.81
1993-94	1346	2278	

EEC Assistance for Minor Irrigation Projects

7366. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided by EEC for the implementation of minor irrigation projects in Kerala during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas identified for such projects?

preparatory aspects by the Government of Kerala so as to make the project operational with financial assistance from European Economic Community (EEC).

(b) As per the Financing Agreement between the EEC and the Government of India, the total cost of the Kerala Minor Irrigation Project is 14.87 million European Currency Unit (ECU), out of which EEC assistance would be 11.8 million ECU. The project is expected to be completed within 5 years from the date of its initial commencement at field level. The project is to be implemented by the Irrigation Department of Government of Kerala through an Autonomous Project Management Unit. Monitoring and Evaluation would be an integral part of the project by way of evaluations at three steps - on-going Evaluation, Mid-term Evaluation and Ex-post Evaluation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Kerala Minor Irrigation Project is in the stage of finalisation of

(c) As per Project Agreement, the areas identified would include 459 Tanks spread over the whole State of Kerala, 31 Lift Irrigation Schemes mainly spread over Thrissur and Malappuram districts and project management facilities including detailed studies of economic, technical, social and environmental aspects of river basin and land reclamation schemes under the project.

Shifting of Government Offices

7367. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Jammu & Kashmir have shifted certain Government offices from Marwah and Dachhau, in District Doda to Kishtwar;

(b) if so, the details of the offices shifted from each of these places alongwith the dates of such shifting;

(c) the reasons for shifting the offices;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the tremendous hardship faced by the people due to shifting of these offices;

(e) whether the Government would shift these offices back to the original places;

(f) if so, the time by which this is likely to be done; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (g). The Offices of the Treasury, J & K Bank and some Departments including Horticulture, Agriculture, Roads and Buildings, Fisheries, Co-opera-

tives, Forests, Education, the Block and the Niabat were temporarily shifted from Marwah and Dachhan, to Kishtwar District Doda, after incidents of arson which destroyed the office buildings. There were apprehension about security of Government cash also. Orders have been issued on 18th April, 1994 for the shifting back of these offices to their respective places. The Police station/ chowki and the offices of Naib Tehsildar and BDO have since recommended functioning from there. Building reconstruction/location of alternative arrangements are in progress for the remaining offices.

Presence of police and security forces personnel in the area has been augmented. The Adviser (Home) to the Governor of J & K also visited these places on 4th May, 1994, alongwith Addl. Director General, BSF, IG, Jammu and Deputy Commissioner, Doda, to review the security arrangements and to ensure that problems of the people can be attended to.

Classification of Plain Tribals

7368. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the proposal sent by the Government of Assam classifying some communities as plain tribals;

(b) if so, the names of the communities;

(c) the criteria for this classification; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The communities recommended by the State Government of Assam for their inclusion in Scheduled Tribes (plains) list are :-

1. Koch Rajbongshi
2. Chutia
3. Tai Ahom
4. Moran
5. Matak
6. Tea & Ex-Tea Garden communities
7. Hajong
8. Abor
9. Aka
10. Apatani
11. Dafla
12. Galeng
13. Khampri
14. Khowa
15. Mishmi
16. Momba
17. Any Naga Tribes
18. Sherdukpen
19. Simpho and their sub-tribes
20. Madahi.

(c) The criteria for specification of any

community as Scheduled Tribe is :- Indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large and backwardness.

(d) All the proposals on the issue of revision of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe lists have been referred to an Advisory Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary (W) vide Resolution dated 13.10.93 for their examination. The Committee has yet to submit its report.

Flushing out of Terrorists in Kashmir

7369. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any operation by security forces like the Operation Black Thunder was contemplated to flush out terrorists and Pak-trained militants in the Kashmir valley;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken during the past four months to flush out the terrorists in Kashmir; and

(d) the number of terrorists flushed out ?

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

(c) and (d). The militants in Jammu and Kashmir frequently shift their hide outs and indulge in hit and run attacks on the security forces and others. Consistent pressure has been maintained by the security forces on the militants, including well planned search and flushing out operations, based on infor-

mation, in different parts of the State. This has resulted in some good successes including the apprehension and killing of a large number of self styled senior leaders of various outfits. During the past four months, 379 militants were killed and 1220 arrested/ apprehended.

Marketing of Petrol, LPG and Kerosene

7370. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities in the marketing and distribution of petrol, LPG and Kerosene in Orissa have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to regulate the marketing sale and distribution of these items in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) No serious cases have been reported.

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

Pak Activities in Kerala

7371. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistani ships carrying sophisticated explosives and weapons have been noticed off the coast of Kerala in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pakistani agents are also engaged in setting up benami factories in some parts of the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). There is no confirmed information in this regard.

(c) There is no such information with the Government.

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

Storage And Delivery of LPG and Kerosene

7372. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the probe conducted by his Ministry into the tie-up of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) with Asiatic petroleum for storage and delivery of LPG cylinders and kerosene;

(b) the circumstances in which a Public Company entered into an agreement with a private company;

(c) the amount of collection made by this and other companies from dealers and consumers; and

(d) the action taken or being taken to prevent such dealership scandals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) : The Director General of Investigation and Registration has initiated enquiry against Asiatic Petroleum Co.. The enquiry is yet to be completed.

(b) The Government Oil Companies have been permitted to allow the use of spare capacity of their import and storage facilities by parallel marketers on mutually agreed commercial terms. In this case although Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited had entered into an agreement with M/s. Asiatic Petroleum, it was subsequently terminated as the name of the former was unauthorisedly used in the advertisements of the latter.

(c) The Ministry does not maintain this information.

(d) This Ministry has advised all States/UTs Governments to prohibit collection of money as deposits from prospective dealers/distributors and consumers unless adequate arrangements have been made by the parallel marketers to undertake parallel marketing. The public has also been cautioned about entering into any transaction with parallel marketers only after enquiring

about their antecedents, genuineness and capabilities.

[*Translation*]

Infant Deaths in NDMC Hospitals

7373. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of infants born and died in maternity hospitals run by the New Delhi Municipal Committee during each of the last three years, hospital-wise;

(b) the details of the inquiries conducted so far;

(c) whether some doctors have been found guilty in these cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The information is as follows:

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
(a) Palika Maternity Hospital, Lodi Colony,			
No. of babies born.	975	1340	1067
No. of babies died.	—	—	4
b) There NDMC Maternity Wards			
No. of babies born	900	785	747
No. of babies died	4	1	5

(b) No enquiry was conducted, as the causes of death were explainable.

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

[English]

Alleged Nexus Between J&K Officers and Militants

7374. SHRIMOCHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the connections of Officers in the Jammu and Kashmir Administration with the militants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c) : From time to time, there have been general reports about the alleged connections of some elements in the J&K Administration with militants. Whenever any specific complaint/evidence of such involvement comes to notice, appropriate action is taken.

Visit of Union Secretaries to J&K

7375. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Union Secretaries alongwith the Private Secretary to the Prime Minister visited Jammu and Kashmir recently;

(b) if so, the details including the purpose thereof;

(c) whether they have submitted any report to the Government;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by them;

(e) the follow-up action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (e) : The Union Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments of Education, Small Scale Industries, Women & Child Development, Health, Rural Development and Civil Supplies and the Director General Health Services accompanied by the Secretary to the Prime Minister, visited Jammu & Kashmir on 11/12 April, 1994, and had detailed discussions with the advisors and other senior State Government officials with the aim of understanding in detail problems relating to Development efforts in the related sectors, identifying areas where decisions were required including resources augmentation and putting in place measures by which the actual implementation of the various schemes could be made more effective, speeded up and effectively monitored.

2. The following main decisions were taken:-

- i) Extension of the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) to 23 more blocks in the State (covering an additional population of nearly 13 lakhs) and extension of the Employment Assurance Schemes (EAS) to these 23 blocks leading to a total availability of around Rs. 57 crores in the current year for the EAS.

- ii) Enhanced outlays under the various Rural Development Programmes viz the Integrated Rural Development Programme, TRYSEM, DWCR, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the Rural Sanitation Programme and the Innovative Project Programme.

The State Authorities were requested to convene local Advisory Committee at the Panchayat Halka level, block level and district level to improve community participation.

- iii) Revalidation of unspent Funds in the sphere of Women & Child Development and the immediate sanction of 4 ICDS projects specifically requested by the State Government and 4 Working Women hostels in the Jammu, Srinagar and Leh regions.
- iv) Two additional industrial infrastructure project, a fruit processing unit, establishment of an Entrepreneurial Development Institute, grant for setting up two abettories, additional grants in the KVI sector for wool weavers and a grant under the Intensive Employment Scheme for one district to begin with, with linkage of funds from the Ministry of Rural Development.
- v) It was also decided to provide funds under the JRY for restoration of damaged school building and assistance for augmentation of medical and ambulatory services and also for repair and maintenance of

sophisticated medical equipment.

- vi) Allocation of wheat and rice under the PDS was enhanced by 10,000 and 8,000 tones respectively.

3. The financial impact of the various decisions taken would amount to approximately Rs. 152 crores. This would be in addition to any other programmes these Ministries/Departments may have in their Annual Plans.

4. By way of follow up, the following action is being taken:

(a) The Team of Secretaries that visited Jammu & Kashmir on the 11th and 12th April, 1994 will form itself into Committee with the responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the above decisions, in close coordination with the State Government.

(b) The Secretaries concerned would frequently visit the State to ensure implementation of the decisions.

(c) Shortly, another Team of Secretaries of other Development Ministeries/Departments would visit Srinagar for similar action.

Delhi Police Personnel

7376. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS Patel: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has dismissed a number of its personnel during the last three years under Article 311 of the Constitution of India without holding any enquiry, investigation, trial by courts or any verdict in this regard;

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

(c) whether the permission of the competent authority was taken;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations/complaints in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) 98 Police officials were dismissed during the last five years under Article 311(2) (b) of the Constitution.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Killing of Dalits in Karnataka

7377. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is investigating the incidents of Dalit killings in Wadanbalu village in Karnataka during March, 1993;

(b) whether all the main accused of the killings have been released on bail by the court due to non-submission of the

chargesheet within the stipulated date;

(c) the reasons for not submitting the chargesheet in time; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government to award punishment to the persons committing atrocities on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

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

(b) The arrested accused persons were released on bail by the court due to non-filing of chargesheet by the CBI within the stipulated period of 90 days.

(c) The case was handed over by the local police to the C.B.I. after expiry of 68 days and in the remaining 22 days, the entire investigation of the case could not be completed.

(d) The provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 have been invoked against the accused persons. The investigation in the case has since been completed. The final reports are under scrutiny and are to be filed shortly in the competent Court.

[*English*]

Expenditure on Research and Development

7378. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on Research and Development in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of new achievement technologically in the oil sector; and

(c) the plan of action of Research and Development in the oil sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The actual expenditure incurred by ONGC on Research and Development during the last 3 years is as follows:-

	(Rs. Crores)
1991-92	17.53
1992-93	20.33
1993-94	19.52 (Prov.)

(b) and (c). R&D achievements include development improvement and adoption of techniques and technology related to oil/gas exploration, drilling, reservoir management, enhanced oil recovery, production, safety and environment aspects etc. Future plans include conclude continuance of R&D work to identify, absorb, improve or develop the latest and new technologies/techniques in the above areas of operations.

LPG Connections

7379. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are not providing the facility of quota of LPG connections on priority basis for 1993-94 to those Members of Seventh Lok Sabha who were also the Members of the Ninth Lok Sabha ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not providing gas connections on the recommendations of such Members of the Tenth Lok Sabha?

The MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c). The quota for release of LPG connections on priority is available only for sitting Members of Parliament.

LPG Connections

7380. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy regarding transfer of LPG connections from one person to another and from one city to another;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications received for transfer of LPG connections during 1993 and 1994;

(d) the number of applications cleared during the said period; and

(e) the steps taken to clear the pending applications?

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

(b) Transfer of LPG connections from one person to another is permissible in certain cases such as death of subscription voucher (S.V.) holder, old age S.V. holder etc., after observing the prescribed procedures. Transfer of LPG connections from one city to another is also permitted in case

of shift of residence of the authorised consumer.

[Translation]

(c) to (e). It is a continuous process and transfers of LPG connections are effected expeditiously in accordance with the prescribed procedure as soon as formalities are completed by consumers and distributors.

Naturopathy Institutes

7381. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:

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

(a) the number of Naturopathy Institutes functioning in the country in private sector as well as in public sector separately,

(b) wherever the Government propose to examine the functioning of Naturopathy Institutes functioning in private sector; and

(c) wherever the Government have provided assistance to such Institutes in private sector; and

(d) if so; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) to (d). 7 public and about 51 private naturopathy institutions are known to be functioning in the country. The Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy reviews the functioning of institutions receiving grant-in-aid. Eight institutions have received grant-in-aid during the last three years.

LPG Connections

7382. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

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

(a) the number of LPG connections provided, particularly in tribal districts, during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide more new LPG connections during 1994-95;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) A statement is attached

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the total new customer enrolment, availability of LPG from indigenous source, possible imports, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. Efforts are, however, constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible. Connections are released throughout the years

STATEMENT

The following number of LPG connections have been provided in the tribal districts in the country (State-wise) during the last three years :

Sl.No.	State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1038	483	2732
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1270	738	1705
3.	Assam	1370	517	740
4.	Bihar	12300	11602	15461
5.	Goa	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	4850	3341	5166
7.	Haryana	-	-	-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1053	1805	2733
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	285	854	956
10.	Karnataka	6836	5469	7145
11.	Kerala	-	-	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	9231	3891	5193

Sl.No.	State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
13.	Maharashtra	27488	31135	48594
14.	Manipur	231	407	1723
15.	Meghalaya	1343	790	1410
16.	Mizoram	880	1408	2378
17.	Nagaland	1920	908	2187
18.	Orissa	6884	8300	4944
19.	Punjab	-	-	-
20.	Rajasthan	618	842	1686
21.	Sikkim	2546	692	1853
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-
23.	Tripura	-	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-
25.	West Bengal	2991	4515	5187
	UNION TERRITORIES			
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	874	811	2029

Sl.No.	State	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
2.	Chandigarh	-	-	-
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	420	138	240
4.	Delhi	-	-	-
5.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
6.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
7.	Pondicherry	-	-	-

[English]

Problems of Kashmiri Displaced People

7383. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government reviewed the problems of Kashmiri displaced people in January, 1994;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any short term and long term ameliorative measures came for discussion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A meeting was taken by Home Minister, on 10th January, 1994 to review the problems of Kashmiri migrants. In this meeting, matters pertaining to increase in the level of ex-gratia relief, construction of more one-room tenements, replacement of worn out tents, registration of migrants who reported to the Authorities after certain dates, preparation of inventories of immovable properties of migrants left behind in the Valley and establishment of a regular mechanism to review the problems of the migrants on regular basis discussed and regularly followed-up and reviewed.

[Translation]

J&K Police

7384. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir Police reorganisation committee has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the suggestions made therein; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for reorganisation of police in the State?

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

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, (b) & (c) do not arise.

[Translation]

Projects In Oil Sector

7385. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

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

(a) whether several projects were under construction in the country till March, 1994;

(b) if so, the number of projects pertaining to exploring, identifying and processing of crude oil were under construction respectively in the country and the estimated cost of construction thereof;

(c) whether there are such projects among them which are far from the target fixed for their completion with a stipulated time;

(d) if so, the number thereof;

(e) the number of those projects which

are being constructed only with the assistance of foreign financial institutions;

Government as commitment charge in this regard during 1993-94?

(f) whether the Government have to pay commitment charge due to failure in utilisation of foreign sanctioned aid; and

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

(g) if so, the amount had to pay by the

(b) No. of Projects		Estimated Cost (Rs.)
Projects for exploration and Production of crude and gas	11	17958.07 crores
Refinery projects	14	13039.00 crores

(c) while there are some cases of minor delays no project is far from the target fixed.

prize for the year 1992-93;

(d) Does not arise.

(d) the criteria adopted for awarding the prize; and

(e) There is no project funded solely by any foreign financial institution.

(e) the details in this regard?

(f) The commitment charges are payable in accordance with the terms and conditions of the loan/credits.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.
SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(g) The amount paid by the oil companies during 1993-94 was Rs. 4.32 crores.

[Translation]

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Hospital

Healthy Mother Healthy Child Prize

7387. SHRI HARKWEAL PRASAD:
SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

7386. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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

(a) whether the Government have started any 'Healthy Mother Healthy Child prize' scheme;

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide any financial assistance to the Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Medical Science Institute, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, since when it has been started;

(c) the name of the State which got this

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Delhi Police

7388. SHRI RAJ NATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Delhi Police cops found obsessed with committing excesses on the people of Delhi during each of the last three years;

(b) the action taken against the guilty cops and to check such obsession;

(c) whether cops frame false cases under Section 107 and 151 Criminal Procedure and involve one party only;

(d) if so, the details of the events when one party alone can be booked under these Sections;

(e) whether these Sections are vague and give powers to the cops to harass anyone;

(f) if so, the steps taken to amend these Sections; and

(g) the safeguards provided to the general public against the high handedness of the cops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) The number of Delhi Police personnel who have been found guilty of misconduct in dealing with the public during each of the last three years i.e. 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 (upto 31.3.94) is as under:

Year	No. of Police Officials
1991	304
1992	191
1993	316
1994 (upto 31.3.94)	45

(b) The action taken against the guilty police officials is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). The Delhi Police has reported that the policemen do not frame false cases under Section 107 and 151 Criminal Procedure. Proceedings u/s 107 Cr. P.C. are initiated against person likely to commit breach of the peace or disturb the police tranquility etc.

(e) These sections are not vague. Only their misuse can cause harassment.

(f) Does not arise in view of 'e' above.

(g) A high powered checking team has been constituted by the police to check highhandedness of the police officials. Deterrent punitive action is taken against those found guilty of highhandedness.

STATEMENT

Year	Total No. of complaints received	Dis- missal	For- feiture	Con- sure	War- ning	Displ- easeure	Adv. memo	Crl. cases	Doubtful integrity	Trans- fer to Non- sensitive	D.Es. pending	Preliminary enquiry
1991	304	5	10	90	5	3	-	3	40	25	112	11
1992	191	5	12	52	1	1	1	12	8	19	69	11
1993	316	7	7	96	1	2	-	6	16	46	129	6
1994	45	-	-	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	33	-
Total	856	17	29	243	7	13	1	21	64	90	343	28

[English]

Development and Cultivation of Medicinal Plants

7389. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Central Scheme for providing incentives for development and cultivation of medicinal plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh during the current year;

(d) whether the Government have offered funds for conversion of tobacco cultivation into cultivation of medicinal plants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Central assistance is provided to Government; Semi-government organisations for cultivation of identified species of medicinal plants.

(c) Funds are not allotted statewide under this scheme.

(d) and (e). There is no such proposal.

[Translation]

External Assistance to Health Care

7390. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries visited by him during last year to obtain high-tech medical equipments and services of foreign doctors in successfully combating diseases in the country; and

(b) the country with which agreement have been signed during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Custodial Rapes

7391. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of custodial rapes in Delhi during 1993 and 1994 so far, month-wise; and

(b) the action taken against the culprits in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) (a) and (b) The Delhi Police has stated that no case of custodial rape has been reported in Delhi during the year 1993 and 1994 so far.

Restriction on Tobacco Use

7392. SHRI ANNA JOSHI Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any dialogue with the World Health Organisation to off set potential losses that

farmers are likely to suffer by the implementation of tobacco prohibition laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation in Privatised Industries

7393. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision of reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Public Sector Undertakings after their privatisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Industry, Department of Public Enterprises had examined the issue of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Public Sector Undertakings and issued the following guidelines vide their O.M. No. 18 (8)/92-GM, dated 16.3.1994:

(i) Whether a PSU is to be restructured through the BIFR or otherwise, recourse to the National Renewal Fund may have to be taken for retraining and re-deployment for all categories of employees likely to be affected as a consequence of such restructuring and SC/ST employees should be the first

charge.

(ii) Where there is partial restructuring, the ratio of representation as was existing in the PUS before the commencement of such partial restructuring should be maintained if it was less than the prescribed minimum ratio of representation.

(iii) In case of complete restructuring, it should be possible to negotiate a suitable package with the new owners so that they may not retrench workers. If, however, rationalisation of work force is an essential part of the restructuring package, the principle of proportional representation spelt out in the preceding paragraph may be the agreed binding guiding principle.

(iv) Training and upgradation of skills of SC/ST workers is crucial especially for opening up job opportunities for them. These aspects need special emphasis in the plan programmes but cannot be a substitute for giving real access to available job opportunities where a measure of reservation may have to be continued for a reasonable period of time.

(v) While implementing the restructuring and rehabilitation plans there should be adequate leverage to ensure that rationalisation of work force is minimal and in respect of SC/ST already employed by the PSU such rationalisation does not reduce SC/ST employment below

the current ratios of representation in the concerned PSU.

- (vi) In case of complete restructuring, an obligation could be placed on the new owners for protection of employment of SC/ST including the acceptance of policy of reservation of jobs for SC/ST as has been done in the case of IISCO.

- (vii) In the private sector, perse, where such reservation policies are not in vogue, it may be desirable to persuade entrepreneurs that it is very much in their interest to follow an enlightened police of making available adequate job opportunities for SCs/STs."

On the above subject, the said Department have issue the following further communication:-

- (viii) It is to be recognised, however, that in the event of little or no progress in this direction, and in the interest of social harmony, stability and orderly growth, these should be no hesitation in amending the Constitution towards this objective. Such an option should always be kept open and considered after a decent interval of say 5-6 years being available for society to adjust itself to such affirmative action.

- (ix) For the present, however, a Constitutional Amendment for the purpose is neither necessary or desirable. The policy of positive discriminaiton within the existing

framework of the Constitution in favour of the SC/STs may continue for the PSEs, Extension of this salutary principle in respect of all enterprises, whether in the private sector or the public sector domain, can be considered after sometime and in the event of a failure of the policy of persuasion and voluntary affirmative action."

[Translation]

Child Reformatories

7394. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of escaping of some children from the child reformatories by breaking the ironbars installed on the walls of these reformatories have been brought to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified the lapses due to which these incidents took place;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government have received some complaints regarding mis-management in these reformatories; and

(f) if so, the measures taken by the Government to improve the situation in these reformatories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The incident of children escape

occured in a Government run Observation Home for Boys at Delhi Gate, Delhi. The boys pierced the false ceiling by boring a hole in the night of 21.2.94 and escaped through the space between C.G.T. sheet roofing and the false roofing to the big hole provided for exhaust. To facilitate the escape, the children removed the ironbars fixed in between this holes.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. As per the detailed inquiry conducted it was found that the incident had occurred on account of the negligence of the Chowkidar and Care-taker. Both of them were suspended.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Treatment Of Poor Heart Patients

7395. SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing financial assistance for the treatment of poor heart patients in the hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Science in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the mode of payment of the amount meant for poor patients and the time taken for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.SHANKARANAND): (a)&(b): Financial assistance upto Rs.20,000/- is given to poor and indigent patients to defray a part of expenditure on hospitalisation /operation in case where free medical facilities are not

available. This facility is available for the treatment of heart patients also.

(c) The sanctioned grant is released to the hospital/institute by way of demand draft/cheque on getting intimation that the patient has been admitted/treatment has started. The actual time taken for this purpose depends on many factors, such as, submission of application form and medical report in prescribed form, income certificate from revenue officer/BDO and the date given by hospital for admission/operation.

[*English*]

Patient/Bed Ratio

7396. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the bed/patient ratio in Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) whether this ratio is in conformity to the norms laid down by the Government; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to increase the bed strength?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B.SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The bed/population ratio in Delhi is about 2:1000. In a dynamic setting, it is not feasible to lay any norms about such ratios. One 500 bedded and eight 100 bedded hospitals, in the peripheral areas of Delhi, are under various stages of establishment besides, the number of institutions in the private sector is also increasing.

Suffering's of J&K People

7397. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :
 SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
 SHRI DHARMNNA
 MONDAYYA SADUL :
 DR. KURUPASINDHI' BHOI :
 SHRI BALRAJ PASI :
 DR. RAMESH CHAND
 TOMAR :
 SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest measures taken and proposed to be taken towards the mitigation of the sufferings of the people of Jammu and Kashmir inflicted by the foreign-aided militancy; and

(b) the latest steps taken and proposed to be taken to initiate the political activities in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) & (b): The Government are keen to restore normalcy and reactivate the political process in J&K at the earliest. Various steps have been taken particularly during the past few months towards this end. Efforts have been made to streamline the security arrangements and steps up the pressure on the militants to contain violence and reduce their fear of the gun. Even though terrorist violence remains at a high level, there is a perceptible and qualitative change in the situation and in the mood of the people, who appears to be fed up and disillusioned with the continuing mindless violence and activities of the militants. The efforts of the government are to consolidate the situation so that the conditions can be created for the restoration of the democratic institutions in the State at

the earliest.

Particular attention is being paid to the reactivation of the local administration, bringing in greater responsiveness and accountability of the administration and strengthening the grievance redressal system. Special efforts are also being made to step up development and economic activities in the state with a view to creating employment opportunities for the youth, to reactivate the community leadership at the grassroots level and to motivate the people to come into the mainstream. Efforts are also being made to encourage the political elements to reactivate their cadres.

The Home Minister had visited the State recently and also had discussions with the leaders of various political parties and urged them to intensify their efforts at the ground labels. The Minister of State for Internal Security has been visiting various parts/districts of the state frequently and has also addressed public meetings, apart from meeting the people and officials of the local administrations. All these initiatives have had an impact and various political leaders at the state level have also shown some sign of activity. The response of the people to all these initiatives has also been positive. It is intended to pursue all these efforts vigorously.

Visakh Refinery

7398. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
 SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
 OWAISI:

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

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has been forced to set down Visakh Refinery;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total loss suffered as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which the refinery is likely to be reopened?

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

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

Special Central Assistance For TSP

7399. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for allocating Special Central Assistance to States for Tribal Sub-Plan; and

(b) the amount provided under the Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan during each of the last three years and earmarked for the current year. State/Union Territory-wise?

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

(b) statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I

NORMS FOR ALLOCATION OF SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE

The share of the Programmes under the broad strategy of Tribal Sub-Plan,

namely, TSP (ITDP) MADA pockets and clusters and primitive tribes from the total outlay of Special Central Assistance (SCA) is calculated in proportion to the Scheduled Tribe population covered under each Programmes after setting apart about 10% of S.C.A. for dispersed Tribals. The Inter-State allocation of SCA for these programmes are made as under:

(a) ITDP: For allocation of SCA to ITDPs, the States' are grouped into three categories. Category 'A' consists of States with substantial area predominantly inhabited by tribals such as (i) Andhra Pradesh, (ii) Bihar, (iii) Gujarat, (iv) Himachal Pradesh, (v) Madhya Pradesh (vi) Maharashtra, (vii) Manipur, (viii) Orissa (ix) Rajasthan and (x) Sikkim.

Category 'B' consists of States having dispersed tribal population with some areas of tribal concentration such as (i) Assam, (ii) West Bengal (iii) Tripura and (iv) Jammu and Kashmir.

Category 'C' consists of the States/UTs where the tribal population is by and large dispersed with very small areas of concentration such as (i) Karnataka, (ii) Kerala, (iii) Tamil Nadu, (iv) Uttar Pradesh, (v) Andaman & Nicobar Islands, (vi) Daman & Diu.

The total outlay of SCA for tribal Sub-Plan is allocated to the three categories on the basis of tribal population of the States/UTs included in each group.

The funds allocated to category 'A' is then distributed to the States on three criteria, i.e. (i) 50% on the basis of Scheduled Tribe population in the tribal sub Plan area (ii) 30% on the basis of geographical area of the tribal sub-Plan and (iii) 20% in inverse proportion to per capita. Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) of the States with weightage

to tribal population within the TSP area.

For Category 'B and 'C' States, the share, of individual States/UTs is worked out on the basis of two criteria, i.e. 70% according to Scheduled Tribe population of the Tribal sub-Plan and 30% in inverse proportion to per capita NSDP of the States/UTs with weightage to tribal population within the TSP area.

(b) MADA Pockets of Tribal concentration clusters and Dispersed tribals. While allocating SCA for MADA Programmes, clusters and dispersed tribals 70% of the total allocation is distributed according to ST population in the MADA area, cluster and D.T.O. and 30% in inverse proportion to per capita NSDP of the State/UTs with weightage to tribal population within the pockets, clusters and D.T.C.

(c) Primitives Tribes : The distribution formula is:

- (i) 40% of the amount on numerical size of the Primitive tribal communities.
- (ii) 30% according to population depending on different occupation, namely, (i) Food gathering or hunting (2) shifting cultivation. (3) Sedentary cultivation and (4) other occupation with weightage accorded in the ration of 5:3:1:1 respectively.
- (iii) 15% according to number of primitive tribal communities in the State/UTs.
- (iv) 15% in inverse proportion to per capita Net State domestic product with weightance to primitive tribal population.

STATEMENT - II

SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE RELEASED TO STATES/UTS DURING 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, AND TENTATIVE ALLOCATION FOR 1994-95.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (tentative allocation)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1529.34	1529.34	1593.22	1593.22
2.	Assam	1077.61	1077.61	1087.57	1087.57
3.	Bihar	3211.19	3175.25	3497.39	3497.39
4.	Gujarat	1870.90	1855.84	2234.77	2234.77
5.	Himachal Pradesh	421.71	403.39	755.03	355.53
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	245.98	296.14	518.60	518.60
7.	Karnataka	253.24	327.42	439.76	439.76
8.	Kerala	133.27	207.23	167.25	152.25
9.	Madhya Pradesh	6835.01	6785.01	8117.65	7117.65
10.	Maharashtra	1825.21	1815.21	2234.35	2234.35

S.No.	States/UTs.	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (tentative allocation)
11.	Manipur	388.40	383.41	417.12	417.12
12.	Orissa	3298.65	3378.03	3603.23	3603.23
13.	Rajasthan	1679.23	1679.46	2664.68	2094.68
14.	Sikkim	60.93	60.93	73.67	73.67
15.	Tamil Nadu	281.77	270.72	214.05	214.05
16.	Tripura	430.35	414.94	372.37	372.37
17.	Uttar Pradesh	58.40	58.40	69.22	69.22
18.	West Bengal	1271.66	1271.67	1319.06	1319.06
19.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	99.00	86.13	77.22	77.22
20.	Daman & Diu	11.00	23.87	28.29	28.29
	Total	24982.85	25000.00	29484.50	27500.00

Profit Earned by GAIL

7400. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned by the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) during each of the past three years;

(b) whether GAIL has launched new products in the market during 1993-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the expansion plans of GAIL have been approved by the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the major pipeline projects undertaken by GAIL during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) The profits earned by GAIL in the last three years are given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs./crores)</i>
1991-92	93.60
1992-93	210.50
1993-94	311.18*

(* prov.)

(b) and (c). GAIL have started marketing SBP solvent and pentane during 1993-94.

(d) and (e) GAIL's proposal for the capacity expansion of the BJH pipeline from 18.2 MMSCD to 33.4 MMSCMS has been approved by the Government.

(f) During 1993-94, GAIL undertook the

construction of pipelines to NTPC, Gandhar and RSEB, Ramgarh alongwith pipeline in the Cauvery & K.G. Basins.

Allocation of Funds for Flood Control

7401. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be please to state:

(a) the funds earmarked by the Government for flood control measures during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the funds earmarked to Rajasthan during the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) Total outlay for flood control during Eighth Five Year Plan is Rs. 1623.37 crores.

(b) Rs. 25.30 crores are earmarked to Rajasthan for flood control during the said plan.

[*Translation*]

Ayurvedic Medicines for Cancer

7402. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Ayurvedic Medicine has been developed in the country to check the cancer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the efficiency of the medicine has been tasted; and

(d) if so, the time which this medicine is likely to be available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (d). The Central Council of Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has informed that studies are being conducted on anti-cancer potentialities of ayurvedic medicines. Definite conclusion on the efficacy of these medicines can be arrived at only after scientifically controlled clinical trails.

[English]

Occupied WAKF Properties in Punjab

7403. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 390 Wake properties which have been identified as such in Punjab continue to be under unlawful occupation by the State Government despite standing instructions by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether a majority of the occupied properties are mosques and graveyards;

(c) whether the Union Government have recently drawn the attention of the Government of Punjab that either the occupation should be regularised with the consent of the Punjab Wakf Board or the property should be restored to it;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) According to the information received from Punjab Wakf Board, out of 390 wake properties under occupation of the State Government Depts., 196 are mosques and 126 graveyards.

(c) The State Government including that of Punjab have repeatedly been addressed to take effective steps for removal of encroachment or to settle the matter with the Wakf Boards.

(d) According to the information received, the State Government of Punjab have brought the instructions of the Central Government to the notice of all Heads of Depts., Commissioners of Divisions, Registrar, Punjab and Haryana High Court and all District and Sessions Judges in the State.

(e) The Wakf Bill, 1993 introduced in Rajya Sabha in August, 1993 inter alia contains provisions for expeditious removal of encroachment and also for setting up of Tribunals to decide questions/disputes relating to wakfs.

National Blindness Prevention and Control Programme

7404. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted to Union Government a scheme under National Blindness Prevention and Control Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Engineers India Limited

7405. SHRIR. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineers India Limited (EIL) has made all-round progress during the last couple of years;

(b) if so, the details of its achievements in turnover from services offered, profit making, foreign exchange earnings, projects management consultancy services and overseas operation including foreign contracts bagged, during the last three years;

(c) the details of the projects of IOC and ONGC in hand of EIL and the value thereof;

(d) whether the Government have re-

cently received any proposal from EIL for permission to increase its equity have issued of nouns issue;

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

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

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

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) The Company has proposed to increase its capital from Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 10 crores by issue of bonus shares for a Government decision.

(f) The matter is under examination.

STATEMENT - I
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF EIL FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (Subject to audit)
(i) Sales turnover including increase/decrease in work-in-progress. (excluding other income)	10452.22	15741.38	22378.48
(ii) Profit before tax	3417.87	5351.86	10011.77
(iii) Profit after tax	2591.58	2934.89	6011.77
(iv) Foreign exchange earnings	2996.28	4827.70	6587.36
(v) No. of foreign contracts secured	6	15	18

STATEMENT - II

DETAILS OF PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY EIL FOR IOC AND ONGC

INDIAN OIL CORPORATION LIMITED : (IOC)

Jobs entrusted to EIL	Estimated value of EIL's services (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Digboi Refinery Modernisation	1053
2. Lube Oil Expansion, Haldia	200
3. LPG Recovery, Gauhati	111
4. Barauni Reformer	300
5. Visbreaker Revamp, Mathura	82
6. Catalytic Reformer, Digboi	350
7. Propylene Recovery, Mathura	490
8. Wax Hydro Finishing, Digboi	371
9. Catalytic Reformer, Mathura	1000
10. Panipat Refinery	7800
11. Sulphur Recovery Unit, Haldia (Turn key job)	2175

Jobs entrusted to EIL	Estimated value of EIL's services (Rs. in lakhs)
12. Panipat Marketing Terminal	795.50
13. Process Design for Phenol, Barauni	45
14. Kandala-Bhatinda Pipeline	1000
15. Kandala-Bhatinda Tap Off Points	1000
16. Haldia-Budgebudge Pipeline	24.55
17. Second Oil Terminal, Gujarat Coast	265
18. Lube Blending Plant, Asaouti	350
19. Food Grade Hexane, Baroda	145
20. Catalytic Reformer Compressor Revamp, Baroda	185
21. Power Plant for Gujarat Hydrocracker	185
22. Wagon Loading Gantry at Gujarat Hydrocracker	70
23. New Crude Oil Pipeline, Baroda	31
24. Other minor Projects (25 Nos.)	280
	18308

Jobs entrusted to EIL
Estimated value of
EIL's services
(Rs. in lakhs)

OIL & NATURAL GAS COMMISSION : (ONGC)

	Cost Reimbursible plus fee basis
1. Bombay High L-III Development	"
2. South Basin-Hazira Pipeline & Terminal Expansion.	"
3. Bombay High Neelam Field Development	"
4. Development of Gandhar Phase-II Field	"
5. Bombay High L-II Reservoir Development	"
6. ICP-Heera Trunk Pipeline	"
7. Development of S-1 Sand Field, Bombay High	"
8. Development of 4 Isolated Structures, Bombay High	"
9. Development of South Heera Phase-II (Rs-15A)	"
10. Additional Development of Bombay High, North	"
11. Desalter Plant at Nawagaon	"
12. Hazira Phase-IIIA Project	"

Beggary Prevention

7406. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made under the Social Defence Scheme for Beggary Prevention during the last three years;

(b) the criteria fixed by the Government for beggars rehabilitation; and

(c) the funds allocated for beggars rehabilitation in the country during the last three years, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) A Scheme for Beggary Prevention was introduced during 1992-93 for the beggars with the aim of developing facilities for their education vocational training, engaging them on productive work and enabling them to reintegrate into the society.

(b) 100% assistance is being provided to establish Work Centers in the Government run existing Beggar Homes in the States/Union Territories. The voluntary organisations registered/licensed as an institution for beggars under the relevant anti-financial assistance under the scheme.

(c) No State-wise targets for providing grant-in-aid are fixed. The financial assistance is provided on the basis of the proposal received from the States/UTs.

During 1992-93, an allocation of Rs. 20 lakhs was made and on the basis of proposals received, the following grants were released:

I. Gujarat	Rs. 8,65,000.00
II. Karnataka	Rs. 3,52,000.00
III. West Bengal	Rs. 3,34,000.00
IV. Delhi	Rs. 4,46,000.00

Likewise, the allocation for the year 1993-94 was Rs. 100.00 lakhs released on the basis of proposal received from. The following States:

I. Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 3,65,000.00
II. Tamil Nadu	Rs. 16,04,584.00
III. West Bengal	Rs. 3,14,000.00
IV. Delhi	Rs. 52,000.00

Pesticide Residue

7407. MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHNDRA KAHNDURI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the study carried out by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) New Delhi on food sample as regarding residue of DDT and other pesticides in 12 States:

(b) whether the study found that the residue DDT and other pesticide was much above the legally permitted limits in the bovine milk collected from rural and urban areas;

(c) whether even in samples of maize, mustard seed etc. also showed presence of DDT and other pesticides;

(d) whether the study has warned that this phenomenon may become a major

health problem in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to resolve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Traces of DDT residue were reported in the samples of bovine milk collected from 12 States analysed by the median value of DDT residue in milk was within the prescribed limit of 1.25 p pm (on fat basis).

(c) Negligible traces of DDT residue were reported in maize and mustard seeds etc.

(d) The studies done under the project were limited in scope and hence do not have automatic application on a country-wide scale.

(e) The Food (Health) Authorities of all States & UTs have been alerted to be vigilant about contamination and to draw maximum number of samples for tasting and to initiate punitive action where called for.

Multi-Drug Treatment

7408. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multi-drug treatment for treatment of leprosy promises to cure both infections and non-infections leprosy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether leprosy as a ground for seeking divorce still persists in the Statute

book both in the Hindu-Marriage Act and the Special Marriage Act;

(d) whether leprosy patients are also required to obtain special permits to travel in trains with due provisions for segregation and guarantee under the Railway Act; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to ensure amendments of such out-dated laws to give just and humane treatment in society to the leprosy patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For infections type of leprosy cases, free treatment with combination of Rifampicin, Clofazimine and Dapsone is given for 24 months and for the treatment of non-infections type of leprosy case, only Rifampicin and Dapsone treatment is given for 6 months.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Leprosy patients are not permitted to travel by train under the Railway Act, 1989. However, non-infective (closed) leprosy patients are permitted to travel provided they carry a Certificate from a Registered Medical Practitioner to this effect.

(e) there is no such proposal.

[*Translation*]

Atrocities On SCs

7409. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Special Court relating to the case of atrocity committed on Scheduled Castes at Tsundur in Andhra Pradesh has since delivered its verdict;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to deliver its verdict?

(d) the steps Government propose to allow free marked economics to play a role in the marketing of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). As per present policy, Oil Selection Boards consist of a Chairman who is a Retired High Court Judge and two prominent public figures as Members; one of whom belonging to SC/ST/Other weaker sections.

ONGC Office

[English]

7410. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:

(d) The Government have decanalised many of the petroleum products and private parties are free to import and sell them at market-determined prices through their own distribution network.

(a) whether there is any proposal to hand over ONGC office in Calcutta to private sector; and

[Translation]

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

Tihar Jail

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

7412. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(b) Does not arise.

(a) whether there is any scheme to turn the Tihar Jail into an ideal jail and to install cable there for the entertainment of inmates;

Marketing of Petroleum Products

7411. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the time by which scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(a) the guidelines for appointment of members to the Oil Selection Boards;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

(b) whether any minimum qualifications have been prescribed;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED) : (a) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that there is a scheme for installation of Cable/

Audio Visual network in the Central Jail, Tihar, primarily for programmes relating to education, literacy, health and vocational training etc.

- (b) About three months.
- (c) Approximately Rs. 16 lakhs.

[English]

Maternity and Health Care Centres in Gujarat

7413. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of maternity and health care centres functioning at present in Gujarat;
- (b) the number of such centres proposed to be opened during 1994-95;
- (c) whether any foreign assistance is being provided for the centres; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) 940 primary health centres, 171 Community health Centres and 7284 sub-centers are functioning in Gujarat; these provide maternity and health care. In addition there are 36 maternity and child health centres, funded by State Government.

(b) Fifteen Primary Health Centres and 9 Community Health Centres are proposed to be opened in Gujarat during the year 1994-95.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Supply of Natural Gas

7414. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be please to state:

(a) whether a high-level Iranian delegation visited India recently to work out the modalities for supplying natural gas through a transcontinental pipeline;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks; and

(c) the basic features of the project particularly its technical feasibility, route, raising of finances and the equity participation between India and Iran?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c) A team from Iran visited India recently to discuss the mode of selection of an Agency to undertake pre-feasibility study for laying an Iran-India gas pipeline.

Anti-Insurgency Operations In J&K

7415. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of police and paramilitary personnel killed in course of anti-insurgency operation in Jammu and Kashmir during the current year so far, force-wise and month-wise;

(b) the compensation paid to the families of such personnel;

(c) the number of civilians killed and injured;

(d) the number of militants killed and arrested and the arms and other materials seized from them during the above period, month-wise; and

(e) the number of terrorists released and those in prison?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a): As per information available, 36 para-military forces personnel and 4 J&K Police personnel were killed in the course of anti-insurgency operation in Jammu and Kashmir during the period from January-April, 1994

(b) : Ex-gratia relief is being paid by the State Government @ Rs.2 lakhs in case of death and on varying scales in case of injury. In addition, ex-gratia relief @ Rs. 1 lakhs is also being paid by the Central Government to the next of kin of the deceased para-military forces personnel killed in action in the State. In addition, financial assistance is being provided from the Welfare Fund, Risk Premia Fund, CGEIS, etc. to the dependents of the deceased personnel.

(c) to (d). During the said period, 358 civilians were killed and 503 were injured, while 379 militants were killed and 1220 militants apprehended. The details of arms and other materials recovered from the militants during the period January-April 1994 are as under:-

Rocket launchers	21
Machines guns	33
AK-series rifles	688
Pistols	305
Guns	19

Mortors	2
Grenade launchers	2
Hand grenades	637
Mines	360
Rocket	53
Explosives	219 Kgs.
Ammunition	94932 rounds

(e) Out of the total 1220 militants apprehended during the current year so far, 468 were released after preliminary investigation, while 752 were arrested.

Water Resources in Orissa

7416. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey for water resources potential in Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) (a) and (b): Irrigation being a State subject, survey for Water resources development are carried out by the Government. However, for inter-state rivers, hydrological observations are conducted by the Central Water Commission which include rivers in Orissa also. The Central Ground Water Board have carried out survey of ground-water availability in Orissa. Based on the survey and exploration, the annual

replenishable ground water resources of the State of Orissa has been assessed at 23279.22 million cubic meters.

Modernisation of BSF

7417. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise and strengthen the Border Security Force particularly its Water and Air Wings:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Modernisation and strengthening of the Border Security Force, including its Water and Air Wings, is a continuous on-going process.

(b) In the recent past BSF has been sanctioned 43 speed boats, 2 medium crafts, 5 mechanised boats, 9 country boats, 61 engine fitted country boats and 14 motor vehicles besides 423 additional posts under its expansion programme.

(c) Does not arise.

Oil Drilling in A.P.

7418. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

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

(a) whether ONGC has submitted any plan or has decided to undertake drilling in

A.P.

(b) if so, whether any concrete programme of drilling in Andhra Pradesh has been considered; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposals that are being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). During 1994-95, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited have plans to drill 24 wells with 67950 metreage in onland part of the Krishna-Godavari Basin which falls in Andhra Pradesh.

Coal Production

7419. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of superior grade coal has decreased from 42% to 14% of total production during the last ten years ;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken during the Eighth Five Year Plan to improve the production of superior grade coal; and

(c) the steps taken for identification of new sites for exploration of coal during the Eighth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) According to the information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), the production of superior grades (grade A, B & C) of Non-Coking Coals in CIL, has decreased from 43.6% in 1982-83 to 33.4% in 1992-93. However in absolute terms, the production of superior grades has increased from 50.01 million tonnes in 1982-83 to 70.56 million

tonnes in the year 1992-93.

(b) The steps taken to further increase production of superior grades of Coal are as follows :

(i) Increased production of Coal from underground mines by introduction of modern technology for exploitation of superior grade coal seams.

(ii) Beneficiation of non-coking coals for improving quality.

(iii) Undertake selective mining of bands wherever possible, as well as cleaning of coal benches before blasting in open cast mines.

(c) Since the beginning of VIIIth Plan, 21 new exploration blocks have been taken up for detailed exploration. These blocks contain coking coals as well as non-coking coals.

Activities of Pak Agencies

7420. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak agencies ask ultra outfits to kill Indian Leaders" appearing in the 'Newstime' (Hyderabad) dated April 18, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESHPILOT) : (a) Government are aware of the news report in question.

(b) and (c). Pakistani agencies have continued to aid and abet militancy and terrorism in India through training, supply of sophisticated weapons, funds, sanctuaries and logistical support to terrorist and subversive elements in their territory, etc., to further their territorial designs in J&K, and create destabilization in other parts of the country. It is a fact that a number of terrorist outfits, supported by Pakistan, have been issuing threats against political elements in J&K, with the aim of preventing the restoration of the political process in the State. Appropriate steps are being taken to provide security to vulnerable persons.

Supply of Gas to Assam

7421. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any programme to supply the piped natural gas throughout the State of Assam; and

(b) if so, the time by which the programme would be completed and total investment involved therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). There is no such programme. However, a proposal has been received from the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) for laying a pipeline at an estimated cost of Rs. 253 crores for the supply of gas to the Numaligarh refinery and the Amguri power plant.

[Translation]

Doctors in BSF

7422. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Istifa Dene Waale Dactoron Key Khilaf Court Marshal Kar Rahi Hain-Sima Suraksha Bal' appearing in 'Jansatta' dated April 17, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Border Security Force is facing acute shortage of doctors;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to improve the service conditions of doctors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b). Government has seen the news item. No such court martial has been conducted against medical officers who have submitted resignation from service as per the laid down procedure under BSF and Rules.

(c) to (e). The Border Security Force is facing shortage of doctors mainly due to their difficult service conditions vis-a-vis the civilian doctors. The Government have recently approved a package of benefits for making the service more attractive.

[English]

Voluntary Organisations for Handicapped

7423. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 375 on April, 21, 1994 and state :

(a) the number of NGOs and the number of beneficiaries under the scheme of assistance to NGOs for disabled persons during each of the last three years ;

(b) the number of organisations with the number of beneficiaries under the scheme of assistance to organisations for manpower development in the field of Carebral Palsy and mental Retardation during each of the last three years;

(c) the number of organisations and the number of beneficiaries under the scheme of establishment and development of the special schools during each of the last three years; and

(d) the complete list of voluntary organisations with their addresses who were assisted under the above three schemes during 1993-94 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) Details given in Statement- I.

(b) Details given in Statement-II.

(c) The Scheme of Special Schools for the handicapped was launched in 1993-94. The number of organisations covered were 7 with 295 beneficiaries.

(d) As given in Statement-III.

STATEMENT - I

S.No.	Year	No. of Voluntary organisations for the disabled	No. of beneficiaries covered
1.	1991-92	262	40175
2.	1992-93	302	42811
3.	1993-94	315	60161

STATEMENT - II

S.No.	Year	No. of Voluntary organisations for CP & MR	No. of beneficiaries covered
1.	1991-92	5	15
2.	1992-93	7	53
3.	1993-94	10	117

STATEMENT - III

LIST OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE SCHEME OF CEREBRAL PALSY AND MENTAL RETARDATION

S.No.	Name of the Organisation
1.	Amariyoti Charitable Trust Karkardum Delhi.
2.	Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research & Rehabilitation for the Mentally Retarded Hyderabad.
3.	Spastics Society of Northern India Hauz Khas, Balbir Saxena Marg New Delhi.
4.	Vimla Mahila Samajan Ernakulam.
5.	Bal Vikas Society Trivandrum.
6.	Royalseema Seva Samiti Tirupati.
7.	Chetna Sec. C, Aliganj Housing Scheme Lucknow.

S.No.	Name of the Organisation
8.	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Calcutta.
9.	Spastics Society of Tamil Nadu Madras.
10.	Spastics Society of Eastern India Calcutta.

LIST OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

S.No.	Name of the Organisation
1.	Jeevan Nirman Sansthan Gole Bagh Bharatpur.
2.	Nimhara Viklang Sansthan Wazha Mishram, Sisra Road Allahabad
3.	Avadh Sansthan Ramghat, Ayodhya Faizabad.
4.	Indian Association for the Blind Dr. Thengraj Road Madurai.
5.	Haryana State Council for Child Welfare Bal Bhawan, Barnala Road Sirsā.
6.	Bahujan Hitai Sansthan 58/105, Gandhi Marg Barabanki.
7.	Digidarshika Institute of Rehabilitation Research Indian Red Cross Society Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal.

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	Amount	Sanctioned during
ANDHRA PRADESH				
1	Thakur Hari Prasad Institute for Mentally Handicapped Hyderabad. Slusiniketanm Vivekananda Nagar Hyderabad.	Running the Instt. for M.H. Rehabilitation Centre at Rajamundry Rural Project.	333	44.47
2.	Shantiniketan Institution for Mentally Handicapped Children Hyderabad.	Running Residential for M.R. Children	52	2.62
3.	Child Guidance Centre Hyderabad.	Maintenance of Institute for M.R. Children.		4.61
4.	Man-Sika Vikasa Mendrua, Vijayanada T.P. Road, Lamsedist, Vijayamada	running the School for M.R. Children. ii. Pre-School trg. iii. Sheltered Workshop iv. Early Intervention Programme.	666	41.32
5.	Andhra Pradesh Federation of the Blind, Hyderabad.	i. Music Trg. Scheme ii. Placement Service iii. Trg. in cane weaving.	0	8.64
6.	Pamencad, Secunderabad Plot No. 5, Lakshminagar Picket Secunderabad. 500003	running the School for M.R. Children		5.30

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	Amount	Sanctioned during
7.	Hyderabad Special School for Children in need for Special Scare, Secunderabad. Sweekar Rehab. Instt. for handicapped, Upper Circle, Picket Secunderabad.	Running the School for Deaf & M.R. Rural Rehab. programme for M.H. Children.	63	16.42
8.	Arun Special Centre, Hyderabad 9-14, 144 Shastripuram Mr-alam Filling Hyderabad. 500252	Running the Residential School for M.R. Children.	59	3.11
9.	Andhra Mahila Sabha Trust, Hyderabad Osmania University Road, Vijayanagar Hyderabad	Running Centre, for Printing Press Book-binding Imparting edu. to H.H. & H.R. Children.	125	2.98
10.	Smt. Merla Ramamma Memorial Trust, Krishna Distt.	Running the Institute for M.R. Children.	89	5.45
11.	Vegesna Foundation Hyderabad.	Running the School for C.H. Children.		2.37
12.	Andhra Pradesh Association for the Deaf. 3-6-669/10th Street, Himayatnagar Hyderabad-29.	Running the Model School. for Deaf.	94	1.92

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	Amount	Sanctioned during
13.	Hellen Keller School for the Deaf.	Running the School for Deaf Children.		3.34
14.	Lobunshilfe Spl. School for the Mentally Handicapped, Vishakhapatnam, 26, Lawsons Bag. 530017	Running the Institute for M.R. Children	135	6.28
15.	A.P. Association for the welfare of M.R. Hyderabad	for early Intervention project for M.R. Children.		0.65
16.	Saint Francis Education Society, Venkatagiri Town, 524132 Nellore A.P.	Running the School for V.H. Children		2.19
17.	Royalseema Seva Samiti, Tirupati, 9 Old Hurn Office Tirupati.	Day Care Centre for M.R. Children.	133	7.29
18.	Hellen Keller Memorial Association for Blind, Vishakhapatnam.	Running V.T. Centre for the Blind.	50	2.75
19.	Society for Education of the Deaf & Blind Vizianagaram. 9-9-94, West Balaji Street, Vizianagaram.	Running the School for Deaf and Blind	73	

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	Amount	Sanctioned during
20.	Mahalakshmi Welfare Society, Vizianagaram V.T. Agraharam.	Speech Therapy Centre for Deaf Children.	10	0.67
21.	Priyadarshini Service Organisation, Vishakhapatnam.	Residential V.T. Centre for P.H. Women		3.07
22.	Srinivasa Mahila Mandal Parkasam Distt.	V.T. Centre for P.R.	50	2.53
23.	A.P. Society for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Handicapped Hyderabad.	Running the Trg. Centre & Workshop for H.H. Children.		0.46
24.	Karimnagar Distt. Freedom Fighter Trust Karimnagar, H.No. 2-8-127 Mukarampura, Karimnagar.	Running the School cum V.T. Centre for M.H. Children	42	0.69
25.	Zilla Vikalargala Sangam, Guazala Ceunter Distt. A.P.		64	0.57
26.	Pawmencap, 6-6-685 Pink House, Gosamahal-Hyderabad-500012		52	0.15

ASSAM

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	No. of Beneficiaries	Grant Released During 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Shishu Sarathi Spastics Society of Assam Guwahati.	For running school for M.R. Children	50	0.51
2.	Jan Kalyan Tatha Bihalanga Lohar Seva Aru Gavesana Kendra Distt. Sonitpur.	Building Construction		2.50

BIHAR

S.No.	Name/Address of the Organisation	Project	No. of Beneficiaries	Grant Released During 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Girija Shankar Drishitheen Baika Vidyalyaya, Bhagalpur.	Educational/Vocational Trg. for the Blind Girls.	37	1.96
2.	Home for Mental Retardates & Psychological Sufferers, 116, Kanker Bagh, Patna.	For running School/Trg. Centre for M.R.	54	5.43
3.	Blinds Girls School Arrah, Bhojpur, Bihar	For running School for blind girls	35	1.35
4.	Prakritik Arogyashram Rejgir, Dist. Nalanda. Bihar	For running Rehab. Centre for Disabled	100	2.48
5.	Bihar Rehab. & Welfare Instt. Patna.	For running WWC for Handicapped		3.56
6.	J.M. Institute of Speech & Hearing Patna.	School for M.R. & Deaf children	106	2.09
7.	Santhal Paharia Sewa Mandal Deoghar, Vaidhyanath, Bihar	For running Rehab. Centre for PH	400	-
8.	Gramin Vikas Sanghan Morathu, Gaya, Bihar	For running the Centre for M.R.	54	2.73
9.	Bihar Instt. of Speech & Hearing Research Center Kadamkuan, Patna.	For running School for the Deaf	-	-

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Project	No. of Beneficiaries	Grant Released During 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
10.	Gaya Netrahin Vidyalaya Gaya	School & Hostel for the Blind	45	3.21
11.	Harijan Adivasi Mahila Seva Sansthan, Purneau	For running the Educational Centre For the disabled	-	-
12.	Shri Jain Mahila Vidyapith, Arrah	Running the Educational, Voc. Trg. Centre for blind boys.	25	1.05
13.	Baba Baidhnath Balika Badhir Mook Vidyalaya, Munger	Edun./Voc./Training Centre for Deaf & Dumb Girls	32	1.43
14.	Bhartiya Viklang Sangh, Patna	Trg. Centre for Disabled	50	0.53
15.	Gyan Sarovar, Sonpur, Saran	Vocational Trg. Centre for the Handicapped.	61	0.61
16.	Bihar State Council for Child Welfare, Patna	for running the Instt. for M.R. Children.	35	1.07

GOA

S.No.	Name of the Organisation	Purpose	No. of Beneficiaries	Grant Released During 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	CARITAS-Goa, Panajim	For School for Deaf & O.H.	100	4.04
2.	Lokvishwas Pratishthan School for Handicapped Kids, Panaji.	For running School for Deaf	40	

GUJARAT

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)	
				4	5
1.	Society for the Mentally Retarded P.C. Malviga College Campus Gandhel Rd., Rajkot-360004	Adult Training Centre for M.R.	35	2.06	
2.	Shri K.L. Institute for the Deaf 51, Vidya Nagar, Bhavnagar Gujarat	Transport allowance Salary of Librarian Adult Trg. Workshop Teacher Trg. Course	77 265 19 284	1.78	
3.	Blind Man's Association Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Road, Vasmramur, Ahmedabad. 15	National Rehab. Engg. Instt. Employment & Placement Talking book library Newsletters School of Physiotherapy Computer Trg. Centre Bakery & Food Products Training in Gujarati Shorthand Multicategory workshop	18 42 280 2400 20 10 12 15 59	8.27	
4.	Shri B.S. Parekh Deaf & Dumb School, Near New Jain Clinic Surendranagar-363001	Salary of Compositor & Treadlman	124	0.41	
5.	Ankur School for M.R. Children Bhavnagar, Gujarat	Transport allowance to M.R. Children			

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
6.	Medical Care Centre Trust, Children, Hospital Karoti, Vadodara-390018	Providing Medical facilities	2175	1.94
7.	Andhjan Vividhaxi Talim Kendra Aerodrome Road, Jamnagar.	Multicategory workshop	67	4.18
8.	K.K. School & Home for the Blind Opp. New Filter, Vidyannagar Bhavnagar.	School for the Blind		
9.	Andh Kanya Prakash Griha Trust Drive in Road, Memnagar Ahmedabad-52	Multicategory Workshop for girls	24	2.33
10.	Andh Apang Kalyan Kendra Nandiji Society Sabarmati D Cabine, Ahmedabad-19.	Home Visit Scheme	549	0.53
11.	Apang Pariwar Kalyan Kendra Suestik Society Ambawadi Bhavnagar-362001.		30	0.33
12.	Andh Kalyan Kendra Ahmedabad		60	0.25
13.	Rachnatamak Abhigum Trust 'Hardik Prerana Park Society' Opp. L.G. Hospital, Maninagar Ahmedabad-6.		12000	0.34

KERALA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jaycee Society for the Rehabilitation for the Handicapped, Tellicherry grant.	For running Institute for M.R. and building	60	1.50
2.	Kerala Federation of the Blind, Trivandrum	Placement Service Mobility Orientation. Guidance Counselling. Rehabilitation Centre at Calicut. Braille Library Rehabilitation Centre at Pothanjicad. Telephone Operating.	5.97	
3.	Young Women's Association, Quilong, Vikas Bhawan.		35	0.41
4.	Society for the Rehabilitation of Mentally Deficient Children, Cannanore.	Innwheel School for M.R.	3.18	
5.	Asha Nilayam Social Service Centre. Kottayam, Sao Damiano Pullyanoor Kottayam Kural.	School for M.R.	43	1.59
6.	Sanjose Welfare Centre, Kottayam.	School for M.R.	-	-

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
7.	Vimla Mahila Samajam.	—		4.85
8.	Bala Vikas Society Trivandrum.	—do-----		0.80
9.	Association for the Welfare of the Handicapped, Calicut.	For running Rehmania School.		
10.	Prateekha Training Centre, Prateeksha Bhawan, Iduki.	School for M.R.	5.39	
11.	Snehabhawan Charitable Society Centre.	Industrial Training		
12.	Rotary Institute for Children in need of Special Care, Trivandrum.	School for M.R.	4.45	
13.	Santhi Bhawan, Social Centre	For Vocational Trg. Centre.	1.19	
14.	Madonna Charitable Society, Trichur. P.C. Pottee, Chalakudy-680307	School for M.R.	86	2.00
15.	Directorate of Social Action, Palghat Polygerden, Lakkidi Palghat.	For M.R. Building grant.	64	6.02
16.	Cherupashpam Industrial Institute Trivandrum	Vocational Trg. in Tailoring & Book binding.	1.95	

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
17.	Kottayam Social Service Society, Kottayam, S.H. Mount Kottayam.686006 Kerala.	For running St. Thomas School	21	-
18.	Karthika Nair Smarak Samiti, Bombay Nair Mahal S.B. Marg.	Rehabilitation Centre	92	0.71
19.	Social Welfare Centre, Trichur. VII/61 Trichur-680005	School for M.R. Building grant.	5.93	
20.	Raksha Society for Care of Children with Multiple Handicap. Cochin XXIV/499 Marras Road, Cochin.	Day Care Centre for M.R.	69	2.29
21.	Ashakiran Association for M.R. Persons. Amalafurs Calicut, Kerala.	For M.R.	59	1.34
22.	Santha Nursery Technical Training Institute, Ernakulam.	Institute for P.H.	-	
23.	Association for Welfare of Handicapped. Institute for O.H.	Printing & Technology	0.20	
24.	St. Carmilus Training Centre, Calicut.	For M.R.	-	
25.	Calicut Islamic Cultural Society, Kozhikode.	for M.R.	60	1.61

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
26.	Fr. Jegga Institute for M.R. Wayanad, Kerala.	for M.R.	32	-
27.	All Kerala Association for M.R. Children Cochin, Thiruvananthapuram-695014	for M.R.	120	2.68
28.	Scandana Adwaitha Ashram, Kuranmadag			0.64
29.	Pratedcsha Trg. Centre Innalakuda, Kerala Christ Nagar.			3.19
30.	Asha Nilayamkula Ponkunnam		50	1.07
31.	Faith India Thiruvananthapuram			0.76

KARNATAKA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sri Siddalingeswar Vidya Peetha, Kanamadagu. Kudligi Yaluk, Bellony Distt. 583218	For running Sharana Basaveshwara P.h. Primary School.	130	10.64
2.	Karnataka Federation for the Blind, Hassan.	Placement Services. Braille Library Institutes at Hassan and Chikmagalore.	6.36	
3.	J.S.B. Swamy Blind & Disabled Residential School. Archakrahalli B.H. Road, Devanagar.	For running Institute	108	3.71
4.	Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind, Bangalore. 3rd Cross. 3rd Phase J.P. Nagar, Bangalore. 560084	School cum Vocational Training & Rural Development Centre.	353	18.15
5.	Institute of Speech & Hearing, Bangalore. Hennur Road, Bangalore- 560084.	For maintenance of Institute.	2740	5.63

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects			No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
		1	2	3		
1				4	5	
6.	Ranga Rao Memorial School, Mysore No. 851, E & F Block, J.T. Layout Kuveurpunagar Mysore.			Residential School for blind girls.	38	1.48
7.	National Association for the Blind.			Residential Basic Training Centre. Placement Project.	0.80	
8.	Seva-in-Action, Bangalore.			C.B.R. Project	-	
9.	Uttar Kannada Dist. Disabled. Sirsi.			School for Deaf Children	0.80	
10.	Karnataka Handicapped Welfare Association, Bangalore.			School for Blind	145	5.16
11.	Vishwa Dharma Mahila Mattu Makalla, Hubli, Veerapu Oni, Dhawad Keru.			for O.H. Children	132	579
12.	Bijapur dist. P.H. Welfare, Association, Bijapur, Near Rammandir Road, Galli Bijapur.			Industrial Training Centre	2.07	3.21
13.	Association of the P.H., Bangalore, Mennu Road St. Thomas Town, Bangalore.			For running Shardhanjali Integrated School	205	1.38

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
14.	Honnamma Education Society, Dharwad.	Residential School for for Deaf Children	87	3.35
15.	Angaviklara Ashakiran Trust Chitradurga	For running the Institute	144	4.58
16.	Association for the Mentally Handicapped, Bangalore.	For Multicategory workshop	0.43	
17.	Bapuji Angayaklara Seva Samasta Chitradurga.	School for O.H. School & Hostel for P.H. Children. For Seva Samasta School for O.H.	8.63	
18.	Akila Karnataka Veerashaiva Mahasabha, Bira	School for O.H.	2.66	
19.	Jagjyoti Basawasti Wara Vidya Chitradurga.	School for O.H.	2.66	
20.	Utsavamba Vidya Samsthi, Anjali,	For Residential School for P.H.	3.25	
21.	Sri Renuka Vidya Virbhaka Sangha Sirinduti, Distt. Belgaum Near General Hostrical Soundalti-591126.	For running Institute for M.R. Children	42	1.63

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
22.	Jamkhara Jayadguru Vidya Sanstha.	For running Institute for O.H. Children.	1.04	
23.	Karnataka Louis Association for the Blind Gulbarga. NWS/53 3rd Phase Adarsh Nagar Gulbarg.585105.	Braille Library	80	0.18
24.	Shree Sharana, Anjali	For Institute for O.H.	2.10	
25.	Shathashruniga Vidya Samaste, Robertsonpet.	For running School for Deaf	6.03	
26.	Shree B.R. amsedka Education Anjali Davangere. Chitradurga Distt.	For O.H.	123	5.43
27.	Jai Bharath Educational for Deaf & Demb Kolor Distt. Sriminasapm Kolar Distt.	for Deaf	1.51	
28.	Ajay Welfare Asson. for Rehab. of Disabled. Karnataka.	-do- 1.49		
29.	P.H. Welfare Association, Hassan.	Physically Handicapped	1.46	
30.	P.H. Welf Divine light Trust for the Blind, Bangalore.	for Blind	0.38	

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
31.	Independence Education Society Hosadimga.	for deaf		
32.	Nittur Education Society, Bidar	I.T.O for O.H.	0.67	
33.	Chestire Homes India, Mangalore	Physically Handicapped	7.75	
34.	Shree Vinayak Edu. Society Chitrdurga.	Physically Handicapped	3.03	

MADHYA PRADESH

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M.P. Welfare Association for the Blind, Indore	Placement & Office Management and Computer Courses	30	0.79
2.	Lions Charitable Trust, Bhillai	Building Construction	2.50	
3.	Welfare Association for the Disabled, Indore	Office Management & Placement Sources for 86 O.H. and Computer Training.	2.43	
4.	Asha Gram Trust, Barwan	Construction of building for rehab. of leprosy cured persons	1.50	
5.	Assisi Sewa Samaj, Durg	Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons	25	1.29
6.	Indian Red Cross Society, Betul	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	40	1.35
7.	Indian Red Cross Society, Indore	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	100	2.49
8.	Indian Red Cross Society, Raigarh	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	44	2.16
9.	Digdarshika Institute of Rehab. & Research, Bhopal	Special School for M.H.	30	1.10

MANIPUR

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Centre for Maternal Hygiene, Imphal	Residential School for M.R. and Shattered Workshop	150	4.03
2.	Kangohup Area Tribal Women Society Imphal	Residential School for M.R.	130	4.37

MEGHALAYA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bethany Society, East Garo Hills	School for Blind and Deaf	67	2.66
2.	Ladies and Children Recreation Centre Shillong	School for M.R.	50	0.32

RAJASTHAN

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Badhir Bal Kalyan Vikas Samiti Bhihwara	Residential School for the Deaf	106	5.43
2.	Indian Council for Social	V.T.C. for O.H.	55	4.35
3.	Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded, Jaipur	School for M.R.	40	2.64
4.	L.K.C. Shri Jagdempa Anndh Vidyalyaya, Sriganaganagar	Hostal for the Blind	385	10.08
5.	Jeevan Nirman Sansthan,	Special School for H.H.	30	0.24

UTTAR PRADESH

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)	
				3	5
1.	Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir, Rampur Blind, Leprosy Cured Centre	Residential School for O.H., Deaf &	293	19.22	
2.	National Association for the Blind Allgarh	Training Centre for the Blind	26	1.26	
3.	Allahabad Gram Swasthya Sewa Samiti	C.S.R. for O.H.	58	0.67	
4.	K.L. Shastri Smarak Sansthan, Kanpur	VTC for the Blind	0	1.06	
5.	Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Shankara Sewa Charitable Trust, Hardwar	School for the M.R.	26	-	
6.	Paohari Samiti Parishad, Gazipur	School for the Blind	23	1.85	
7.	Swami Arjanand Andah Vidyalaya Hardwar	Residential School for the Blind	-	6.39	
8.	Chetna, Lucknow	Residential School for M.R.	-	9.65	
9.	Viklang Kendra, Allahabad	School for OH & Cerebral Palsy Children Sheltered Workshop	-	5.22	
10.	Pragnarain Mock Badhir Samiti, Allgarh	School for the Deaf	-	3.51	

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects			No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
		1	2	3		
11.	Sur Smarak Mandal, Agra		Residential School cum VTC for Blind	76	3.91	
12.	Shri Hanuman Poddar Andh Vidyalaya Varanasi		Residential School for the Blind	150	8.47	
13.	Deaf & Dumb School, Azamgarh		Residential School for the Deaf	65	1.62	
14.	N.C. Chaturvedi School for the Deaf, Lucknow.		School for the Deaf	266	3.04	
15.	Shaheed Memorial Society, Lucknow		School cum VTC for OH & MH	166	7.78	
16.	B.C.C. School for the Deaf		VTC and School for the Deaf	227	1.65	
17.	Mangalam, Lucknow		VTC for OH Mobile Unit for OH & Deaf	2680	1.34	
18.	Virindavan Andh Vidyalaya, Mathura		Residential School for the Blind	80	3.73	
19.	Goonge Behron Ka School, Kanpur		Residential School for the Deaf, VTC	373	12.62	
20.	Raphael Hyder Cheshire International Centre, Dehradun		School for M.R. and Deaf	121	2.65	
21.	Deaf & Dumb School, Meerut		Residential School for the Deaf	147	4.25	

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
22.	Nanhi Duniya Badhir Vidyalaya	Residential School for the Deaf	108	11.19
23.	U.P. Deaf & Dumb Instt., Allahabad	Residential School for the Deaf	135	4.05
24.	Akhil Bhartiya Viklang Kendra Samiti Mandal, Faizabad	Residential School for M.R. & Deaf	297	13.69
25.	Saraswati Badni Sewa Samiti, Lucknow	Residential School for the Deaf	20	1.76
26.	National Fellowship Rehab Centre for the Blind, Allahabad	Residential School for the Blind	30	0.74
27.	Handicapped Development Council, Agra	School for M.R.	16	0.48
28.	Jahangir Memorial Charitable Hospital	VTC for Leprosy Cured Persons	-	0.82
29.	Jan Sewa Sanshan, Allahabad	Centre for Leprosy Cured Persons	122	1.68
30.	Abhinay Reportary Theatre & Research Instt., Lucknow		-	3.04
31.	Paryavaran Jan Jagaran Samiti, Almora	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	20	1.61
32.	Kishan Shiksha Sanshan, Hardwar	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	-	2.86
33.	Noor Mohd. Charitable Society, Allahabad	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	-	3.05

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
34.	National Instt. of Social Welfare Faizabad	Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons	-	2.47
35.	Avadh Sansthan, Faizabad	Special School for M.R.	-	3.60
36.	Nimhara Viklang Sansthan, Allahabad	Special School for H.H. & M.H.	-	0.90
37.	Bahujan Hitai Sansthan, Barabanki	Special School for H.R.	90	3.34

DELHI

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Institution for the Blind, PUNCHKUI Road	Residential School for the Blind	151	4.13
2.	National Federation of the Blind,	Braille Press Braille Library Placement Moorily	1300	18.34
3.	Dr. Zakir Hussain Memorial Welfare Society, Jamia Nagar	Blind Guidance Centre for M.R.	247	0.48
4.	Spastics Society of Northern India, Hauz Khas	Training Courses - Sheltered Workshop School for M.R. & Spastics Home Maintenance - C.B.R.	946	18.75
5.	National Association for the Blind R.K Puram	Hostel for Blind Computerised Braille Press	127	9.53
6.	Sanjivini Society for Mental Health Satsang Bihari Marg	Centre for M.R.	25	2.07
7.	All India Confederation of the Blind, Model Town	Shorthand Training Course for Blind	19	2.21
8.	Akshya Prathisthan, New Delhi	School for O.H.	109	2.62

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
9.	Janita Adarsh Anndh Vidyalaya, Sadiq Nagar	Residential School for Blind	74	2.81
10.	Amariyoti Charitable Trust, Karkardooma Delhi - 92	School for O.H. Training Course for Cerebral Plasied & M.R. Hospital Services	2078	10.14
11.	Handicapped Women Welfare Association, Rohini, New Delhi	School for O.H. and Deaf	130	2.38
12.	Tamana New Delhi	School for M.R.	125	5.37
13.	Association for Advancement & Rehab. of Handicapped, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi	School for M.R.	38	2.47
14.	Federation for the Welfare of M.R.	School for M.R.	114	8.13
15.	Eclat Society for the Welfare of M.R., East Patel Nagar, New Delhi	School for M.R.	58	2.07
16.	Association for the Development of Multiple Handicapped, Defence Colony, New Delhi	School for M.R. & Deaf	25	1.01

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
17.	All India Federation of the Deaf Ramakrishna Marg, New Delhi	Hostel Placement Vocational Training Course	377	5.39
18.	Akhil Bhartiya Netraheen Sangh Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi	Residential School for the Blind	50	3.42
19.	Balvantrai Mehta Vidya Bhavan, Green Park, New Delhi	Special School for MH and HH	243	8.03
20.	Delhi Society for Welfare of Mentally Retarded Children Okhla	VTC for Mentally Handicapped	656	5.59
21.	Hind Jusst Nivaran Sangh R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi	Counselling Centre for Persons cured	87	0.93
22.	Prabha Institute of Fine Arts & Crafts for Handicapped persons	School for OH, Deaf and M.R.	101	1.42
23.	National Brotherhood Association for the Blind	School for M.R.		

HARYANA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana Welfare Society for Hearing & Speech Kothi No. 315, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh.	For running Welfare Centre at Sirsa for Deaf & Dumb	45	4.69
2.	Distt. Red Cross Society Ambala	for Running project for partially handicapped	1500	0.82
3.	Indian Red Cross Society Rohtak	For running Home for M.R.	106	6.70
4.	Distt. Red Cross Society, Ambala	Running the Home for M.R. Children	14	0.24
5.	Haryana State Council for Child Welfare, Chandigarh.	For running the Spl. School for M.R.	45	0.20

JAMMU & KASHMIR

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jammu Red Cross Home for Handicapped Jammu P.O. Akalpur Jammu	Maintenance of Home for Handicapped	41	1.70
2.	Rotary Innerwheel Home for the Handicapped Persons Jammu	for running Home for M.R. Children	17	1.78

PUNJAB

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Vocational Rehabilitation Centre Habowal Road, Ludhiana Punjab	For running Educational & Vocational Trg. Centre for Blind	215	1.35
2.	Distt. Red Cross Society Distt. Branch Gurdarpur	For running the School for Deaf	22	0.34
3.	Dr. Satya Paul Khosla Charitable Memorial Trust, Jalandhar	For running School cum Trg. Centre for the Deaf	144	4.23
4.	Punjab IAS Officers Wives Asson. Chandigarh			
5.	Indian Red Cross Society Amritsar	For running Day Schol for MR Children		
6.	Nagjivini School for Special Education	For running Special School for M.R. Children.	1.60	

ORISSA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Matru Seva Sangh Banpur	For Industrial Training for P.H.	60	0.99
2.	Red Cross Society of the Blind Berhampur, Orissa	For Educational/Vocational Trg. School for Blind	92	2.73
3.	Open Learning System, 275-A, Sahid Ng. Bhubaneswar-751007	Vocational Trg. Centre for M.R.	60	6.67
4.	Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh Bhubaneswar.	For running Rehab. Centre for Leprosy Cured Persons		
5.	Distt. Orthopaedically Handicapped Association, Sambalpur.	Running the vocational trg. Centre for O.H. Women	25	0.58

CHANDIGARH

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Indian Council for Child Welfare Chandigarh Bal Bhavan, U.T. Branch, Sector 23-B Chandigarh	For running Rehab. Centre for Handicapped	516	0.95
2.	Society for the Care of the Blind	For running Educational and Vocational Training Institute for Blind	48	0.21

SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS

WEST BENGAL

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential D-1/4/1, CIT Sehore, VIII-M VIP Road, Calcutta-88		800 (MH)	45.77
2.	Bikash Bharati Welfare Society, 20-1/B, Lal Bazar Street, Calcutta - 1		3100 (OH)	9.21
3.	Manovikas Kendra Rehab. & Research Institute for the Handicapped, 6, Short Street, Calcutta.		600 (MH)	18.19
4.	North Calcutta Pratibandhi Seva Kendra, 63/1, Paikpara, 1st Road, Calcutta-37		100 (HH)	1.19
5.	Indian Institute of Human Welfare, BF-240, Salt Lake City, Calcutta-64.		40 (MH)	0.88

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
6.	Jaipalguri Welfare Society New Jaipalguri.	-	40 (spastics)	1.52
7.	Society for Mental Health Care, Calcutta.	-	50 (MH)	1.50
8.	Dr. Sailendra Nath Mukherjee Muka Badhir Vidyalaya, Burdwan, Chandni More G.T. Road, Burdwan.	-	200 (MH + OH + HH)	16.10
9.	R.K. Mission Ashram, Narendrapur	-	300 (VH)	9.24
10.	SHIRC No. 406, 10 Mandeville Gardens Calcutta, West Bengal.	-	197 (HH)	6.32
11.	Bharat Scouts & Guides Calcutta, West Bengal.	-	40	0.44
12.	Sri Sri Ramakrishna Satyananda Education & Charity Trust, Birbhum P.O. Rampurhat	-	33 (VH)	3.42

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Pratibandhi Kalyan Kendra, Hooghly, Abinash Mukherjee Road, Hooghly.	-	30 (CPMR)	0.90
14.	Prabartak Sangha 82/3, Benin Behary Ganguly Street Calcutta. 12	-	523 (MH + OH + OH + Spastic)	13.79
15.	REACH 18/2 Uday Sankar Sarani Golf Green, Calcutta.	-	1100 (Spastics)	13.79
16.	Spastics Society of Northern India P-35/1 Taratolla Road, Calcutta.	-	40 (VH)	0.32
17.	Karimpur Social Welfare Society P.O. Karimpur	-	77 (all)	0.33
18.	HOPE, Durgapur except VH)	-	.	3.25
19.	Prabartak Instt. for M.R.	-	.	3.25

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
20.	Ananda Bhawan Vill. Jagatpur P.O. Brindabanpur	-	110 (VH + OH + HH)	6.22
21.	South Sunderbans Edu. & Cultural Institute, Baradapur	-	60 (HH + MH)	0.98
22.	Ramakrishna Mission Seva Pratishthan, Calcutta.	-	300 (HH)	0.43

MAHARASHTRA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Vijay Merchant Rehab. Centre for the Disabled Mahat Pen Building, Bombay.	-	-	1.49
2.	Research Society for the Care, Treatment and Trg. of Children Sewri Hills, Seeri Road Bombay.	-	100 (MH)	3.73
3.	National Association for the Blind, 11, Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan Road, Worli Seaface, Bombay.	-	800 (VH)	23.15
4.	Shree Trust "Gurukripa", Jivadani Road, Virar.	-	150 (MH + HH)	10.75
5.	Society for Spl. Education for the Deaf, Bombay.	-	100 (HH + VH)	2.25
6.	Janahibai Shikshan Sanstha Dadar, Bombay.	-	30 (HH)	1.49

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
7.	Suhrud Mandal, 805 "Shruti", Bhandarkar Road Pune. 4	-	550	2.48
8.	Indian Cancer Society, Bombay	-	40	0.74
9.	KEM Hospital	-	-	5.76
10.	Society for the Education of the Crippled, Bombay.	-	-	1.07
11.	Society for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped, Pune	-	-	3.50
12.	Society for the Vocational Rehab. of the MR, Bombay.	-	-	0.27
13.	Rashtra Sant Tukadoji Maharaj Technical Education Society	-	-	4.75
14.	NSD Industrial Home for the Blind, Bombay.	-	-	2.20
15.	Vidya Bhuvan Edu. Society, Parbhani	-	-	2.00

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
16.	NASECH, Bombay	-	-	0.95
17.	Apang Kalyan & Punarvasan Sanstha, Buldana	-	-	2.00
18.	Indian Cancer Society, Bombay	-	-	0.76
19.	Society for Education	-	-	0.66
20.	Metru Seva Sangh, Nagpur.	-	-	2.86
21.	Thane Zila Stree Shakti, Thane	-	-	1.50
22.	PRIDE India, Bombay	-	-	2.47
23.	Fellowship of the Physically Handicapped	-	-	0.33
24.	Lion Deaf & Dumb & Physically Handicapped School, Kopangaon	-	-	0.50
25.	Shri Sidheshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Parbhani.	-	-	2.00

TRIPURA

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	North Tripura Deaf & Dumb School Kailashahar	40	2.48	
2.	All Tripura SC/ST Asson. Tripura	60	0.63	

TAMIL NADU

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Guid of Service (Central Seva Samagam) 28, Casa Major Road, Egmore, Madras.	Home for the Handicapped	87	3.96
2.	Pathway - Dr. Dattu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust, No. 32/38, Canal Bank Road, Kamraj Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Madras.	School for Mentally Handicapped	-	0.99
3.	Satya Jyothi Little Flower School for the Blind, 127, G.N. Roa, Madras.	Rehab cum Training Centre for M.H.	166	1.16
4.	Hellen Keller Services Society for the Blind, Vizhiagagan, Madurai.	VTC for Blind	120	3.23
5.	Anbagam Special School for the Deaf Mayiladuthurai	School for Hearing Handicapped	-	1.40
6.	School for the Young Deaf (Bala Vidyalyaya) Madras 278, D. Nowbrays Road, Madras. 18	School for Hearing Handicapped	166	2.53
7.	Cheshire Home India 28, Casa Major Road, Egmore Madras.	Home for Physically Handicapped	82	3.04

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Indian Association for the Blind No. 17, Dr. Thangaraj Road, Madurai. 20	Integrated Education for Blind	175	6.85
9.	Anbagam Institute for Mentally Handicapped Race Course Road, Madurai. 2	Institute for M.H. Residential/Custodial Care	20	0.56
10.	Andhra Mahila Sabha, 10, Dr. Durgabhai Deshmukh Road, Madras. 28	Centre for O.H. Physiotherapy Aid Courses VTC for O.H.	792	6.71
11.	Indian Council for Child Welfare Madras	Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped Guidance & Counselling Programme	0.05	
12.	Sudar School for M.R. Children Servai Nagar, Manojipathi Thanjavur.4	Home for M.H. Children	1.00	
13.	Social Service Centre, Madurai	VTC & Other services for handicapped girls	0.88	
14.	Bishop Deehl Home for Blind Tiruchy.	Home for Blind	2.95	
15.	Karthika Public Educational & Charitable Trust, Thurangambadi Road 1	Home for M.R. Children	250	1.18

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
16.	Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu Opp. TTTI, Taramani Road Madras. 13	VTC - Special Education for Spastics Teachers Trg. Course	6.52	
17.	Christian Foundation for the Blind 2, Officers Line, C.S.T. Road, Padavaram, Madras. 93	Education & Trg. for the Blind & Braille Press	2000	2.90
18.	Indian Red Cross Society Red Cross Bldg., 50 Mantioth Road, Egmore, Madras.	VTC for Handicapped Placement Services	65	0.22
19.	Immaculate Heart of Mary, Dindigul (little Flower Convent Hr. Sec. School) 127, G.N. Road, Madras. 6	School for Deaf	60	1.14
20.	St. Annex Rehab Centre, Sigganallur, Coimbatore-641005	Centre for M.H.	150	0.94
21.	All India Blind Progressive Association, No. 37, Pillayar Koil Street, West Jaffarkhan Pet, Madras. 95.	Vocational Centre for Blind	40	1.30

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
22.	Samaritan Association 46/3, ammenture Dharampuri Road, Bonimidi-635301	Running the VTC Centre	40	0.75
23.	Bishop Sargent School for M.R. Palayamkottai.	School for the M.R.	0.20	
24.	Vidya Vikaram Opportunity School, Coimbatore.	0.78		
25.	Erode Arima Society, Sougodampalayam, Thindal (P.O.) Erode	Transition School Centre for M.R.	0.62	
26.	Chashire Homes India Madurai-2	Home for Physically Handicapped	34	0.30
27.	Amar Seva Sangh, Ayikundy 7-4-104 B, Tenkari Road Ayikundy-627852	Home for Handicapped	25	3.47
28.	Lutheran School Home for the Deaf, & Deaf Blind, Vellore	School/Home for the Deaf & Deaf Blind	85	1.23
29.	Rathnavel Subramaniam Educational Coimbatore.	School for Polio Affected/O.H.	50	0.40

S.No.	Name/Address of Organisation	Projects	No. of beneficiaries	Grant released during 93-94 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
30.	St. Louis Institute for the Deaf and Blind Association, Madras.	Institute for Deaf/Blind	640	6.70
31.	Dr. M.G.R. School for Speech & Hearing Impaired, MGR Garden Ramavaram, Madras-89	School for Deaf & Dumb	100	0.33
32.	I.E.L.C. School for the Blind Gandhi Nagar East, Vellore-6	School for Blind	138	3.82
33.	Navjyothi Trust A-916 Poonamalli High Road Madras - 84	VTC for M.P.	22	0.88

Raids by Delhi Police

7424. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has sought clarifications from the Delhi Police Commissioner about the circumstance which led a Delhi Police party to carry out raids in the houses of two Nepalese citizens in Kathmandu during the last week of March, 1994;

(b) whether the Delhi Police had taken prior permission from the Union Government in this regard;

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

(d) whether the Government of Nepal has lodged a strong protest with the Union Government against the raid;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether his Ministry has issued some fresh guidelines to the State Governments in this regard so that such incidents do not occur in future;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken against the erring police officials?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) From information available with the Government of India, it would appear that prima facie a small party of police personnel

from India exceeded their orders and authority and pursued certain wanted persons into Nepal.

(d) and (e). The matter was raised with the Government of India by HMGN formally on March 29th, 1994.

(f) and (g) Government of India have already issued instructions to the concerned agencies to follow scrupulously and adhere to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Nepal and respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of Nepal.

(h) All the police officials have been placed under suspension and departmental proceedings initiated against them.

Expansion Scheme

7425. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum and Indian Oil Corporation have any expansion scheme for Gujarat ;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) I. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has the following proposals for expansion in the State of Gujarat.

(1) Marketing terminal at Sikka

It envisages construction of a Marketing terminal at Sikka and laying of a petroleum products pipeline for transportation of MS, SKO and J HSD from Sikks to Kandla (Gujarat), with an estimated cost of Rs.

(2) Crude Oil terminal at Vadinar

A Crude oil terminal for the joint venture company Bharat Oman Refinery limited - for receipt and onward despatch of crude through Cross country pipeline to the Refinery site at Bine (MP), is proposed to be

(3) Additional Product Tankages

Additional Product Tankages (APT) for petroleum products have been planned under APT 1989-90 & APT 1996-97 for the following locations in Gujarat :

<i>Location</i>	<i>Tankage (KL)</i>	<i>Estimated cost (Rs. Lakhs)</i>	<i>Expected Year of Commissioning</i>
APT 1989-90			
(i) Koyali	40,000	1,850	June 1994
(ii) Hazira	17,000	1,275	March 1995
APT 1996-97			
(i) Sidhpur	6,000	600	March 1996
(ii) Sabarmati	5,000	500	March 1996
(iii) Okha	10,000	750	March 1996

II. Indian Oil Corporation has the following proposals for expansion in Gujarat :-

(1) Pipeline Tap off points (Terminals) on Kandla - Bhatinda Product Pipeline :-

As part of Kandla - Bhatinda Product Pipeline Project the construction of two Tap off Points (TOP) viz Kandla TOP and Sidhpur TOP are in progress.

(2) New terminal at Hazira

A new oil storage terminal and distribution facilities with a tankage of

50,000 KL at a cost of Rs. 41 crores is being set up.

(3) New Marketing terminal at Koyali

The project envisages development of 50,000 KL tankage alongwith TT loading facilities. Project is estimated to cost Rs. 45 crores.

(4) Benzene handling facility at Okha :-

It is proposed to handle benzene demand of plants like GSFC, Baroda. The estimated cost of project Rs. 35 crores.

(5) LPG Import Facilities at Kandla

An LPG import facility is being set up to handle imports of about 600 TMTPA at an anticipated cost of Rs. 160 crores.

(6) LPG Bottling Plant at Ahmedabad

A 66 TMTPA bottling plant is under construction at a cost of Rs. 37.39 crores.

(7) LPG Bottling Plant, Bhavnagar

It is proposed to put up a bottling plant of 44 TMTPA capacity at an estimated cost of Rs. 36 crores.

(8) LOBS import facility at Kandla

The project envisages dockline, tank wagon loading facility and 60 TMT LOBS Storage at an estimated cost of Rs. 40 crores.

(9) For the augmentation of refinery capacity of Gujarat Refinery, a 3.0 MMTPA Crude Distillation Unit (CDU) alongwith re-vamp of Feed Preparation Unit (FPU) and Fluidised Catalytic Cracking Unit (FCCU) and connected offsite and utility facilities have been envisaged. A scheme to further augment the capacity of Salaya - Viramgam section to 20 NMTPA by providing additional facilities is also envisaged.

Body Scan Machines

7426. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a scheme to finance purchase of body scan machines for State Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether World Health Organisation has agreed to finance such purchase of body scan machines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :
(a) No, Sir.

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

Pipeline From Oman

7427. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oman Oil Company which plans to build a five billion dollar pipeline to transport natural gas has served an ultimatum to the Government saying that it will commit supplies to other countries if the decision on its project is delayed;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereof;

(c) the reasons for the delay in taking a final decision; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The terms and conditions for the import of gas from Oman are being discussed with the Oman Oil Company.

Custody of Militants

7428. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the decisions taken about the custody or otherwise of the militants who surrendered with the resolution of the Hazratbal imbroglio;

(b) the number of such militants who have been released; and

(c) the number of those who have been sentenced/imprisoned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). As per information available, 62 persons came out of the Hazrat Bal Shrine and surrendered before the security forces on 16.11.93. 35 persons who were found to be innocent pilgrims were released on 18.11.93 after screening. Action as per the law was initiated against the remaining persons. Two persons were convicted and awarded punishment by the Court for the period they had remained in custody. The others are on bail in pursuance of orders of the competent Court.

Reproductive Techniques

7429. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Scientists' Session on 'New Reproductive Techniques: Boon or Bane?' was held in Jaipur recently;

(b) if so, the main observations and suggestions made therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government

thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As informed by the organisers, the misuses of prenatal sex determination tests and female foeticide was discussed during one of the sessions. It was stressed that in view of the advantages offered by prenatal diagnostic tests, certain regulating, social and legislative measures need to be initiated instead of banning these tests.

(c) A Bill titled "Prenatal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation & Prevention of misuse)" was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 12.9.1991 and was referred to a Joint Committee. The Bill as reported on by the Joint Committee has been introduced in the House and may be taken up for consideration during this session.

Publication of Islamic Encyclopaedia

7430. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the publication of an Islamic Encyclopaedia by some publishing company in Kerala with highly objectionable drawings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). The Govern-

ment are aware that an Islamic Encyclopaedia in Malayalam (Islam Vignhana Kosham) has been published by Kozhikode based publishing company wherein Kashmir has been shown as a region where muslims are in majority, comprising over 50% of the population. The State Government of Kerala has been advised to take appropriate action against the publisher of this Encyclopaedia which contains several other objectionable observations.

Autonomous District Councils in Assam

7431. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3448 on December 23, 1993 regarding Autonomous District Councils in Assam and state :

(a) whether the Union Government have examined the proposal of the Government of Assam for amendments to the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution, giving more powers to the Autonomous District Councils of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills Districts of the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). Some information and clarifications in this regard were sought from the Government of Assam which have since been received. Before any decision, it is necessary to have the matter examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries of the Government of India. Accordingly it has been circulated to the concerned Ministries of Government of India for their comments.

Crude Oil Production

7432. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has a proposal to boost crude oil output in South-Eastern and Southern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked for implementing the proposal?

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

(b) The crude oil production from this area which stood at 0.537 million tonnes during 1993-94 is planned to be increased to 0.681 million tonnes during 1994-95.

(c) ONGC have earmarked an outlay of about Rs. 515 crores for the Southern Region for the current year towards surveys, drilling and capital acquisition.

Moolchand Committee Report

7433. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Moolchand Committee was appointed by ONGC to suggest ways and means for filling up of backlog posts of SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) whether on 11.12.91 the All India

ONGC management and SC/ST Employees Welfare Associations had decide to implement Moolchand Committee Report in toto within three months time;

(d) if so, whether the said decision has been implemented in toto;

(e) the number of backlog posts which have since been filled up (from E-2 to E-7 level) and the number of posts remain unfilled (from E-2 to E-7 level) category wise; and

(f) the time by which the unfilled posts are likely to be filled up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table

of the House.

Fencing on Indo-Bangladesh Border

7434. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of fencing on the Indo-Bangladesh border completed and the expenditure incurred as on March 31, 1994, sector-wise; and

(b) the initial estimated cost as well as the revised estimated cost of the whole project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Length of fencing completed indifferent sectors and the expenditure incurred as on 31st March, 1994 is as follows:-

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Fencing completed (in kms)</i>	<i>Expenditure incurred (Rs. in crores)</i>
Assam	104	11.30
Meghalaya	140	19.56
West Bengal	5	16.98

(b) The initial cost of the whole project for 337 kms fencing was estimated at Rs. 11.53 crores. The revised project is for a total 896 kms of fencing in the States of Assam, Meghalaya and West Bengal at an estimated revised cost of Rs. 128.03 crores.

Properties Left Behind by Migrants

7435. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AF-

FAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1993, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir called for details of the movable and immovable properties left behind by the migrants who had to leave the valley due to terrorist activities and take shelter in Jammu and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the migrant families

were required to fill in the forms, the format of which was devised by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) the number of migrant families who furnished the details of their movable and immovable properties left behind by them in the valley;

(d) the value of the properties left behind as given out by the migrants; and

(e) the main purpose of calling for the details of the movable and immovable properties left behind by the migrant families?

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

(c) As per information received from the State Government, about 32,000 migrant families have furnished details of their movable and immovable properties left behind in the Valley.

(d) and (e). There had been complaints from some migrants of misuse of their property left behind in the Valley, manipulation of relevant records etc. The aim behind calling for this information was to enable a proper verification of and account of the properties, provision of security against misappropriation/manipulation by anti social elements, and assistance in speedy disposal of relief claim in cases of damage to property in terrorist violence.

[*Translation*]

ISI Activities

7436. SHRI SURENDRA PAL
PATHAK :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :
DR. SAKSHIJI :

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to issue a White Paper on the increasing activities of the Pak intelligence agency ISI in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which the Government are likely to announce their decision in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate a joint action plan after taking all the political parties into confidence in order to solve this matter;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f). Government is aware of the designs of ISI of Pakistan to carry out espionage, subversion and sabotage in India in a clandestine manner and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood lighting in vulnerable stretches of the Indo-Pak border. Appropriate instructions have also been issued to the Navy,

Coast-Guards and Customs for carrying out intensive patrolling in the high seas as well as along the coastline. The outcome of these efforts is being regularly monitored.

[*Translation*]

ISI Activities in Gujarat

7437. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan has been recruiting some youths from several cities of Gujarat and sending them to Pakistan to impart training in terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to frustrate this scheme of ISI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). Though, no specific instance of Pak ISI recruiting youth from several cities of Gujarat and sending them to Pakistan has come to the notice of the Government, Government is aware of the Pak ISI's design to destabilise India's internal security. The Central and State security agencies have been sensitised about Pak ISI's activities in the border States.

[*English*]

Ban of NIV Drugs

7438. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the purchases of NIV proprietary drugs are banned by the Direc-

torate General of Health Services since 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons for purchases of these drugs by the Government Medical Stores depot annually to the tune of Rs. 30 crores; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to stop these purchases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Purchase of NIV (Not in Vocabulary) drugs is not totally banned. They are purchased for meeting the requirements of Central Government Health Scheme and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

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

Sardar Sarovar Project

7439. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey report on the Sardar Sarovar Project states that the level of submergence by dam water would be far higher than the proposed dam height of 455 feet;

(b) whether the report says that the submergence level would be as high as 494 feet because of the back up effect of water, once the dam is completed;

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

(d) whether the Maheshwar power generation plant, which stands nearby is in danger of being submerged; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c). Although the Government have not come across any such survey report on Sardar Sarovar Project, the level of submergence will be higher than 455 feet during flood period and the recent studies on backwater effect indicate that backwater level will vary from 455 feet at dam site to 532.64 feet at about 222 kilometres upstream of dam for 1 in 100 year flood.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Medicines

7440. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the CGHS has stopped the supply of medicines to its Ayurvedic dispensaries particularly dispensaries situated at South Avenue and North Avenue in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The supply of medicines has not been stopped.

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

[*English*]

Malaria

7441. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidence of Malaria/Brain fever has increased in the recent months in Delhi due to antipathy to control it;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether even after repeated complaints made to the authorities no steps are being taken to control/prevent its occurrences in the primary stages ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Prevention and Control of malaria/brain fever in Delhi is mainly undertaken by the local bodies like MCD and NDMC through the following measures :

(i) Recurrent anti-larval measures.

(ii) Bio-environmental control methods including use of larvivorous fish.

(iii) Reduction of malarigenic sources through engineering solutions aimed at proper water disposal etc.

(iv) Early detection and prompt

- (v) Spray of residual insecticide in rural areas, labour huts in project areas and in jhuggi jhopri clusters.
- (vi) Spray of Pyrethrum in and around houses of malaria positive cases.

Ban on Ragging

7442. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take initiative for banning ragging by amending the relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). The Indian Penal Code contains adequate provisions to deal with any situation resulting in wrongful restraints, assaults, causing hurt etc. There is no proposal under consideration to amend the Indian Penal Code or the Code of Criminal Procedure to deal exclusively with the problem of ragging.

Government has drawn the attention of Vice-Chancellors of all universities, Directors of IITs, Principals of Regional Engineering Colleges and Education Secretaries of all States/Union Territories to incidents of ragging and requested them to take immediate steps to put an end to ragging and to provide new students conditions in which they feel welcome and comfortable. Delhi University has passed an Ordinance strictly

prohibiting ragging within the premises of all colleges and Departments of University as well as on public transport. Similar steps can be taken by other universities where the practice of ragging prevails. As the practice of ragging is reprehensible, it is for the universities and college authorities and the students themselves to ensure that ragging does not take place.

Anti-Cancer Drug

7443. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of the anti-cancer Iscador drug is not being permitted;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the studies conducted by the Central Council of Research Institute in Homoeopathy, New Delhi showed positive results with Iscador drug along with other homoeopathic medicines;

(d) if so, whether the Council has written to the Ministry to allow the import of the said drug; and

(e) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (e) Hospitals and Registered Medical Practitioners can import the drug Iscador for use by them. Patients can import on prescription by Registered Medical Practitioners. The Central Council of Research in Homoeopathy has reported beneficial result of this drug used in combination with other drugs and recommended exemption of customs duty. However, no request has been received by the Drug Controller (India) with protocols for

toxicological and clinical studies on this drug for the purpose of commercial marketing.

Litigation Cases

7444. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases under litigation with IOC/HPC in respect of their dealers and the total amount spent during the last three years by each of these companies; and

(b) whether it is proposed to decide such cases on the basis of judgement given by any Civil Court on any of these cases so as to reduce the pendency of cases in the Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) During the last five years IOC and HPC were involved in 901 Court Cases with their dealers, incurring an expenditure of Rs. 45.36 Lakhs.

(b) Dealership Agreements of Oil Companies with their dealers provide for settlement of disputes through arbitration. Accordingly, oil companies settle most of the disputes with their dealers through arbitration.

National Symposium on Trauma

7445. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a national symposium on trauma, anaesthesia and critical care was held in New Delhi in Mid-February this year;

(b) if so, the main suggestions and

observations made therein; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main suggestions and observations made are related to changes in para-medical, undergraduate and post-graduate medical curricula, upgradation of existing emergency care services and pre-hospital management of accident victims and improving awareness for prevention of trauma.

(c) Steps have already been taken by the Government for strengthening the Trauma Care System in Delhi and implementation of Centralised Accident and Trauma Services (CATS).

Rushikulaya Irrigation Project

7446. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rushikulaya irrigation project in Orissa has been included in the Eighth Five Year Plan under the Command Areas Development Programme;

(b) if so, the irrigation potential thereof;

(c) the fund allocated for that project during Eighth Plan period; and

(d) the present status of the project ?

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

(b) to (d). The irrigation potential of Rushikulaya Irrigation project in Orissa is about 66,000 hectares. It was approved by the Inter-Ministerial Sanctioning Committee for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme subject to submission and approval of Command Area Development Project Report and cost estimates. The Project Report was received and examined in the Ministry and the comments have been communicated to the State Government in April, 1993.

Coal India Limited

7447. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Council of Power Utilities (CPU) has complained against Coal India Limited (CIL) unilateral decision on its supplies to power utilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). The hon'ble member is perhaps referring to the decision taken by Government regarding venue of joint sampling of coal supplied to thermal power stations. The council of power utilities (CPU) has been representing to Government that joint sampling of coal should be carried out at the power house end.

The matter regarding venue of joint sampling of coal was discussed in several meetings. Finally the Standing Committee of Secretaries in their meeting held on 15.10.1991 decided that all quality inspection should be done at the colliery end

before despatch and not at the consumer end after despatch. Further an independent Third Party Inspection Agency for quality assurance for coal should be established preferably through the Coal Controller's Organisation on a self financing basis. In accordance with this decision Coal India Limited have shifted the sampling to the loading end.

(c) Coal Companies are responsible for supply of correct quality and quantity of coal at the pit-heads. This is also the point where the property in coal is transferred to the consumers/buyers. The quality and quantity of coal supplies have to be verified by the consumers at the point where he or his agent takes possession and any discrepancy regarding weight and quality has to be sorted out on that basis. The legal responsibility of seller supplier ceases as soon as the property is transferred as aforesaid. This is also the position under Sales of Goods Act, 1930.

Natural Gas for Power Projects

7448. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to allocate natural gas for the power projects in Gujarat;

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

(c) the quantity of gas allocated to Gujarat for Power Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The Government have received requests for the allocation of

gas for power projects at Utaran, Wanakbori, Pipavav, Gandhinagar, Sinor etc.

(c) 7.55 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to power projects in Gujarat.

12. 00 hrs.

Re: Use of Indian Languages as Medium of Examinations in UPSC

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I rise to raise an important matter.

The Government has been openly violating the Resolutions passed by Parliament. Even the Directives issued by the President are not being implemented. On 13 December, 1993, when my friend Shri Sharad Yadav raised the question of using Indian languages as medium of UPSC examinations, you had intervened and said that:-

[English]

"Both the Houses have passed the Resolution; it means that the entire Parliament has passed the Resolution."

[Translation]

and you had also desired that this should be implemented.

Shri Vidyacharan Shukla was also speaking on that day. He had also assured that it would be implemented. I would also like to quote him:-

[English]

" There are Resolutions of

both the Houses of Parliament, which have been accepted by the Government. There is a Presidential Directive also on this matter."

[Translation]

He had further said that he would convene a meeting of the leaders of various parties and take a decision in the matter. This issue has been lingering on for years. Why should not Indian languages be used as medium in U.P.S.C. examinations? Can we not teach medicine, engineering etc. through Indian languages? Can proper evaluation of the examinations conducted in Indian languages be made? If the Government needed time for preparations for this, how much time does it need at the maximum?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that this matter may be taken up seriously because with this, the question of making English compulsory is also linked. Some people may say that use of English is necessary in our country but there is a difference between necessity and compulsion. Today, on account of non-acceptance of Indian languages as medium of all examinations, a number of talented youth are frustrated. There are many youth who are being denied participation in the administration only because they do not possess good knowledge of English.

On the one hand, we have been trying for participation of backward classes in administration but on the other hand, English is becoming an obstacle in these efforts. I am not against use of English. The people who want to study English, can do so. Even the Government has accepted it to be used as a link language but it is not justified to make its use compulsory. This was not

even the intention of the framers of the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request your intervention in the matter and seek a clear-cut reply from the Government.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow one or two Members to speak.

(Interruptions)

Mr. SPEAKER: Very briefly you can mention, please.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while raising this issue during Zero Hour, I have also given notices of Calling Attention Motion and Adjournment Motion.....

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Paswanji, until I allow you, these matters should not be mentioned here.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, I have just brought it to your notice. I am not saying that you have no right. It is your discretion whether you allow or not.

Sir, this is such a serious issue that I think, it is for the first time after independence that a former President of India has also sat on 'Dhama'. I do not remember if any other former President of India had ever sat on dhama. Our former Prime Ministers have been joining such dhamas in the past, but it is for the first time that the former President of India, Giani Zail Singh, Shri V.P. Singh, Shri Devi Lal and all other friends sat on dhama together. It is also for the first time that leaders of all parties, by breaking party barriers, supported this stand unitedly.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Very brief, please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, you are realising the seriousness of this matter but the Government is not taking it seriously. Through you, I would like to explain the position to the Government so that it could understand the seriousness of the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Other Members also will have to speak.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, this matter is a very serious one and I think, it should go in the Guinness Book of World Records. This dhama started in 1988 and for the last six years, these youth have been sitting on dhama there. It lowers the dignity of the House if a visitor tries to jump from the visitors' gallery on the issue of using Indian languages. India is an independent country.....

MR. SPEAKER: There are other Members also who would like to speak on this issue. That is why I am allowing Hon. Members to make brief speeches.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Ours is an independent country but it looks ridiculous when an agitation is launched for use of our own language in our own country. A resolution was passed in Parliament twice and even the President of India has issued orders twice. I think this type of biased action is a matter of shame for the Government too. It is a case of contempt of the House because the House had passed the Resolution twice. Shri Vidyacharan Shukla is sitting here. He had also given a categorical assurance last time. Sir, today we all, through you, want a clear-cut reply from the Government as to how long Indian languages will continue to be ignored and English will continue to be the medium of examinations? I would, once again, like to ask the Government, whether the practice of making English compulsory will be done

away with or not?

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sought your permission to speak, number one, as a representative of the State of Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER : On this topic?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Just on this particular topic.

I want to stress the reason why I have asked your permission to speak, one, as a representative of Tamil Nadu, Second, as perhaps the only representative of Tamil Nadu since 1947 who, in this House, normally speaks in Hindi and , third, as somebody who has passed a UPSC exam. and served in the Indian Foreign Service for 26 years before seeking voluntary retirement. In all these three capacities, I wish to remind the Leader of the Opposition and others who have spoken or wish to speak that it was decided back in 1950 that we would do away with the English language within 15 years. And the consequence arising at the point where that decision was going to be implemented was that my State of Tamil Nadu, then known as Madras, almost seceded from the Indian Union. It is a matter of very grave importance to the integrity of our country that we do not say things in this House or take actions which affect the integrity of this country.

And why does the question of having a compulsory English paper in the UPSC exam affect the integrity of this country? No officer of any Class I service or Class II service of the Central Government can be confirmed in his job until he has passed

compulsorily a Hindi examination. I could not have been confirmed in the Foreign Service until I had passed, one, an accounts examination and , number two, a Hindi paper. Therefore, it follows that nobody in India, whether he is from Tamil Nadu or any other part of this country, can serve the Government of India in Class I or Class II services without a compulsory minimum knowledge of Hindi.

Now if you put a situation in which officers have to know Hindi but do not have to know English, then, it means that you are converting Hindi from not only being the national language of India but also into being the sole link language....* [Interruptions]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): He is a spokesman of the Congress (I)

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): This is objectionable. (Interruptions) Then , he was the President. [Interruptions] He cannot make an aspersion when he was the President.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Last part of Mr. Aiyar's speech will not form part of the record. You may proceed Mr. Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I was saying that if you deal with this problem without realising its full implications, I for my part have no doubt at all that you are going to set on fire a State where this fire has been very largely lowered after an effort of close on 30 years.

I do not think it is possible in a multilingual country to be able to run the administration, especially of Central Government or the Central Governmental institutions, without there being the possibility of whatever is written on file being understood by all officers irrespective of their mother tongues. If we have a situation in which English is not a compulsory paper, the result will be that a Under Secretary will write his note in Oriya. A Deputy Secretary might write in Tamil . A Joint Secretary might write in Hindi and a Secretary might wish to look at it in Marathi. In a multilingual State the only way of resolving this linguistic tangle will be to be able to have a language which all four of them can understand.

If you compulsorily have to pass a Hindi examination before you get confirmed in service, then the only link language will be Hindi. I have no objection and I do not think anybody in Tamil Nadu has any objection to Hindi being the National Language and being a language which is commonly used in our administration. But, if it is made exclusively a link language and if as a result of that a Class I or Class II Officer does not need to know the English language, you are compulsorily forcing Hindi upon parts of this country. We are not willing to accept such Hindi imperialism or Hindi chauvinism or Hindi colonialism. [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt. He is making good points.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, Members on the other side say that English is not an Indian language. English has been part and parcel of the linguistic heritage of this country for close on 200 years. It might have been brought in the first instance into

this country by people who invaded this country. But, in our history from the Aryans till now this has been there. English is the language of Meghalaya. English is the language of Mizoram. English is the language of Nagaland. And, I see no reason at all why we should by implication be suggesting that the Mizos or the Nagas or the Meghalayans are any less Indians than the Hindi-bhashies.

Therefore, Sir, I very very strongly object to any suggestion that English should not be a compulsory paper in UPSC Examination. Thank you, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Saifuddin Choudhury, but you should be very brief.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Sir, I may also be given that much of time which he has taken.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not keep on interfering always.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: He is talking of dividing the country.....
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record. *

(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: You will sit down now. You have no right to comment on what I am saying.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: We are also citizens of this country. You should allow me also to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have a right to ask for it.

[Translation]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): It would have been better, if I could speak in Bengali. But I could not give prior notice for that. Now I am speaking in Hindi. We have been supporting this demand because they have been fighting for the recognition of Indian languages in UPSC examinations. We are fighting for the dignity of all Indian languages. We never said that only Hindi should be the link language.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh):
**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Nitish Kumar, will you please withdraw those words?

[Interruptions]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): I am prepared to face any consequences but I am not going to withdraw. [Interruptions] I am prepared to face anything. [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unbecoming of Mr. Nitish Kumar to have used those words in this fashion. They will not form part of the record and I will ask him not to behave in this fashion in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: We are supporting this movement because their demand is not to make 'Hindi' the link language for the whole country or to abolish English. Had it been so we would not have supported the movement. But Resolution regarding permitting candidates to take UPSC examinations in all the Indian languages had been passed a long back by both the Houses of Parliament. We are only supporting the issue regarding implementation of this Resolution. There is nothing to be agitated about it and none should feel hurt by it.

(Interruptions)

I am saying so to those who are raising such points. The issue of language is very sensitive. My mother tongue is Bangla and I feel very sad when I am not allowed to take examination in Bangla. I demand that we should be allowed to take examination in our mother tongue. The same right should be given for Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu languages also. There are no two opinions that English should also remain there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that such a long dhama is unprecedented. Police had committed atrocities against these people earlier also and this issue has also been raised here several times.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Will you reply to the logic which he has used in his speech?

[Translation]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: Mr.

Speaker, Sir, I am saying that we should be given right to take examinations in Bangla, Gujarati and other Indian languages. It does not mean that we will not learn Hindi or English. Anyone who qualify for IAS can learn English later on. The argument that how will the person learn English is baseless because it takes only six months time to learn any language.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue concerning language is very sensitive and I would like to make it clear that anyone demanding right to any language does not have any intention to hurt other's sentiments. Therefore, I would like to say that the Government should make a clearcut statement as to by when the resolution passed by the Houses of Parliament will be implemented in the country.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I admit that any issue relating to language creates problem for us but to accept that English is the language of our country complicates the problem further. English language is a symbol of our slavery and to accept it as a legacy is not proper. [Interruptions]

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): This is the language of the country. This is there in the Constitution. [Interruptions]

S H R I . M . R . K A D A M B U R
JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): You must protect the non-Hindi speaking people. We have our right to speak. This is our Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles, you please sit down when I am standing.

SHRI A. CHARLES: We are not

foreigners.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The debate that is going on in the House has created a little tension in the House and it can have its impact outside the House too. But the issues raised by you are also important and decision will be taken after considering issues raised by both the sides in their proper perspective. I feel that the Government will try to solve it. Do not say anything which may create tension. Please do not put forward your views and arguments in a loud voice and improper language.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, sir, we should not accept that language and legacy. I would like to say that a conspiracy has been going on in the country since independence. I will not talk about North or South and will not say anything of that sort to create tension in the House. That I will say outside this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not say any such thing here or outside the House that may create tension in the country.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I feel that, I can put forward my point logically in the House but I do not want to create tension because this conspiracy has been going on since Independence. In the name of Gandhiji these politicians are defaming Gandhiji who had said that left to him he would remove English on the very first day after independence. [Interruptions] I do not understand for how long this hypocrisy will continue in the country. Without annoying anyone I would like to make my humble

request is that this is a conspiracy hatched by the people or class who have power in their hands, whether they are politicians or bureaucrats. They consider English essential. I am talking about real democracy in the country. I seek votes in Hindi and not in English. For this purpose Shri Mani Shankar uses Tamil. We all speak in regional languages to seek votes but later on we become votaries of English. I cannot argue that the country will not progress without English or the country will disintegrate in its absence. Is English the only link for the country or has the country become so weak? Now even the Hindi-speaking people have started giving a new argument that without learning English you cannot operate computers. I would like to know in which language the computers in Holland, Sweden, China and Russia are operated?

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: In English.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I would like to ask in which language the Sputnik satellite was sent in space by Russia forty years back. Mani Shankar does not know that it was a Russian and not English. Is Mani Shankar replying to my questions.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Hon. Minister will satisfy you with his reply.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is very dangerous that the unity of the country cannot remain intact without English. This movement reminds me of 1967 when Ph.D. thesis was not accepted in Hindi. At that time we struggled for it inside as well as outside this House. Dr. Lohia himself fought in this House for this cause. He wanted that

the people should be given an opportunity to study through other Indian languages. I request that the manner in which this issue has been raised by my colleagues and the leader of the opposition.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The issue is very important and all the Member will be given opportunity to speak on it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Therefore, some appropriate decision should be taken in the House and the resolution already passed should also be implemented sincerely.

SHRI M.R.KADAMBUR
JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli):
Sabanayakar avargale.....

MR. SPEAKER: At least, I should understand what you are speaking.

SHRI M.R.KADAMBUR
JANARTHANAN: I will translate you in English. Since Hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes quoted Gandhiji, I am quoting Pt. Nehru. Pt. Nehru told this country that as long as non-Hindi people want English, it should be prolonged. These were the words of Pt. Nehru.

I stand here as a Member of Parliament of AIADMK. Anna is our political Mentor. We do not want Hindi to be imposed on us. If we study Hindi only, we can live, we do not want this. We will not allow this. Therefore, I now turn to Tamil.

*[Translation]**

We should have the right to speak in

our mother tongue in Parliament. I should have the facility to listen to the entire proceedings in Tamil. We should have the facility to listen to all the questions raised in Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Tamil and all the other languages in the Indian Constitution. This House belongs to people from all the States and all the languages.

If the translation is done in the Parliament in all the languages, I must be able to ask my supplementary in Tamil. You can ask freely in your mother tongue and I am a second rate citizen for you, I am not able to ask it in Tamil. If I speak in Tamil, I will be able to ask better questions. If English is to be abolished here then you must have translation facilities for all the Indian languages in the Constitution, first of all in Parliament. Therefore, as a Tamilian I want to say Hindi should not be imposed on us. It will be imposed at the cost of our life and blood.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure that the Hon. Members have projected their views in a very cogent, forceful, wonderful manner and they are eager to hear what the Government wants to say. After Shri Somnath Chatterjee, I will request the Government to make the statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am thankful to you. This is neither the time nor the occasion to discuss our language policy. We are not saying it. Certain reference has been made to an issue which is pending before the country and the Government for a very long time. I shall not speak about the superiority of one language or the other. We respect all languages. This is not necessary and we do not believe in this.

I request the Government, that instead of going now into this very question which may become little volatile, to somehow find a solution to deal with this dharna which is going on. Our young students are sitting there for long time. Government must find out a machinery to talk to them, have a dialogue with them, convince them so that this type of movement is withdrawn. Let everybody sit across the table under your leadership for finding a solution to this problem.

Let us not try to denigrate any language or claim superiority of any language. I love my language. Everybody loves his language. Nobody can take away the right to speak in my own language and everybody's right must be conceded fully. Therefore, I request the Government to sort out this problem as early as possible persuade our boys and girls who are sitting there for days, months and years, to call it off in the manner which is acceptable to everybody.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madubhani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, no one has spoken from my party. We should also be given an opportunity to speak.....[Interruptions]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): First of all, I would like to make a small correction in what Hon. Leader of Opposition has said.

He said that in the UPSC we are not using Indian languages as the medium of examination, which is not correct. We are using all the Indian languages as the medium of examination in the UPSC already.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is not so for engineering, not medicine; that is the problem.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Please listen to me.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I will never misinform the House. I have never done it.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I am only giving my information, as I have. May be, if I have to correct myself, I will correct myself.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Vajpayee is asking about engineering and medicine.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right. We will find out.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I will correct it myself.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps this House may not be knowing that the same was the situation in England where study of Engineering and Medicine was not allowed in English. Then some politicians who were votaries of English language came on the scene and created conditions for this language.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: We all know that in Britain also in the beginning for several centuries the French language was being used, not English, because of the colonial rule of the French over that country.

We all know it. It is not unknown to us. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please hear little carefully what he is saying.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: This question must be viewed in the proper perspective. First of all, I would like to make it clear that it is not a question between Hindi and English. This is a question between English and all the Indian languages. Therefore, here it should not be viewed as if Hindi is sought to be imposed on non-Hindi speaking people. That is not the correct perspective at all. Now, basically, I would say that the Government also views this matter as a question between the haves and have nots. There are lot of people who have had the privilege or the opportunity of studying English and studying in English language. The Government's idea is not that they should have an additional advantage over the Indian language students. Many poor students in Tamil Nadu, in Karnataka, in Kerala, in Andhra Pradesh and Hindi-speaking areas, do not have the opportunity or the facilities in their villages although they are very brilliant boys and girls to study in the English language. Therefore, they should not be under any handicap to come to the highest level of our country's administration, politics and social life and industrial and business life.

Therefore, when the Constitution was drafted, the Eighth Schedule listed all the Indian languages. English does not find a place in the Eighth Schedule. Therefore, technically, English is not an Indian language, although as Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar says several Indian States are using English as the State language. We do not prohibit them; we do not tell them not to use it, because this whole question has to be handled in a proper manner and in a manner

in which it meets the general requirement of all Indian people including the nationalists, patriotic Indians living in the North-East of India.

Sir, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave a solemn assurance which was backed by the subsequent Prime Minister that nothing would be done to impose Hindi on anyone who do not want it. The Government stands by that. We do not want to impose Hindi on anybody who is not wanting to do it.

But today what is happening in front of the UPSC is not for Hindi or against English. That is not the question. The only limited question which has been agitating the minds of all people, including the people whose mother tongue is not Hindi is that the compulsory paper in English deprives those poorer sections of the country who did not have the opportunity of learning English and therefore they cannot come up in the UPSC examination if English is made a compulsory subject. Therefore, an alternative suggestion has been made that English as a compulsory paper should be removed. The Government intends to accept it. Now, in place of this it has been proposed that instead of a compulsory paper English should be made into an qualifying paper.

Now, Sir, on this matter no decision has so far been taken. I hope that a quick decision will be taken. [Interruptions]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): What is the difference between the words 'qualifying' and 'compulsory'? [Interruptions]

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, I am only presenting the entire question. [Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly do not interrupt like this. Kindly listen to the Minister carefully.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, when this matter was before both the Houses of Parliament, both the House of Parliament passed a unanimous resolution giving the views of the Indian people as reflected in the two Houses of Parliament and Presidential Directive on that basis was issued. And that is before the Government, on which a decision has to be taken.

I would like to reassure the Hon. Members that whatever is being done will be equally beneficial for all Indian languages whether it is Tamil or Kannada or Urdu or Hindi or Punjabi or any other language. Sir, it is not going to be any decision, which is going to benefit Hindi and, therefore, any misgivings that the Hon. Members may have in their mind that Hindi is sought to be imposed via the back-door or any other method should be firmly and resolutely removed from their mind. This is my appeal.

Sir, again there is no question of superiority, as Shri Somnath Babu has been saying. We do not regard, the Government and the Hon. Members of this House do not regard one language superior to another language. All languages have been described in the Constitution as national languages of India. That is the description that has been given to all the Indian languages. And, therefore, we do not regard Hindi language superior to any other language or one language superior to another language. Every language has been given a similar and an equal status in our Constitution. Therefore, the Government intends to abide by and to respect the unanimous resolution passed by both the Houses of Parliament and the Directive given by the President on this matter. And, therefore, I would request you, Sir, and through you, to the House, not to get excited over this matter. This is a matter.....(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER: I hope you are not requesting me to....(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: I have repeated this matter time and again. When I said 'you', I did not mean 'you' and I meant 'Presiding Officer', Some-times.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to get excited to see that there is calm in the House.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Therefore, Sir, I would request the House to give us time because this is a very sensitive matter. If it has not been resolved for so long, it is not because the Government does not want to resolve it. But, kindly see the sensitivity of the question here. We will certainly try and take such a step which will meet the aspirations of the various sections of the Indian people to the extent possible.

Sir, I have put the whole matter in a proper perspective. This is not a matter between Hindi and English. This is a matter, if at all, between English language and other national languages of India. And in this background, we are going to take a decision in this matter. I hope, if it does not satisfy the House totally, at least partially it will satisfy the House. We have to take a very cautious and a proper step, which will not create such difficulties. Rather than solving the difficulties, our step should not increase the difficulties in resolution of this matter. Therefore, I would appeal to the House to be calm and to exercise full restraint in this matter so that we can resolve this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Last time when this issue was raised on 13th December 1993, Shri Shukla Ji had given an assurance that a meeting of

the leaders would be called and the decision would be taken but he did not convene the meeting and therefore the matter has become yet more complicated. It is very sad that today it has become the bone of contention. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not want that anything should cast a shadow on the unity and the integrity of the country but the way the question has been raised, is not proper. Had the Hon. Minister called the meeting and taken the decision, there would have been no use of raising this issue

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: This is a matter which relates to both the Houses of Parliament. In fact, I should convene a meeting myself. But, it would be better if you convene a meeting of all the Leaders tomorrow some time to discuss this matter without any difficulty. It is always better for an impartial and respected person like you to call a meeting so that we can have discussions properly. [Interruptions] In your meetings nobody can bring in politics. But in my meetings everybody will bring in politics. Therefore, I would request you to call a meeting and invite the Leaders from both the Houses. Let us discuss it tomorrow. We are willing to discuss it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: We have the same view, as you have on it then what makes the difference?

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am happy that the Government's views are not in line with that of an Hon. Member, who had unfortunately mentioned North and South. This is not a question of North and South but it is related to the implementation of a motion adopted by the House. This question has not cropped up today only but

it was raised some 26 years back in 1968. Specially Vajpayee Ji had raised this issue that Indian languages should not only be accepted as medium of education but English should also be made optional at primary level. It has been mentioned that every officer should take a paper of Hindi, I had accepted it but it was not like that at the beginning, Directions have been laid in this regard in the motion, a suggestion has been given, which I would like to read out:-

[English]

“This House resolves that compulsory knowledge of either Hindi or English shall be required at the stage of selection of candidates for recruitment....”

[Translation]

It will not be like that that one will be recruited if one has the knowledge of English alone. Taking into consideration the prevalent, circumstances of the country at that time in 1965, Pandit Nehru had made a promise which had been referred just now, both Hindi and English were accepted as link languages. Therefore it was said in the motion that:

[English]

“..... to the Union services or posts, except in respect of any special services or post for which a high standard of knowledge of English alone or Hindi alone, or both as the case may be, is considered essential for the satisfactory performance of the duties of any such service or post.”

[Translation]

It means that the paper of English would be compulsory and none had envisaged that one would take the paper of Hindi of the time of confirmation. Therefore, those who are staging a dharna, leading the agitation for such a long period should be given assurance and once again, it should be reiterated that the motion adopted by the House will be implemented without any further delay.

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA(Nagaur):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the background in which the question was raised by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji, is very gloomy..... [Interruptions]... what is said by the Government, is final....[Interruptions].... If the former President of our country along with the former Prime Minister stages a dharna and does politics on this issue....[Interruptions].. I am in favour of Hindi but I am not an opportunist like you...[Interruptions].. Today the way this question has been raised and the way you further deteriorate the situation inside and outside the House will be unfortunate for the country. I will not survive for more than a year or two.* Today the former President is staging a dharna.....[Interruptions] Today the country.....*.

[English]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will it go on record, Sir ?.....[Interruptions]

MR SPEAKER: It has gone out of record. [Interruptions]

[Translation]

SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA: I would

like to know what do the students of Hindi and other languages want. These people are creating disorder today in the country. There may be so many ways but the way they have adopted it is not proper. Generally, I do not speak, I always keep silence. My speech.....[*Interruptions*]

MR SPEAKER: The aged Members have the right to speak something about us, but it will not be a part of the record and the young Members get chances time and again to speak something, it will also not go on record.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Speaker, Sir,.....[*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles, Please do not proiong it.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I shall take only one minute, Sir because we have been misunderstood.

MR. SPEAKER: O.K. Now Mr. Charles wants to remove the misunderstanding.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, I come from the southernmost State of this great country, that is, Kerala, and my mother tongue is Malayalam. In my State, every student begins to learn Hindi from the first standard itself. That is the only State where the Trilingual Formula, that has been given by Pandit ji, has been scrupulously followed. From first standard, we study Malayalam, our mother tongue, we study Hindi and we study English also. It is very unfortunate that some of the States in the North do not even study their mother tongue. So, I would plead that the Trilingual Formula should be scrupulously followed, and if they do not find time and if compulsory English is removed,

compulsory Hindi should also be removed, till a situation comes when the whole country unanimously accepts it.

Unity in diversity is the crux of democracy. Please do not hate English. Please do not have a feeling that we, from the South, are against Hindi. But any attempt to impose Hindi will only ruin the future of the country. So, everybody should be for the unity of India. [*Interruptions*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Hindi is not compulsory.....[*Interruptions*]

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Mainpuri): Mr. Speaker Sir, I am a staunch devotee of Hindi, and always says something good and never speaks anything provocative. The whole of the discussion today has taken a wrong direction. Let me start with two stanzas of poetry.

So Mein Sattar Fi Sadi Filhal Jab
Nashad Hai
Dil Pe Rakhkar Hath Kahiye Mulk
Kaya Azad Hai?

Seventy percent people are leading a miserable life today since hardly one per cent know English in our country while two percent claims to know it. I have been a teacher of English for forty years but I know that we can speak Hindi, our mother tongue very well. None has raised the question of imposing Hindi here. The point is that as per the intentions of the Constitutions, English should be withdrawn as essential medium for employment and prestige..... [*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER: Alright you have expressed in a good manner.

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: alas, if the assurance were given in the same way. Assurances have been given many a times during the last 26 years but now the assurance should be given to implement earlier assurances.....[Interruptions]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): The Hon. Minister is present here and he is the Chairman of the Official Language Committee. His views should also come on it.

MR . SPEAKER: It is good. The Hon. Home Minister would inform you about his views.

[English]

I think Shri Charles has done a service by trying to remove the misunderstandings. But if any misunderstanding is created because of his statement, it has to be cleared by saying that Hindi is not going to be imposed on any State or anybody. I think [Interruptions]

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The discussion on it was held in a cordial atmosphere and keeping that into consideration I agree with Shukla ji and will discuss and decide it tomorrow on a cup of tea with you.

[Interruptions]

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed for 45 minutes today. I will allow it tomorrow.

[Interruptions]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, you please allow to raise one important matter.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, you have to give us time today. It is regarding the orders in the public sector enterprises. Yesterday the Minister did not reply.

[Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow tomorrow. Let us now take up Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

12. 55 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Report of one Man Commission of Inquiry regarding Group clashes in Manipur, Statement of Action Taken by the Government on the above report etc.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B.CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the table:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 read with clause (c) (iv) of the proclamation dated the 31st December, 1993 issued by the President in relation to the State of Manipur:-

(i) Report of One Man Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice D.M.Sen set up to enquire into the Incidents of the Group clashes on the 3rd May, 1993 in the State of Manipur (Volume -I).

(ii) Statement of the Action Taken by the State Government of

Manipur on the above Report.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- (3) A copy of the Memorandum (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Volumes III and IV of the Report. [Placed in Library See. No. LT. 5913/94]

Annual Report and Review on the Working of Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme for 1992-93 and Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) :
Sir, I beg to lay on the table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Schemes, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Coal Mines Provident Fund, Coal Mines Family Pension and Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Schemes for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library See. No. LT 5914/94]

Notification under Merchant Shipping Act 1958

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Amendment Rules 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.110 in Gazette of India dated the 26th February, 1994 under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library See No LT/5915/94]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Light Diesel Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) (Amendment) Order, 1994 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O.80(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 1994 under Sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5916/94]

Review on the working of the Annual Report of Rehabilitation Plantations Limited Punalur for 1992-93 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): Sir, on behalf of Shri P.M. Sayeed, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section

- (i) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (ii) Review by the Government on the working of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1992-93
- (iii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited Punalur, for the year 1992-93 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
(Placed in Library See No. LT 5917/94)

Annual Report and review on the Working of National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore for 1992-93, Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR.C.SILVERA): Sir I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT 5918/94]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Pasteur Institute of India Coonoor, for the year 1992-93 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Pasteur Institute of India, Coonoor, for the year 1992-93.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT 5919/94]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for 1992-93 and Review on the working of and Annual Report of Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited,

Mohan, for 1990-91 and 1991-92 etc.etc.

Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan, for the year 1991-92.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (I) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Latex Limited Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1992-93

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Latex Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-5920/94]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan, for the year 1990-91, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-5921/94]

(C) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Medicines Pharmaceutical Corporation Limited, Mohan for the year 1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library See no. LT-5922/94]

(3) (I) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Board of Examinations, New Delhi for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Working of the National Board of Examinations, New Delhi for the year 1992-93.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT 5923/94]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited

- Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. (Placed in Library See No. LT-5924/94)
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1992-93.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore, for the year 1992-93, together with Audit Report thereon. (Placed in Library See No. LT-5925/94)
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the All India Institute.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above. (Placed in Library See No. LT-5926/94)
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions)
- of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat, Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1990-91, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1990-91.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above. (Placed in Library See No. LT 5927/94)
- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1991-92, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1991-92.
- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above. (Placed in Library See No. LT-5928/94)

Written Answers

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Written Answers

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

May,1994 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendation to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar, for the year 1992-93.

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Institutes of Technology (Amendment Bill, 1994, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th May,1994."

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[*English*]

(Placed in Library See No. LT-5929/94)

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 1994, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 11th May,1994.

12. 57 hrs

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

12. 57 1/2 hrs

[*English*]

Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 1994 As passed by Rajya Sabha.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir , I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

12. 58 hrs

- (i) " In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Rubber (Amendment) Bill,1994, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
FOURTEENTH REPORT

[*English*]

SHRI. P.G.NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, I beg to present the Fourteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

12. 58 1/2 hrs

NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION
LIMITED(ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF
POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM) BILL**[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI
P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU): Sir, I beg to
move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide
in the public interest for the acquisition and
transfer of the power transmission system
of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited
and the right, title and interest of the company
in the power transmission system to the
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited,
with a view to developing the National Power
Grid to ensure transmission of Power,
within the across the different regions of
India, on a more scientific, efficient and
economic basis and for matters connected
therewith or incidental thereto.

MR SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce
a Bill to provide in the public interest
for the acquisition and transfer of
the power transmission system of
the Neyveli Lignite Corporation
Limited and the right, title and
interest of the company in the
power transmission system to the
Power Grid Corporation of India
Limited with a view to developing
the National Power Grid to ensure
transmission of Power, within and
across the different regions of India,
or a more scientific efficient and
economic basis and for matters

connected therewith or incidental
thereto.”

(The motion was adopted).

SHRI P.V.RANGAYYA NAIDU:
introduce the Bill. *[Interruptions]**[English]*SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura):
Sir, the Railways have not placed any orders
on the wagon manufacturing units.....
(interruptions) You please allow us to speak.
There is a crisis there.SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE
(Dum Dum): Sir, you allow us today.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow tomorrow.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur): Sir, Yesterday you were kind
enough to say that since we are closing
tomorrow some more time will be allowed to
raise the important issues. That is why
yesterday we did not raise it.MR SPEAKER: I will allow tomorrow.
This will be the first issue tomorrow. Let us
now take up matters under Rule 377.

13.00 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

**(I) Need For Construction Of A Dam
On Kosi River In Collaboration With
Nepal.***[Translation]*

SHRI SURYA NARYAN

YADAV(Sahasra): Mr Speaker, Sir, the Kosi river originating from Nepal and flowing through my constituency Sahasra is in flood for almost six months in a year, due to which a large part of Northern Bihar is affected. The Kosi river changes its course every year when heavy flood is there in it and a new area is affected by it. It is due to flood in Kosi river every year that no development is taking place in the Northern Bihar, and it still remains a very backward area. The Central Government, the State Government and the Nepal Government spends crores of rupees every year on relief and rehabilitation. If the Central Government construct a dam on the Kosi river in collaboration with Nepal, the backwardness of this area would be removed. It would also help this area to emerge as a major foodgrains producing area of the country, as a result of which the country would be in a position to export the foodgrains at large scale and earn foreign exchange. The construction of dam would also help to increase power generation thus making it possible to provide electricity to farmers at cheap rate and making the country self-reliant in this regard. At the same time Nepal would also have the water way for access to the sea which will be a source of foreign exchange earning for India.

Therefore, I would urge the Central Government to negotiate with the Nepal Government without any delay and take immediate measures to construct dam on Kosi river.

[English]

(ii) Need To Sponsor A Central Scheme Exclusively For The Upliftment Of Lanjia Saura Tribes Of Gajapathi District In Orissa

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (

Berhampur) : Sir, it is a matter of great concern that the Micro Project introduced for the upliftment of Lanjia Saura Tribes in Orissa has failed. The Lanjia Sauras are the primitive tribes living in 21 villages of Gajapathi district of Orissa since time immemorial. These poverty-stricken people are illiterate and do not have proper housing or clothes. They are landless people and depend mostly on the forest products for their livelihood.

The Government of India had introduced a Micro Project in 1979 for these people. Under the scheme, these Lanjia Saura tribes were to be allotted land and necessary assistance to start cultivation. The land is situated at a height of about 300 feet above the sea level. Due to soil erosion, the fertility of the soil has been diminishing. At many places the land is dry and rocky which is not favourable for any kind of cultivation.

As such the poor tribals are not able to get any benefit out of the Micro Project. Unless systematic arrangement is made to assist these people economically, they will continue to pass days under dire poverty.

I request the Government that a centrally sponsored scheme be introduced exclusively for the Lanjia Saura Tribes of Gajapathi district of Orissa State.

(iii) Need To Extend NH-37 To Connect NH-52 At Roing In Arunachal Pradesh

SHRILAETA UMBREY (ARUNACHAL EAST): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the construction of NH-52 in Arunachal Pradesh portion was started in 1981-82 to link foothills of East Siang, Dibang Valley and Lohit Districts of the state. Although the Border Roads Organisation, the construction agency, has taken over more than 80 per cent of existing

P.W.D roads, the progress is too slow and it will become impossible to link Dibang Valley and Lohit Districts to Indian mainland within this century. Even if it is linked, the road will not be safe due to presence of number of rivers and streams. Moreover, the entire area where NH-52 is proposed to pass through is a flood prone area. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to extend the NH-37 upto Roing in Arunachal Pradesh and join it with NH-52. Since this road will be parallel to the rivers and streams, it will ensure safe and regular traffic to the people of Dibang Valley, Lohit and East Siang Districts. This extension of NH-37 will require only one bridge over Lohit river between Dholla and Sadiya, both in Assam.

(iv) Need To Provide More Facilities On Kota -Neemuch Railway Link Line In Rajasthan

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR (Bhilwara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kota-Neemuch new broad gauge link was commissioned and inaugurated by late Shri. Rajiv Gandhi in the year 1989. After the inauguration, the goods traffic has considerably increased on the line facilitating transportation of cement industries of Neemuch, Ninbaheda, Sambhupura and Chittorgarh and rakes of steam- coal from Kota to these cement factories and Hindustan Zinc Smelter at Chittorgarh. Passenger traffic has, however, not been benefited. Suggestions have been made several times to introduce an additional passenger train leaving kota and Neemuch simultaneously so as to cater to the needs of commuting public of the area. It has also been suggested that three coaches should be attached in Dehra Dun Express leaving Kota in the evening. The coaches in the passenger trains are of very primitive design and there is no coach for First Class or Second Class AC for the travelling public.

The facilities on the station are also very poor. The towns and cities falling on this rail link have great potential of industrialization and this rail line passes through a very rich lime stone area which is rich in economic minerals provided adequate infrastructural facilities are available for the same.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to take up the problems of this rail link and start one more passenger train on this section, arrange for direct coaches to be linked with Dehra Dun Express at Kota and allow industrial and commercial goods to be loaded in the goods train from intermediate stations.

(v) Need For Construction Of A Gas Turbine In Barak Valley Of Assam

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the power position in the North Eastern States is precarious, particularly the condition in the Barak Valley of Assam is miserable as the Barak Valley generally gets daily 5 to 10 MW electricity where 40 MW is necessary. As a result, load shedding is a natural phenomenon in case of Barak Valley. There is a strong demand from the people of Barak Valley for construction of Gas Turbines to process the gas coming out from two wells one at Adamtilla in the district of Karimganj and the other at Banskandi in the district of Cachar. As per O.N.G.C 35 MW of electricity can be produced from the gas coming out of these two wells. It is learnt that the Government of Assam has decided to give contract to one expert company, DLF of Delhi. Further, it was learnt that the Government of Assam, DLF and the O.N.G.C have not yet come to the conclusion regarding construction of gas turbine.

I urge upon the Government to look into the matter and see that all hurdles on the

way of construction of gas turbine is solved early so that the people of Barak Valley are relieved of the serious problem of electricity.

(vi) Need To Introduce Metro Rail System In Delhi

[*Translation*]

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the heavy increase in the road traffic in Delhi over the last 10-15 years even the movement of pedestrians has become difficult. Pollution in the National Capital Region of Delhi is also increasing in comparison to other states of the country. If the increase in the road traffic in Delhi is not checked, then the people in Delhi would have to wear face masks while moving out from their houses. Heavy traffic is also the cause of thousands of accidents every year.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to introduce Metro Rail system in Delhi as early as possible. This would not only check traffic congestion but would also keep the environment pollution free.

[*English*]

(vii) Need To Take Measures For The Development Of Mica Industry In Kodarma Area In Bihar

Dr. MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma) : I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that mica industry is fastly decaying in Kodarma area of Bihar. It provided employment to four lakh people earlier and 1200 mines were operating there. But hardly ten to twelve industries are working now. It is an export oriented commodity which used to earn Rs. 70 crores of foreign exchange earlier.

I, therefore, request the Central

Government to take concrete measures for the revival and development of mica industries of this area.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when will the statement on 'Agni' and 'Prithvi' be given?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): I have given the notice.

[*Translation*]

13.07 hrs.

MR SPEAKER: At 4.30 p.m

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

14.25 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty Five minutes past Fourteen of the clock

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

PRESS COUNCIL (AMENDMENT)
BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha- Contd.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allowed to this subject is two hours and it is shared amongst the different political parties.

Congress Party gets 48 minutes, BJP -11 minutes, JD -8 minutes, CPI- 7 minutes like that.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, this is a very important Bill. Please extend the time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Small political parties get two minutes. For example, AIADMK gets 3 minutes, JD(A) - 2 minutes. Telugu Desam-1 minute, JMM - 1 minute and so on. We can adjust if the early speakers have some sympathy towards the smaller parties.

Shri. Chandrakar was on his legs yesterday. He may continue now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the basis of the detailed reply given by the concerned Minister of State of the Ministry on the Press Council Amendment Bill is that small, medium and big newspapers have been categorised on the basis of the circulation of newspapers. But who will determine the circulation? There is a provision in the Bill according to which the Press Registrar of India would determine the circulation of each newspaper. The total number of papers published in India is about 35000 out of which the number of daily papers is 3606, bi-weeklys and tri-weeklys 339, weeklys 10647, fortnightly magazines 4471, monthly magazines 10586 and others is 5447. All these papers and magazines make the total number to 35096. The Registrar of Newspapers has adequate resources and staff. But they do not have the capacity to determine the circulation of more than 1200 newspapers per annum. When they are hardly capable to determine the circulation of this much number of newspapers then how long they would take

to determine the circulation of 35000 papers. The Hon. Minister may please clarify the situation in this regard. It is on the basis of the findings of survey to this effect that small, medium and big newspapers would be categorised. The Government have fixed a quota for the newspaper publishers to import newsprint paper from abroad. This criteria is not practically useful for them. The Registrar should be provided more staff and resources so that something concrete may be done to determine the circulation of newspapers. Wage Board fix the salary of the staff according to the circulation of Paper whereas the Wage Board should keep in view the property of the newspaper companies to fix the salary, it is not justified to consider the circulation as the only medium.

Foreign televisions have also started working in our country due to which Doordarshan is in problem, rather they are repenting that they have suffered a lot. A number of foreign newspaper companies are interested in publishing newspapers in India because they do have adequate resources. However, the newspapers in our country which have been working since the independence movement would lost their identity in that condition. Therefore, foreign newspapers should not be allowed to be published in this country, this is my opinion. The Government should take a firm decision not to allow the foreign newspapers to come to India even though some of the Cabinet colleagues are in favour of it. The Government must adopt a clear policy in this regard. The Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting is capable enough to persuade all to take measures so that foreign newspapers donot come to this country.

Press Council of India is not empowered to take action on the complaint against any newspaper, though it investigates the matter

and also gives order but the orders are never complied with. Because they do not have the power to enforce them strictly. The Government have not provided any machinery to them for this purpose. If the Government gives the right to investigate but not to implement the findings, it is of no use. Press council of India attend to the complaints regarding newspapers and investigate the cases of defaulters, it also decides the punishment. But the final stage is not implemented. Therefore, I would request the Government to give statutory powers to Press Council of India.

Doordarshan cover political news, business news, sports news and also weather forecast but not the agricultural matters or the problems of farmers. It is a major drawback. Majority of the people in this country are engaged in agriculture or agricultural business. Therefore, this aspect should also be covered.

So far as the question of constituting Wage Board for journalists is concerned, the concept has been approved but why the constitution is being delayed is something very confusing. The Government should set up the Wage Board as early as possible. Besides this, there are many other problems of journalists. For instance they have to sit late upto 10.00- 12.00 p.m. at night to cover the proceedings of the House, therefore, adequate facilities should be provided to them. Their primary problem is that of accommodation. No decision is being taken to provide housing facilities to them. At least those who are entitled, should be allotted accommodation.

I repeat my points again that Wage Board should be constituted, Statutory powers should be given to Press Council of India and foreign journalists should not be allowed to come to this country. The

Government should make a clear announcement in this regard. With these words I conclude.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Press Council Act had been enacted in order to have a society or a Board which would help the news-papers of our country to work independently and impartially and exercise moral pressure and provide guidance to them so that, keeping in view that democracy is a very important organ of our country, they could work in a concerted manner to keep the public well informed as to what is happening within the country and abroad. As it is a fundamental right of every citizen to be well informed as to the happenings within the country and abroad. That is why, this organisation had been constituted which would be able to guide and monitor the newspapers. I feel that there was no need to introduce this Bill. The only purpose of introducing this Bill is that the Government want to keep this power with themselves only to decide the categories of newspapers and magazines and publish a press communique to this effect as to which newspapers are small, middle or big ones. The press council Act had so far maintained that the newspapers having a circulation of less than 15000 are to be considered small newspapers and those having 15 to 50 thousand in Medium newspaper category and those having more than 50 thousand in the big category. But now the Government has become incursive towards the Press Council Act as it wants to take over this power. Now, the Press Council feels the Government will change the category whenever they feel like, by issuing a Press communique. I feel that this Bill is anti-small newspapers and magazines because now the Government will decide that the newspapers having the circulation of 25000 will be considered small newspapers. As a

result thereof, the newspapers published from small villages and townships will be adversely affected. As the Hon. Minister has also admitted that the number of newspaper and journals has increased 400% in the last 25-30 years and their circulation has also increased 500%. It means that an interest has been created in people and they are beginning to know and understand more. It is a good sign for democracy but some districts which are bringing out or trying to bring out 25-30 newspapers, journals will fall victim to this Bill when the Government decides to increase the circulation limit. Thus, I demand that this Bill be withdrawn and the Press Council Act be made more comprehensive on the basis of suggestions put forth in both the Houses and experience gained through Press Council Act, 1978 to ensure that it functions more authentically and independently. Its section 26 empowers is that it can impose levy for the services rendered to avoid depending on the Government and to be able to work independently. If the Government goes on increasing the circulation limit for this category, then, the journals having the circulation of 20-25-30 thousand will not get advertisements and only the big journals will get the advertisements. It has come to the notice of the Press Council on many an occasion that there are some undertakings in the Public Sector who have limited resources and they have stopped giving advertisements to the small newspapers. The small newspapers made a submission to the Press Council that this is an assault on them. But the Press Council expressed its helplessness that since they do neither have a budgetary provision nor any means, they are not able to help. In place of augmenting the means of advertisement and helping the small newspapers and journals more, the Government has brought this amendment which is going to create a very big problem

for them.

Sir, I would like to say that the regional language newspapers and journals are the worst-affected. The means of news-papers and journals have become important these days. Now, the journals etc. are having coloured pictures and even the daily newspapers are also having coloured pages, especially, the editions on Saturdays and Sundays. Some daily news papers in India cost as much as Rs.5. This is a dangerous trend. I agree with Shri. Chandrakar ji. Now, the Government is talking about star T.V and now they have the access to the Prime Minister also. They came and promised that they would also work in Hindi and other regional languages hereon large scale. The CNN officials also came. The newspapers have made a submission. The foreign newspapers and journals have very few news-items and these contain 90-95 % advertisement. The same trend is going to start here. Our newspapers and journals will not stand chance against them. That is why, I support this demand that since we have several prestigious dailies in our country there is really no need to invite foreign newspapers here. It should be totally banned otherwise the freedom of our news-papers will be at stake and our traditions will also be at stake. Because those newspapers will only contain news about foreign countries and they will not bother about the news which are related to our public. The efforts are being made in the new economic policy to cater to the needs of only the 10 percent or may be 5 per cent population belonging to the elite class and manufacture things keeping in mind their interest and entertainment. I feel that it is dangerous for the democracy and it has become imperative that the Government considers it in a detailed manner.

Yesterday our Hon. Minister had

convened a meeting. Women Members from both the Houses took it very seriously that today standard of our cinema is speedily going down and there is a lot of vulgarity and obscenity and it is going to have a very bad impact. That is why this meeting had been convened. It is a good thing that a meeting was held to know the opinion of the people. I feel that these things need to be given a serious thought. It needs to be considered as to how much freedom should be given, how much effort should be made, what should be their direction, what should be their standard etc. It should not be restricted to films alone but to magazines, radio and Doordarshan also. There should be a national policy in this regard. We have entered an era which is creating new ideas, new problems and new facts. Science and technology, communication etc. have started a new revolution in the world. It should not be treated lightly. It will not solve the purpose by first bringing an amendment and then starting something new. Until and unless a policy is formulated by seriously considering it from a basic point of view it cannot stop.

Sir, I would like to say one thing, though it does not directly concern the Information and Broadcasting Minister, it is related in a way that it directly concerns the reporters working with the newspapers. There has been a long-standing demand to constitute a Wage Board for journalists. All the Journalists of the country demanded it. The Government repeatedly assured that the journalists have many requirements, they face many difficulties and some times in the process of doing fair reporting their life faces several kinds of dangers, they have a security problem and are under the unjustified pressure of their bosses also. They are not able to work independently due to several limitations. The wage Board is yet to be constituted. Only the promise remains. It is not taking place because the journalists

have two organisations. One organisation has outnumbered its membership so its representatives will be included in the Board and the Government wants the representation of only those journalists who are Pro- Government. That is why, the work is pending. I demand this also that since the 'journalists' wage Board is related to their life, their work and their requirements, so, the Information and Broadcasting Minister should expedite this work in consultation with the Labour Minister.

Sir, if the minimum circulation limit is extended, then, the small newspapers and journals will stop getting the advertisement and they will be forced to close down. Several Hindi, Urdu or regional language newspapers and journals closed down on large scale during the last 4-5 years.

Some closed down for want of means/funds and some could not stand the competition, that is why, they had to close down. Some had to close down due to the vindictive attitude of the administration. Some departments mete-out step motherly treatment to them and they do not even get advertisement.

I hope and demand that the Information and Broadcasting Minister should withdraw this Bill and introduce a new Bill by including certain other points.

Unfortunately, I will not be present at the time Schedule for the Hon. Minister's reply but I want that the Hon. Minister must give a reply to my question that when he had decided to introduce the present amendment in the House had he consulted the Press Council and asked for their opinion and does it not constitute an assault on the Press Council. If the Government introduces a Bill without consulting them and without taking into account several factors affecting

them and without informing them of the proposed amendment then, it amounts to incursion on the freedom of the Press Council and an assault on their functioning. This will restrict the Press Council in some ways and as a result thereof, they cannot work independently if the Government decide to work arbitrarily. When the Government has made it into an autonomous body then it was essential to consult the council before bringing in the amendment but the Hon. Minister did not mention it anywhere in his speech as to whether the press council had been consulted or whether the council had recommended that such an amendment should be made. I would like the Hon. Minister to elucidate this point while replying.

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARIYA (Jadavpur): Sir, the Amendment which has been brought to the Press Council Act is a small one. I entirely agree with Mr. Chandra Jeet Yadav that the Amendment should have been brought with the agreement of the Press Council. The change is being sought in the criteria for small, medium and big newspapers. I would like to know whether there was any demand from the newspapers themselves for changing the existing clause. With this question, I would go on to ask the Minister that while they were bringing one amendment to the Press Council Act, would it not have been better if they had looked at the Press Council Act as a whole and tried to find out whether other Amendments also would not be in tune for improvement of the Press Council.

As the Press Council stands today, we find that certain powers have been given to it. It has been given the powers of a civil court calling for evidence and scrutinising complaints and so on. But we find that, first of all, the powers that have been given to the

Press Council are not being fully utilised. There is a certain lacuna in the working of the Press Council. Its work does not have as much impact on our society as we would expect it to have. Why is this?

In this connection, I would remind the Hon. Minister of the commitments that they have kept on making regarding the implementation of Prasar Bharti which has also a Broadcasting Council attached to it. When I look at the Press Council and the way in which it is unable to use the powers that have been given to it, I also feel certain questions coming to my mind regarding the working of the Broadcasting Council if and when the Government implements Prasar Bharati.

What are the duties of the Press Council of India? I feel that it has a two fold duty. On the one hand the Press Council has the responsibility of protecting the people who are in the journalistic profession in our country, and on the other hand encouraging them to go in for investigative journalism and encouraging them to collect news which will be worthwhile. I think the journalistic profession is not of much use unless the journalist is inspired by a passion for truth. And, I am very happy to say, Sir, that in our country we do find investigative journalism of a very high standard.

As a matter of fact it was on account of investigative journalism on the part of certain enterprising journalists that we got to know about the bank scam. The same is the case with regard to Bofors. We do have some of the finest investigative journalists in our country and I am proud to say that so far as investigative journalism is concerned, many of the journalists who are at the top of their profession who have passion for truth, are women like Chitra Subramaniam of The Hindu and Mani Mala of the Navbharat

Times. I am very proud that we have such journalists.

However, the point is that the situation in our country is such that this kind of journalism will be fraught with certain dangers. We do find journalists being attacked. We do find on various occasions when the journalists go to collect news they are harassed in various ways. I think it is the duty of the Press Council to look after the interests of the journalists.

However, we also find that there is another kind of journalism also. It is a part of the duty of the Press Council to watch out for this kind of journalism. We find that there is the very lowest kind of yellow journalism also. We do find that in the name of journalism there is personal vilification. There is an effort at character assassination. This kind of journalism is also to be found in our country. And, I think it is the responsibility of the Press Council to protect the citizens from this kind of journalism.

I would just give one or two instances. One is, the communal riots which had been there in the wake of Babri Masjid demolition. We found that certain journalists played a very bad role.

They played a very nasty role, particularly certain regional newspapers played a nasty role in lighting the fire of communalism in certain States. The Press Council took a very strong stand against it. The Press Council passed certain strictures against these newspapers. I would like to know from the Government what steps the Government has taken to bring such papers to book.

In West Bengal, we have a Left Front Government. There, we find that a section of the press is engaging everyday, in the

lowest kind of personal vilification and character assassination. Even no less a person than the Chief Minister of the State of West Bengal is not immune from this kind of yellow journalism. I know that in certain States for much smaller offences, either the Government or the Legislature had taken very strong steps against the journalists. We do not agree with that. We think that the States should only intervene in these matters when there is a law and order problem or when the journalism is of a kind which is likely to create a communal hatred or to incite tension among different sections of the people. Except in such cases, I think it is not the duty of the State but is rather the duty of the Press Council to call these journalists to look and prevent them from engaging in this kind of yellow journalism. What does the Press Council do? They give recommendations to the Government. One thing is that the Government does not take steps as per their recommendations. And the other thing is that sometimes the Press Council itself does not take the kind of steps that would be necessary for prevention and control of such situation. Why? I think this is because in our country - now I am coming to my final point - while the Press is the Fourth Estate, it is still a very young press and the need of the hour today is for decentralisation and democratisation of the press. Whereas what we find is that in accordance with the overall economic policies of the Government, it is only the monopoly houses - now we find this has been mentioned by other Hon. Members also and I am not going into it - and now we find that permission is sought by foreign newspapers to enter into our country.

Only yesterday, at the meeting that we had with the Hon. Minister, we had the information that now foreign Television is broadcasting uncensored Indian filthy songs and dances in Singapore and places like

that. The Government apparently has had to rebuke them for this. If the foreign newspaper, come in, what kind of power would they wield? So, I entirely agree with what the other Hon. Member have said that the entry of foreign newspapers is something which should not be allowed but also at the same time, the monopoly powers which have been given to a number of newspapers, the kind of influence which they wield over the public mind, I think in order to break this monopoly, much more importance has to be given to the medium newspapers and to the smaller newspapers. And with the lifting of cross media restrictions- I think that this has been compounded- there has been a further monopolisation of information. The same houses which are running the newspapers are now allowed to have time on Television and also we find another trend that there seems to be a great exodus of editors from various big national newspapers these days. We find, side by side, that these owners of newspapers are appearing as editors.

1500 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the Chair*]

What will be the result of it? As we know, according to the composition of the Press Council, there are to be seven journalists and six editors. If out of six editors, three editors are also the owners of big newspapers, then where would the autonomy of the Press Council to act in accordance with its conscience be? The same monopoly over the information that is there, will be compounded by the massive presence of editors, who are, as a matter of fact, not editors but owners really. This monopolisation will be compounded.

Therefore, in order to establish the presence of the autonomy of the Fourth

Estate, it is necessary to look at the Press Council Act in toto once again and see that with the power that have been given to it, they are able to utilise them properly; and the autonomy of the Press Council is further enhanced so that they can really act as a kind of control over this monopoly information. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Madam Chairman, I support this Bill.

The Press Council Act, 1978 provides for setting up of a Press Council, which would ensure freedom of Press, newspapers and news agencies. As is stated in the Bill, classification of newspapers is a right step. It can help us to find out the number of small, medium and big newspapers as well as the circulations thereof. This Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in December, where it was passed with a voice-vote.

This Bill deals only with India and there is no such provision which speaks of entry of foreign newspapers into India. However, the opposition looks at every step of the Government with suspicious eyes. Even if the Government does a right thing, they would suspect that the Government is going hand-in-glove with foreign countries. They want that the Government only consult them and it should not care for the wishes of the people of the nation. If this Bill is passed, it would give encouragement to small newspapers and their number and circulation will increase further. Thereafter they could become big industries and will be able to bring out big newspapers.

Shri Chandrakar has rightly said that there should be restriction on entry of foreign newspapers into the country. To know

about the various newspapers of the nation, we have Bangla newspapers brought out from West Bengal, Tamil newspapers from Tamilnadu, Malayalam newspapers from Kerala, hill language newspapers from different hilly regions, Punjabi newspapers from Punjab and other small newspapers from all over India. Among the big newspapers, there are 'Navbharat Times' and 'The Hindustan Times' which have their circulations all over India. On the other hand, there are other newspapers like 'The Tribune' which has no branch but its circulation is wide.

The employees working with the newspapers published from the capitals of States as well as other places should be given some basic facilities like house etc. so as to enable them write appealing and constructive articles. The opposition accused us for every scam, whether it was Bofors, Dunkel or Bank scam. However, whatever they say, the Government look into them. The Congress Government even constituted a Joint Parliamentary Committee to inquire into the allegation and it has since presented its report in the House. A discussion can take place on this Report according to the rules. The opposition see every action of the Government in such a way as if nothing has been done by the Government. Three no-confidence motions moved by the opposition were defeated in the past but still they do not know what the people of India want. Today, some big and powerful leaders are going to participate in the Dharna on the issue of using Indian languages as medium in IFS and IAS examinations. They are trying to raise such issues at this time because the elections are slated to be held in the next two years. In my opinion, we all should take a united stand on such issues. The newspapers should come out with constructive headlines which could augur well for the country. I read a

newspaper, published from Uttar Pradesh. It is written therein that something is being done or is likely to be done but instead, we see that atrocities are still being committed on poor women. In 'Sunday', news appeared on dacoities. It shows that they try to divert the attention of countrymen towards such happenings in our country. They should rather contribute to the welfare of the country. Their contribution can only be constructive when editors of these newspapers do good reporting. There are intellectuals also sittings in this House. They should criticise the Government with constructive mind. If the opposition suggest something right, it should be looked into. The Government should itself monitor the work which does not go on smoothly. Further, it should see that how many big or small newspapers have poor circulation. Similarly, it should mointor that how many newspapers come from foreign countries. I agree with their views that we should have more staff and we should take every step with due caution. The Government has no intention to takeover the management of such newspapers and print the material of their own choice. The Union Government or any State Government has not imposed restriction on journalists. If there is something wrong with the journalism, the Press Council will sort it out. In this Council, there is a provision of six members, which among others, would include Members of this House also. However, small newspaper journalists should also be included in it so that they could also raise the matters concerning them.

So far this Bill is concerned, we should pass it unanimously. We should see to it that how the nation could progress. As regards the jurisdiction, that must be there because if we constitute a committee, these things should also come under its jurisdiction. If somebody does anything wrong or indulges in wrong press reporting, the council must

take action against him. It did not happen even after inquiring the matter. The result remained nil. Therefore, I would like to request the Hon. Minister that he should pay attention towards this. Whatever programme is chalked out, that should be time-bound. Once this provision is included in the Bill, only then something concrete can be expected.

Madam, while supporting this Bill, I believe that the issues raised by the Members of ruling as well as opposition parties deserve to be pondered upon. Wherever, unfounded allegations have been levelled, I strongly deny them. However, I would like to emphasize that the nation can progress only when there is unanimity amongst us. Further, our newspapers, newspaper-owners or editors can be constructive reporting also contribute in the prosperity of the nation. Our nation can march ahead only. When we would think of the progress of our nation. With these words, I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA (Bhopal): I personally feel that the amendment has not come a day too soon and it is not the fault of the Government. I will not blame them for delaying the amendment. But the fact remains that it has been under consideration for the last two or three years.

So far as I know, being a Member of Press Council myself, the amendment now being brought by the Government has the concurrence of the Press Council. Also, as a Member of the Press Council I welcome the amendment, but with a rider that whenever the Minister or the Government feels like changing the figures in regard to the circulation he should consult the Press

Council of India and whatever the decision he takes the entire matter, should be placed before the House, so that everyone here gets an opportunity to know what norms have been adopted in identifying the small newspapers, the medium newspapers and the bigger newspapers. I hope that the Government would accept this suggestion.

Madam, a lot has been said about the performance of the Press Council. It has been said that it should be given more teeth, that it is not very effective. But then, what do people mean by saying that it should be given more teeth? The day the Press Council becomes a punitive authority, it starts imposing punishment, taking some kind of a punitive action, then it would be exposing itself to the acts of the courts. According to our Constitution, before we take action against anyone or before we decide to take action against anyone, that person has a right to go up in appeal. That is the basic foundation of our Constitution. Therefore, if the Press Council of India, as it is constituted, exercises its moral authority, on the functioning of the Press in this country. It is that moral authority which is the most important factor in the functioning of the Council. The day we give power to the Press Council to impose punishment in regard to advertisement and other matters, the moral authority of the PCI would be in jeopardy.

And the PCI shall be subject to all kinds of litigation. And the day that happens, the Press Council of India would lose the moral authority that it enjoys today. I do not know how an impression has been created that it is not effective. In fact, its popularity, its effectiveness can be gauged by the fact that the number of complaints that we are receiving, that the PCI is receiving from year to year is actually on an increase. Nearly 1,000 complaints are received by the Press

Council on an average every year. Press Council looks into those complaints. The people are heard. As already mentioned by some colleagues there, it enjoys the powers of Civil Court. The parties are summoned; they are heard even the lawyers appear and then a decision is taken whether a right thing has been done or a wrong this has been done. And of course, the maximum punishment that the Press Council can pronounce is that of censure. I think that is enough. If the people have the sensitivity in this country, censure is enough. When you send people to jail or impose some pecuniary loss on somebody could that only be considered punishment? I do not accept that plea. Censure should be enough so far as the newspaper section is concerned. This matter has been discussed a number of times in the Press Council and the consensus was that the present position as it obtains should continue. Madam, the primary objective of constituting the Press Council is to protect the freedom of expression and speech, that is enshrined in the Article 19(1)(a) I think, that objective is being fulfilled by the Press Council of India.

There are some matters which I would like to bring to the notice of the Government. One is about the assaults that are being made on the journalists and also on the press photographers. This is not a situation which obtains only in this country. But even in the foreign countries, we read quite often in the newspapers that the photographers and the newsmen have been assaulted and sometimes they lose their lives. The other day I read in the Newsweek that they have formed an international body to monitor the assaults on the journalists and press photographers. And if I remember correctly, during 1992-93, nearly 20 press photographers and journalists lost their lives in various parts of world. This is the matter of a great concern. We talk of freedom. but

then we find the increasingly the State Government and the Governments in general do not take newspaper reporting in a sporting spirit. If that is any criticism, they should take it seriously. They should examine it and find out whether the criticism appearing in the Press is correct or not, instead of getting vindictive. One of the steps that they take towards their vindictiveness, in the fulfillment of their vindictiveness, is to stop or to reduce the advertisement to the newspapers. This is very unfortunate. But even such cases come to the Press Council. The matter is taken up with the State Government and we ask them, why has the advertisement been stopped or reduced; When we get a reply, we even summon the people in the State Government, who are concerned with this matter and the Council takes a decision on those matters.

Madam, I would like to make one last point. People talk of providing facilities to the journalists. I joined service in the IAS in 1949. I know that for 10, 15 years, no State Government allotted any quarter, any residential accommodation any land to any journalist.

All this started after 15 to 20 years. Why was this done? This was done primarily and I need not say that but to earn—I do not know how to express in the best words—the good wishes or the goodwill of the Press and to somehow attract the sympathy or to bring Press in line with what the Government thinks. I think, as a matter of principle, the journalists should refuse any concession which the State Governments or the Government of India may offer them because then only they will be able to maintain their independence. I have seen myself in my capacity as Chief Secretary of the State Government that so many applications are received for allotment of quarters. What

kind of attitude the Press people adopt and what postures they assume? I think, to a normal person. It should appear very humiliating. Why should the press people beg the State Governments for land, for quarters or for houses? I understand that if anything is connected with journalism per se, that is if they want to go somewhere, if they wish to see some place or if they want to visit a place, the facilities must be provided by the Government for the sake of transparency, for the sake of fulfilling the objectives of the constitution, that is, under Article 19. But then asking for physical facilities, I think, is against the ethics of good journalism.

Lastly, I would like to say that there are some matters in which I would request the Hon. Minister to pay his particular attention. Some of the proposals which are sent to the Ministry by the Press Council of India need greater attention and more expeditious action. I am told that the regulations which were sent more than a year ago are still not finalised by the Ministry. Then there is also a constraint to resource. This year, there was a suggested budget of Rs. 82 lakh. We all considered it is the Press Council. But I am told the budget has been reduced to Rs. 69 lakhs.

Matters regarding service conditions, promotion policy and all such matters come to the Ministry. I would request the Hon. Minister who is a very dynamic person and I have known him for years to ensure that whatever matter are pending in the Ministry are disposed of as early as possible.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairperson, at the outset, I would like to compliment the Press Council of India under Justice Sarkaria for doing their job efficiently in spite of all the handicaps. I do appreciate the point raised by colleague

who just spoke before me. Shri S.C. Verma that perhaps if the Ministry acted faster and more expeditiously, the Press Council would have been able to do much more than what they have been doing.

I know that under Section 23 of the Press Council Act, certain rules were to be framed and I understand that many rules have been framed and some have been drafted. But even those are still pending. One of the reasons is that the Ministry's concurrence is required.

Madam, having said this I feel that 15 years have elapsed since the Press Council was created. And when I approached this Bill I approached it with high hopes that it would reflect a considered view of the Government gathered in the light of the fifteen years experience over the entire spectrum of the working of the Press Council which has elicited many comments in the House and outside and also in the media.

Unfortunately, this Bill is disappointing in that respect. I appreciate the point made by the previous speakers that a more comprehensive Bill is called for. I do hope that the Minister shall, at the first opportunity, consider presenting a more comprehensive Bill to the House, and I would like to submit a few words points he may like to take into consideration while framing that Bill.

The first thing I would say is that the Press Council indeed is a toothless tiger. Here I beg to disagree with my colleague. Mr. Verma. It is not a question of whether it can punish anybody. But I do feel that in the circumstances that we are living through in our country, with the mighty tide of fascist forces sweeping the country, strictures and censors cannot be adequate. That is why the Press Council is losing its moral authority. I do not accept the view that if the

decisions of the Press Council had to be subjected to an appellate forum above them. It would detract from the moral authority or the legal authority of the Press Council. There is a Supreme Court whose appellate jurisdiction not detract from the moral authority of the High Court. Therefore, I still feel that even if the person who feels that he has been wronged by the Press Council and wants to exercise his right of appeal, even then the Press Council Act should vest sufficient power in the Press Council that the wrong doers, who are doing it again and again, should be curbed. I am for freedom of information but there are situations in which total freedom cannot be permitted, particularly in a country like ours where mass media can be used to excite people, to incite groups to create hatred and bitterness between different communities, between different regions and between different languages. That is why I feel that some thought must be given to providing some more power to the Press Council, call it teeth if you like, so that the Press Council can be much more effective than it has been so far.

I know that there is a voluntary code of ethics. I am afraid that it is not being applied in actual practice. People do not take it seriously. There are newspapers which just lightly shirk it off. therefore, I think that a certain amount of punitive power is absolutely essential.

The second point I would like to come to is the heart of this Bill, that is, the composition of the Press Council. While I have complimented the Press Council for what it has done, and this report is indeed a valuable report, particularly for what they investigated during the year under report, that is, 1992-93, e.g. the case of assault on journalists in Ayodhya and that report forms part of this Annual report, frankly, when I

look at the composition, forgive my ignorance, Madam, I fail to recognise the members. this is a national body, an apex body, the very top. Each person should be eminent in his own right, each person should have a representative character. Here we have Members of Parliament, here we have eminent journalists like B.G. Verghese, and a retired Judge of the Supreme Court at the head. I would not name any person; I am sure that Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar knows everybody because he belongs to the biradari. But, I am afraid as a common man I do not recognise everybody, nor do I understand the significance of some Papers, which are represented here. they are to the best of my knowledge, just brought out in some nofussial towns. They have hardly any circulation. Only because of the system that happens to be in force in our country, they reach the apex. To what extent do they represent their biradari, their profession, just wonder. Therefore, I think much is to be said about working out a proper manner of composing the Press Council and electing the members thereof.

Now, as far as the proposed circulation figures are concerned, to my knowledge, I do not read a malafied into them. I think the Minister has given a very good reason for raising the limits of circulation, for defining the small, medium and large papers. After all the readership is increasing in our country. But I would like to caution the Minister on one thing. Does he know, does he realise, does he appreciate how the R.N.I is functioning? Does he know that Inspectors can be bribed to produce a figure of circulation which has got absolutely no relationship to the actual fact of life? And are those figures going to be used in composing the Press Council? Then we would have exactly the same result whether you raise the level or you do not raise the level. There is something rotten in the State

of Denmark, Mr. Minister, and you have got to look into it. The figures that you are getting as far as the circulation of papers are concerned, are absolutely outlandish.

I know, for example, by my own personal knowledge, something. In my city of Patna, in my language Urdu, 25 paper are being published from Patna. Some of them have a circulation of not more than 100 or 150. Yet they have been published only for the sake of securing Government patronage, whatever Government it might be. They are listed as having circulating of 10,000 and above. Is it fair? And I am sure that the Urduwalas are not the only sinners. I am sure that the Patnawalas are not only sinners. I am mentioning them because I happen to know them.

Therefore, I would like to say some better system has to be evolved for enumerating these or conducting censure or checking the circulation. Otherwise all your exercises will be totally meaningless. This amendment that you have brought here will be totally meaningless.

Madam, I would like to say that the Press Council of India, which is a national body, does not have sufficient and adequate stock of linguistic proficiency in its office. For example, if you send them a clipping in English that is fine. If you send them a clipping in Hindi it is good enough. But if you send them a clipping from Gujarati or Malayalam or Marthi or any other national language of India, it would plead ignorance. Therefore, the Press Council of India is not in a position to take suo motu action, which it should be, which is its duty. It should not depend only upon the complaints that it receives. The law provides that it should act suo motu. And how can it act suo motu if it does not have the necessary linguistically proficient staff covering all the national

languages of India? And that is why, I plead to the Hon. Minister, through you Madam, to please give sufficient funds and sufficient staff to the Press Council of India so that it can perform its task well, so that it can monitor the press throughout the country, at least the leading papers in all languages.

And then only it shall be able to keep a watch on the conduct of the press, act as a real watchdog for our democracy and for our people. Today it is not in a position to perform that function.

Thirdly, it functions based in Delhi. Of course, now it has adopted the procedure of sending out team of members to hold court, if I may say so, in various parts of the country. I feel that what is required is that the Press Council must have regional bases and regional offices. I do not know whether the Press Council has made this suggestion and made this recommendation to the Government. But I still feel that you must have a small nucleus office in the Press capital of every linguistic area in order to have real good contact with the papers in that language which are largely published in that area and also to keep a watch and then to report to headquarters.

It may come a time when you might even have regional Benches so that at least some members know the language of the paper which is under examination. So, in my view, the Press Council should have regional offices and even regional Benches and the, perhaps, the appeal can come before the full Press Council itself. Of course, for languages like English, Hindi and Urdu which are more widely spoken there are Hindi papers, there are Urdu papers and there are English papers published from, perhaps, all over the country - perhaps the central Bench will have to apply its mind. But for others they can create regional

Benches.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): The largest is Malayalam.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Madam, I would not go into any other questions which are outside the purview of this Bill. I have my views. I certainly support some of the suggestions that have been made here about our curbing the sort of unpalatable programmes that are being projected on the electronic media and the pressure that are being brought to bear on us for the unrestricted entry of the foreign press which can, perhaps, annihilate our indigenous press.

But I shall not go into these matters. I would like to, once again, submit a final view for your consideration. I feel that with all the handicaps the Press Council of India is doing a good job and it deserves our support. It deserves our goodwill, it deserves our encouragement and it deserves more and active support from the Government in order that it can function really as a watchdog of democracy. I hope the Hon. Minister will agree to the suggestion to bring before us a comprehensive Bill, as soon as possible. Subject to that, I would be happy to support this Bill.. Otherwise, I thin, this Bill is meaningless and there is no point in passing this Bill today.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Madam, Chairperson, this Bill that has been brought has a very limited purpose of altering the criterion or classification of newspapers, big, small and medium. I am in a difficulty because I enquired from the Press Council's Secretary yesterday whether this is a recommendation of the Press Council itself. But both myself and Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar at least did not have any occasion to attend any meeting

which has passed this proposal. So, I am not yet clear from the reply as to whether it is a recommendation of the former Press Council. If it is not from the meeting, I would say that this classification is not favourable to the small newspapers. If there was no meeting, then a meeting should have been held and this should have been thoroughly discussed there. I would like to know the position though I am one of those who go very regularly to the Press Council. But somehow or the other I could not make it out. Therefore, this point has to be taken into account.

Madam, I shall not repeat the point made by my friends and I will briefly mention the points which I want to raise. I consider the question of entry of foreign newspapers into our country to be a very important one. They must not be allowed entry into our country. Inside the Press Council there was a big debate on it and after a lot of higgling haggling it was decided that at least for three years from the date of that meeting no foreign newspapers will be allowed to come. But, I understand that the Government is very keen in allowing the foreign newspapers. I would request the Government not to go in for it because already our Press is in a difficult position and the entry of foreign newspapers with all their wealth will dislodge our journalists, dislodge our Editors and some of the owners and particularly, the working journalists will face a very serious problem. Therefore, I think the Government will change its mind if it is thinking of giving entry to the foreign newspapers into our country.

Secondly, there is a peculiar situation with regard to the powers of the Press Council. The Press Council itself does not want to have more teeth. I do not know what can be done about this. They themselves do not want to have more teeth. I have seldom

seen an organisation which does not want to have their own powers. On this also, we have differences because some of us think that there must be some more powers. But, after a log of higgling haggling again, a compromise was reached and it was decided that if the Press Council censures a paper for two times in a year, then that paper's name will be sent to the Government for appropriate action.

This much was there even though they did not say, what that appropriate action should be. But as I understand, about 10 cases have been referred to the Government, where the newspapers have been censured twice. I would like to know what has been done by the Government. I think, in only one case, the Government has moved.

Undoubtedly, we are all for Press freedom and some of our Press people have done very good job, bringing out the Scam, bringing out the Bofors and all that. We definitely want that the freedom of investigation by the Press Reporters should be defended. They are being attacked by the police, by the anti-socials. This is a very serious situation. I hope, the Government will take care of this because the Press Council really does not have any teeth. The Government has to take some action. I would expect, irrespective of the political opinion, the Government will stand by those who have gone in for investigative journalism without fear or favour and behave with them accordingly.

Our journalists have shown many qualities. I am also proud of our women journalists who have done very good job. At the same time, the trend of scurrilous writing, trend of writing in a way which violates the Constitutional principles, is on the increase in a very big way. We know, there are

regular blackmailing by certain Press persons of the politicians, of certain other officers and all kinds of persons. This is going on for quite some time. What will the Press Council do? A very interesting thing happened there. A case comes. Well, one party is not reporting and at some other time, the second party is not reporting. It goes on and on. By the time, we come for really recommending any action or censuring or warning, all the people forget what it is all about. Therefore, the worst possible feature on the functioning is the delay. We must frame such rules so that this delay can be avoided. Two subcommittees have been constituted to consider cases. And then, with their recommendations, the case goes to the whole Council and it takes a decision. Sometimes, it authorises the Chairman to take a decision. Justice delayed is justice denied. That is what is really happening. We must find a way as to how these can be disposed of quickly. There are various suggestions. One suggestion is like in Australia and other places, let the case be given to individual members to judge, so that it is quickly decided. I do not know whether that would be a right approach. I am not very sure whether it should be left to only individual members because that would be subjective. At least, I am sure, the present kind of thing must be altered. Otherwise, whether the Press Council has teeth, or half-tooth or no tooth, it will not be very effective. It has to be made effective because the breach has increased and the problems have increased to a greater extent.

The Press has some complaint about the provisions of the Official Secrets Act and other things. For example, defence information is denied to many of the Press people. The Press was justifiably angry about it. Ultimately, one officer has been put to do the Public Relations work for them. But uptill now, the question of transparency in

defence has not been clinched. I think these things should be clinched. Otherwise, unnecessarily there would be some other feedback. For example, Pakistan will do the job of giving its feedback and that will come to our country through the television, this, that and what not. Our Press will not be in a position to really reply to them in a befitting manner. Therefore, I think the aspect of transparency is very essential.

Now, I come to the aspect of advertisement. I also very strongly feel that some special considerations must be given to the small, medium and the language newspapers coming from different district headquarters etc. because I see that the cost of the paper has gone up very much. These newspapers cannot always be subscribed by the poorer sections of the people. They do sometimes subscribe to the small newspapers containing four sheets and like that. So, those newspapers should have some incentive in the shape of advertisement. While thinking about this advertisement policy, the Government should take into consideration these questions in collaboration with the Press Council. The Press Council is going to discuss the advertisement policy in the next meeting. We should encourage the small and medium newspapers. There is not much difference of opinion in the Press Council. So, the Government should co-operate with them and see that this is done.

There is another thing and that is about the Wage Board. The wage Board is to be set up. Some of us raised about it. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar raised it; I myself have raised it; many others also raised it that the Wage board must be formed. Now, the decision has been taken that a Wage Board for the Working Journalists would be formed. What will be the composition of the Wage Board? The Indian Journalists

Association has represented for a seat in the Wage Board. Last time, in the Wage Board for the Journalists, the Indian Federation of Working Journalists and the National Union of Journalists were represented. But the Indian Journalists Association is now a much stronger body than the IFWJ as was evident from the complete strike by the Delhi Union of Journalists which an affiliate to the Indian Journalists Association. So, I would request the Minister to consider this point. I know that this is done by the Labour Ministry. Hence, I request the Minister to talk to Labour Ministry. We will also represent to the Labour Ministry that the Indian Journalists Association must find a place in the new Wage Board which is going to be formed.

15.49 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA *in the Chair*]

With these words, I support everybody. Despite all the difficulties, some good job has been done by the Committee. For example, there is a report on Ayodhya; there is a report on Kashmir and various other things are therein recent times. The resource constraint is a very serious thing. The Press Council is going to recommend that their levy is to be increased. I hope the Press will cooperate; the Government will also cooperate in raising the resources of the Press Council. I fully agree that the staffing pattern must be changed. More and more number of persons must be there. The regional centres should also be there if this Council has to function properly.

With these words, I hope the Minister will take all these things into account. Being sympathetic to the Press generally, I hope that he will take up these cases and do the

needful. I conclude now.

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central) : Madam Chairman, I raise to welcome the amendment. Rather I feel it very essential to classify the newspapers into small, medium and big on the basis of circulation. As every Hon. Member has rightly pointed out, it is more important to find out the amount of circulation. On many occasions, in many cases, invariably I find that they only submit false accounts, cooked up accounts to show that the circulation of their newspaper is running into thousands and lakhs. But it is not so. Of course, the duty of checking the circulation, verifying the circulation rests with the Registrar of Newspapers. But there should be some mechanism to find out what is the actual circulation of a paper.

I know in Tamil Nadu there are number of regional Tamil papers. They submit the false accounts only to carry the favour of the Government or to get the advertisement from the Government or to make money out of the newsprint. They only print a few copies. They send it to the Government officials and important VIPs and they continue to submit their false accounts and claim that the circulation is very high. Therefore, it is more important that there should be some mechanism to check and verify what is the actual circulation, what is the actual number of papers printed and circulated for the public and so on. Here I would like to bring it to your kind attention one fact. Some people only get the title and they do not even start the newspaper or a journal. They keep it pending for a long time with some ulterior objective. Sometimes, after getting the title, they sell it to somebody else and they make illegal money out of it. What I suggest here is, there should be some time limit. If an individual gets the title, he should start it within a period of say six months or one year. There should be a time limit.

Otherwise, it should automatically be lapsed. Otherwise, somebody else who is good in running a magazine or a journal is denied the opportunity to run his journal. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to go in for a time bound programme. There should be a specific clause saying that if a title is given to an individual for starting a newspaper, it should be started within a particular time. That is more important.

We know the Press Council was constituted to curb the yellow journalism. But of late, this type of yellow journalism of maligning the political leaders, assaulting the bureaucrats, police officials, abusing ladies in public life without any basis, is on the increase. I always welcome a healthy criticism. I welcome a fair and a balanced view of a particular problem. But it does not always happen. Mostly, as the Hon. lady Member was telling, they start black-mailing. I am not talking about the national dailies at the country level. But if you see at the district level, there are certain papers and they only black-mail the leaders, black-mail the police officials, black-mail the bureaucrats only with the pecuniary interest. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to evolve a formula to find out a solution to curb such Journals and to reduce such activities. Normally, it is very painful to say that they attack the politicians. Politicians have become the target of almost every journal.

They should be free and fair, and balanced in culling out or pointing out or exposing the misdeeds of the Government or the misdeeds of a politician. But without any basis and only to malign or to damage the image of a politician they publish all sorts of sensational news thereby increasing their sales. This is really the sad part of journalism. And once the damage is caused, it cannot be reversed. The damage caused to a politician cannot be reversed. It takes a long

time. Further, the offence of libellous or the offence of defamation is not a cognizable one. Anybody can write anything against anybody. After tarnishing the image of a public figure it is very difficult to sue them also. The offence is not a cognizable one. We have to go only to the court to file a petition for defamation. But by that time so many things happen; by that time the man who was subjected on who was a victim would lose all his reputation in the public. And, therefore, what I urge upon the Hon. Minister is to at least make this offence of defamation as a cognizable one and a non-bailable one. I donot have any sinister motives against any journalist or any journalism. The only thing is that when they indulge in character assassination, say for example, if they damage the reputation or the chastity of a lady_the modesty of a lady is supreme and sacrosanct_it would be a stigma on her in the society. That stigma would never be lost and people would definitely look at her with a different notion. And, therefore, those journals which indulge in such malicious statements or character assassination should not be left unnoticed. They should be booked under the relevant provisions. Therefore, what I urge upon the Hon. Minister is to recommend to the Law Ministry to make this offence as a cognizable offence and a non-bailable one.

I welcome free and fair criticism and also a balanced criticism. Sometimes, they have been blackmailing police officials in the districts; they have been blackmailing officials in the State Governments only for monetary purposes. So, if this offence of defamation is made a cognizable one and non-bailable one, definitely they will not indulge in such malicious activities.

Another important point which I would like to bring to your kind notice is that once it is found that a false news about an individual

or about a policy of Government has appeared and when it is brought to the notice of the editor, then what they do is that they do not give any importance to the regret news. The regret news will be printed somewhere in the corner of the journal or somewhere in the corner of the paper which cannot be noticed at all. The same importance with which the issue was projected in the paper that too a false news, a kind of character assassination news, should be given to publishing the regret news after finding that it is false. When it has been brought to the notice of the concerned editor or owner of the newspaper, they should publish the regret news in the same manner, in the same magnitude as they have projected the original news. There should be a guideline for this and the Press Council should form such guidelines. They should issue such a code of conduct to them. What I find is that if we bring it to the notice of the editor that it is false news they only put the regret news on the next day in a small corner of the paper. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to suggest or to recommend to the Press Council to issue guidelines to treat the regret news in the same manner and that it should be given importance and published in the same manner as the false news has been published.

16.00 hrs.

Because of this yellow journalism officials are afraid and politicians are afraid of taking decisions on many issues. On many occasions, many Ministers are afraid of the criticism from the Press. The Press is such a powerful media. Therefore though I welcome the criticism, yet the criticism should be fair, in the interest of the nation and in the interest of projecting the correct view to the public. Therefore, there should be some restraint among the journalists in publishing

such news.

The Hon. lady Member was telling that the Press Council has no teeth. I admit it. Though the Government is willing to provide some teeth, I understand they are not willing to assume the powers. What are the powers vested in the Press Council on erring journalists? Ultimately they only admonish. They do not take any severe action against the erring journalists. So there is an urgent need to tone up the administration of the Press Council. The Press Council should have a code of conduct-ethos- in conformity with our national goals. If such a code of conduct is not followed by the Press Council, then there is no use of having a Press Council as a handicapped person. The Press Council should have all powers to control. The news should be very objective. Therefore, I appeal to the Press Council to come forward with their own code of conduct for the effective functioning of the Press Council.

Again, I would like to mention here, if any malicious, any defamatory matter has been published in the papers or in the journals, we are really unable to take them to the court. Though we file complaints in the court, it takes a long time. If the Hon. Minister feels that it will take a long time to make it a cognizable offence or a non-bailable offence. I will suggest that this should be brought under the Consumer Protection Council. If any malicious or unwanted character assassination is published against an individual, against a politician or against a social worker then that newspaper should be brought under the purview of the Consumer Protection Council, so that we can take it up.

Further, you may find the editors are all very important persons and they are the backbone of the journals. But of late we find

that the editors are given a back seat and the owners, the proprietors, the big business houses or the industrialists who hold the newspaper take seats on the front side and drive and the editor becomes his master's voice. He is unable to project the truth of a problem. So the objectivity of a problem is lost. He is being tutored and monitored to write and express what his master wants. Therefore, the Press Council should evolve or assume more powers to give powers to the editors of the journals. They, and not the owners, are more important persons in running a newspaper.

To curry a favour by the Government or for monetary benefit, many of the newspapers either favour the Government or they even try to buy the Government. It is a very sad state of affairs. There are some industrial houses; there are some business magnets; and they try to evolve the policy of the Government; they influence the Government by making use of their journals. This sort of an attitude should be curbed. There are some journals which only see the dark side of whatever the Government does and they only project a negative point of the issue. There are both the things and that also should be avoided.

Another thing that I find is this when they write about the Government and its misdeeds, I do not find any article against the opposition party leaders and opposition party Members. I do not want that they should write against them also. What I want to say is that their version is one-sided. In the name of free Press, in the name of liberty, they are doing so. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): They will have nothing to write about this side. [Interruptions]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): It is like a

No-Confidence Motion . It can be moved only against the Government and not against the Opposition. [Interruptions]

SHRI R. ANBARASU: When individual person's character is assassinated, they will not talk about the opposition party leaders. What I want to say is that their views are biased; they should not take sides and they should publish unbiased news.

I would like to end by saying this. There was a poet by name 'Nakeeran' . It seems that once Lord Shiva wrote a poem about the hair of the ladies. In that poem, he described that the hair of the ladies have fragrance. That is, God wrote that poem. But the poet who was so honest and who was so straight forward said, "Nothing doing ! you are wrong: the hair of the ladies does not have fragrance. Then the God became annoyed. He was in the form of a king. Then, He said, " No, you are wrong." The poet Nakeeran said, "I know in what form you are here : you are God. But, even if you open your third eye, I will call spade, a spade." The, Lord Shiva opened the third eye and burnt him. That is how, the story goes.

What I want to say is that the journalists should be like Nakeeran. They should set up a standard: they have to set up a morale for journalism.

Hence, I urge and appeal to the Press Council of India to evolve a Code of Conduct so that the real aspirations of the people are projected. I appeal to the Hon. Minister also in the absence of any such Code of Conduct to give the Press Council more powers so that they can proceed against the erring journalists.

With these words, I conclude my speech; and I welcome this Bill.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDEE: Madam Chairperson, I support the amendment that has been brought forward by the Hon. Minister to the Press Council Act, 1978.

We are all aware that freedom of Press is essential for safeguarding and strengthening democracy. Still we remember those days when the Press was gagged during the emergency where the news relating to one district was not available to the people residing just in the next district. That was the state of affairs.

There were restrictions on the Press which were not there even in the days of the British Rule. When people gave victory to the Janta Government, the Press Council Act had been brought forward. We must admit that during all these 15 years, the functioning of the Press Council is, by and large, quite satisfactory. There may be slight deficiencies also. But we find that the circulation of almost all the papers is increasing. The reading habit of the public is increasing. In Andhra Pradesh, one leading Telugu paper, Eenadu, has introduced a district edition. In all the 23 districts, separate editions are there.

SHRI E. AHAMED: What is the total circulation?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDEE: It may be more than one lakh—highest circulation.

Now, several other leading Telegu papers are trying to follow the same. That means, more local news are being covered and with that, the circulation. My point is that now the electronic media is a powerful media. Because of the cost involved and because of constraint of time, the newspaper is a very useful and powerful instrument to

convey the real message to the people of this country.

The Hon. Member, who preceded me, has made very elaborate point about some of the journalists who might not be behaving responsibly. They may be very few in number. But, by and large, the journalists are also reporting very responsibly. In my experience, by and large we feel quite satisfied. We find that rather than constructive news, many a time, the news relate to squabbles within a political party or some news which are not really useful to the public. More space is devoted to such things, may be to attract more number of readers. How do we know what are their economic calculations? But we feel that more space can be devoted to news like success of family planning in a particular area and instances of communal harmony. Even where several places are burning, there may still be some places where communal harmony might be kept intact with the best responsible participation of the people from different communities. If such news and such instances are given in all the regional languages, it will have tremendous impact. We hope that in the days to come, our Hon. Minister will go through the reports given by the Press Council. Let him go through the reports and take necessary steps to further improve the working of the Press in this country for the service of this nation and for the betterment of the people.

The object of the Council is also to help newspapers and news agencies to maintain their independence. Sometimes it so happens that the local authorities have some vengeance against papers because they might try to bring out certain deficiencies and mistakes committed by the people in power. They may be politicians or political leaders or police officials or whoever they may be. In such instance the police or some

officials try to put the journalist or the reporter in a very tight spot.

There are many instances of this type. At Kozikode a journalist had brought out a series of articles on certain lapses taking place in a local area station. The journalist was arrested and harassed. A few months back all of us had expressed our deep concern over the harassment being meted out to Malai Murasu in Tamil Nadu.

Many a time the Government in power favour certain newspapers which give more coverage to Government news other than being impartial. My suggestion to the Government is the a clearly demarcated criteria should be followed. Advertisements from the local authorities should be given to the newspapers on some fixed criteria. Small newspapers must be given a higher priority for the regional news. At any point of time advertisement should not be denied to a particular Paper because it is writing against a political party in power either at the Centre or in the States. The Government should take strict measures to protect the independent functioning of the Press.

The Hon. Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee mentioned about the official Secrets Act. We can understand that information regarding sophisticated defence equipment of a very recent purchase should not be leaked out. In other words, we can say that almost all the activities undertaken by the Ministry of Defence are secret and come under the Official Secrets Act. Madam, we have come to know that a lot of wastage is going on in the purchase of defence equipments. Many a time under the garb of this Official Secrets Act the Press is denied certain information. I would suggest that the Government should bring an amendment to this Official Secrets Act so that the public money is not allowed to be wasted.

We have the freedom of Press in our country. This freedom has been guaranteed in the Constitution. But, this freedom is not there for the foreign journalists. It is natural because definitely there will be a difference between a person who is a citizen of this country and a person who has come from abroad. A citizen of this country may have in his possession certain information which may be prove good for the country but he may not share it with the public keeping in mind the interest of the nation. But, we cannot expect the same thing from a foreign journalist. Precisely because of it, the Press Council of India has expressed its reservations regarding giving permission to the foreign Press in our country. In this connection I would like to say that the Government should take a very careful decision in this regard.

Finally, I would like to make one small submission to the Hon. Minister. At present we have a scheme of Concessional Postal Registration for Newsletters. Some days back a local institution of engineers at Vijayawada published newsletters relating to various meetings that were taking place every week or every fortnight. They circulated it to the Press and at various other places.

There was a concession in regard to this postal tariff. I do not know why it was withdrawn. My suggestion to the Government of course I will also personally contact the Hon. Minister—is that the objective of these newsletters is to transmit information to various places, particularly, to the educational institutions. So, this practice should be started again. Almost all the voluntary organisations cannot afford to bear the increased postal tariffs.

So, with these few words, Madam, I

thank you for giving me an opportunity to say few words on this Press Council (Amendment) Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI(Nainital): Madam, Chairman, this amendment seems to have been brought in a haste. It should have been quite comprehensive. Journalism was introduced in India during freedom struggle. Several persons devoted their entire lives to journalism. We have reached the present position after 45-50 years of efforts but now, foreign newspapers are trying to take over Indian newspapers. Any Indian newspaper or journalist can have ideological differences with the Government but when it comes to country's interest, he will perhaps prefer country's interest than his own, whereas the foreigners' only interest will be to earn more and more and they will not be bothered for the interest of the country.

It is a matter of regret that for sometimes, journalists are being attacked in the country. A few days back a decision of the Court regarding the murder of Mahesh Dobhal, the local journalist of Dehradun was given. It is really very sad that criminals involved in the murder have escaped easily even after the CBI inquiry. The Government should make arrangements for providing protection to journalists as their work is risky. They have unearthed several scams risking their lives, be it security scam, Bofors scandals or any other thing. We all know that Newspapers were closed throughout the country during Emergency, Who had refused to write in favour of the Government. Journalists were imprisoned. Several of them were imprisoned for 19 months, many of them died but they refused to bow before that decision of the Government.

Press Council was set up in 1978 under

an Act. Now, we are going to make amendments in it. Several newspapers in the country work contrary to the interests of the country. There should be some provision for taking action against them to keep a check on them. Some newspapers, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir are supporting terrorists. They publish mainly those news which are in the interest of terrorists. The Government should take this matter seriously. Government takes action against newspapers which publish new items against them or bring out some facts contrary to their interests.

Madam Chairperson, newspapers have been classified through this Bill. It should be taken seriously because there is doubt whether medium and small newspapers will be given protection. This Bill will impose Inspector Rule on them as inspectors will be responsible for determining their circulation. Inspectors will provide them concessions only after getting bribe. This matter should be discussed thoroughly.

Madam, Chairperson, this Bill has made a provision that editors of newspapers will be the members of Press Council, but in our country mostly newspapers have link with big industrialists or Industrial houses. It will be difficult to differentiate between the editors and the owners of newspapers because in most of the cases owners are the editors of newspapers. Their presence in Press Council will create problems later on. The Government should give its clear opinion on it.

16.27 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Wage Board should be constituted for the people working in the field of Press and media because it has

been demanded time and again. The Government should solve this serious matter properly with the help of the leaders of all the political parties. With these words I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): I rise to support the Bill which has been introduced by the Minister of Information and Boardcasting. The Press Council Act was enacted by this very House in 1978. This is a small piece of legislation. The only purpose is to review the classification of the big, marginal and small newspapers time and again when the Government feels.

This Bill is for a limited purpose. My request to the Minister is that he should come forward with a comprehensive legislation so that all the points in this discussion should be reflected in that. This is a vast subject. I do not want to go into the details of it. I will mention only two or three points.

The sole purpose of the Press Council to protect the freedom of the press and maintain and improve the standard of newspapers and news agencies in our country. The Press Council should be given punitive power to ensure greater sense of responsibility. Fair comment to protected but unfair, scurrilous writings have to be controlled.

Now-a-days, a lot of character assassination efforts are taking place against the political leaders, against the political parties and against the individuals.

Sir, this should be checked.

The second point I wanted to raise is

Statement by Minister

regarding the foreign newspapers and agencies which are likely to be allowed. In 1956, a decision was taken to allow the foreign agencies and newspapers to operate only through the Indian agencies. That is the freedom of the press, as guaranteed in the Constitution, is available only to the Indian citizens. So I wanted to know from the Hon.Minister, how we can extend this freedom to the foreign agencies, which is enshrined in our Constitution.

The next point is regarding the selection of members of the Press Council. There are certain criterion for selection of members for the Press Council. There should be some mechanism so that the regional newspapers are very much in number in our country and they have large circulation also. So adequate representation should be given to the representatives of the regional languages. For that some mechanism should be found out because they are reaching out masses more effectively.

Lastly, I wanted to remind that this criteria which is going to be reviewed, time and again, by the Government, should be made very clear. Total transparency should be there, otherwise, the officials can play in this. So I request the Hon.Minister that there should be total transparency so that we may be able to avoid bogus figures which some newspapers are quoting about their circulation.

Some newspapers are projecting that they have a huge circulation. But actually speaking, the truth is that they have only a very little circulation and in spite of that they are getting all the benefits enjoyed by the largest circulated newspapers or magazines. In the Press Council, adequate representation should be given to the magazines also. That is the suggestion I wanted to make.

Regarding Wage Board, cutting across party lines, we have all demanded for the setting up a Wage Board and the Government is seriously attending to it. Journalists have been demanding this time and again and the Cabinet is considering this. It will be definitely helpful for the working journalists in our country who are contributing a lot for preserving our democracy and strengthening the fourth estate.

With these words I congratulate the Minister for coming with this piece of legislation and once again I request the Hon.Minister to come forward with a comprehensive legislation so that we may be able to avoid all the lacunae which are now present in the case of Press Council and we may be able to give more teeth to the Press Council.

16. 33 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
PRITHVI PROJECT

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prithvi project is a Surface-to-Surface Missile System designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation. The programme commenced in July, 1983. The final phase of trials commenced in April, 1994. These trials will take place in sub-phases. They are scheduled to be completed by July 1994.

In this connection a note was received from the PMO by SA to RM that the trials be postponed till after the period of PM's visit to US between 14-21 May. This has been done. Generally, major missile launchings

are conducted when the Prime Minister is in the country.....[*Interruptions*]

Do not confuse me; do not confuse yourselves; do not confuse the House; and do not confuse the people outside. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): You are confusing!

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I am not confusing.....(*Interruptions*) I would like to assure the Hon. members that there was and is no intention to stopping the trials. Since the final phase trials are planned for April-July, 1994, the dates of the sub-phases will be suitably adjusted so that there will not be only delay on the completion of trials. There is no question of pressure from anywhere; nor is there any jeopardy to the programme.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) Mr. Minister, even people from your own party are laughing at the statement made by you. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): I wish to submit.....

MR. SPEAKER: It is not the practice we follow in the House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I recognise that it is not the convention of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: They have said whatever is correct.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I know, But there is an aspect to this entire programme.

Of course, it is for the Government to explain why the postponement was done and to offer the explanation as the Hon. Minister has done. It is not for us to attempt to explain from the Government's point of view, though I must say that the derisive laughter which accompanied the explanation offered by the Government is sufficient commentary on the explanation itself.

But the point I wish to make is, that here is an opportunity for the Government, in having postponed till about a convenient date, to take this opportunity also to take this House into confidence about the Agni programme which benefit perhaps the other House had and this House has not had. That is the request I am making. I am not asking for any clarification on whatever clarification the Government have already provided.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: About Agni programme at this moment, nothing can be revealed...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: What was revealed in the other House can be revealed here also!

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: It is known to the whole world now.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): What statement have you made in the Rajya Sabha? (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Is it at a demonstrative stage? Is it not going beyond that? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): The confusion started because on that day when this news item appeared in the newspapers.

Doordarshan carried a news item that it was clarified that there was no such letter or instruction to the DRDO to stop or postpone this programme. But now the Hon. Minister says that a letter was sent to DRDO from the PMO. Let the Minister of Information and Broadcasting say what the position is and how Doordarshan carried that news.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you protected us on that day when we wanted to know about this, about what exactly the PMO had said. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Srikanta Jena, On that day you told me that what you said on the floor of the House should be relied upon.

Now, nothing more than this please.

Shri. George Fernandes.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Minister's statement is not going to solve our problem.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you time to speak on the Press Council Amendment Bill.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I would like to say a few words on it also. I thought that you already knew that I want to speak on it.

MR. SPEAKER: Why you are dragging this issue? He already has said everything on it very clearly.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I would like to say only one more thing that it

has been discussed comprehensively in U.S.A. Chairman of a U.S Committee, whose name is perhaps Mr. Lee Hamilton has given a long statement that they are not ready to accept. Our programmes on missile 'Prithvi'. They consider that testing of Prithvi Missile will bring de-stabilisation in South Asia. It is really a matter of regret that some Member of US Senate expresses his opinion before the world through a committee on the sensitive matter of security of our country at a time when our Prime Minister is visiting the country. We also know the actually USA is not worried about the arms being manufactured by us...*[Interruptions]*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri George Fernandes, Kindly note that I have disallowed other Members also.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to say this because the Prime Minister, along with the Finance Minister and big industrialists of the country is going to USA for getting capital and technology. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can say with guarantee that America's concern over our Missile tests, whether it is 'Agni' or 'Prithvi' comes out of with economic reasons and not of security of the region. Economic reasons for it is that the day India achieves success in launching its own satellites or some other country's satellites in the space on his own, the importance of those one or two countries of Europe, which at present have this capability, will be lessened. We will become strong on international level. In the same way, earlier also USA pressurised Russia and ultimately succeeded by using its economic prowess.

I leave it on the discretion of the Prime

Minister whether he wants to say something on it or not but I will say that the country should counter the challenges in every field where America tries to pressurise us, be it a matter of security, tests conducted relating to defence or bringing the country at par with the other countries. An assurance should be given in the House that no compromise will be made at the cost of the country's interests.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I am not seeking any clarification. Of course, I would have been happier if the Minister could have invented some other excuse because the country's prestige is involved. I know the real reason. But the Minister could not say that. Now, the Hon. Prime Minister's absence should not be utilised for this programme. But I believe that he is coming back on 20th or 21st. Therefore, the dates should be announced here and now. What is the difficulty?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The dates are mentioned in the statement.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have not got a copy of that.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I have clearly mentioned that final trials will be completed in July 1994.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: From 14th May, it has gone to July. [*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Somnathji, those

dates are depending on so many other things.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The date, 14th May, is not the final thing. It is just a commencement. Three phases have to be completed. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That would have been asserted and removed the doubts from the mind of the people. [*Interruptions*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I would like to remove the confusion in the minds of the Hon. Members, the people and all concerned. I would like to say that final trials of Prithvi will be completed in the month of July 1994. And the dates will be readjusted so that the sub-phases can also be taken up because there are two or three trials which have to be conducted.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri George Fernandes to speak on the Press Council (Amendment) Bill.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Shri George Fernandes, here also you can refer the press reports about Agni and other things. (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V.NARASIMHA RAO): When Shri George Fernandes stands, everybody looks at him. So, I thought, there is something....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He is now speaking on the Press Council (Amendment) Bill.

16.44 hrs

PRESS COUNCIL (AMENDMENT)
BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha.....Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir the Bill presented before the House, which is being debated here since Yesterday, is, in my view a one line Bill and the discussion over it is generally aimed at the small and big newspapers and the rights and functions of the Press Council.

But, I think, today it would be proper to look at the times when the Press Council was formed and the context in which it was formed. The House should discuss the relevance of the Press Council in reference to the changes that have taken place in the world of broadcasting today and the responsibilities of the Council.

I have got a copy of Press Council Act, 1978. It says that this law was made because:

[English]

"Freedom of the press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and new agencies in India".

[Translation]

16.47 hrs.

[Smt. Geeta Mukherjee in the Chair]

It is also necessary to maintain and upgrade the standard of the Indian news

agencies. The responsibilities of the Press Council are very clearly enumerated in Section 13 of this Press Council Act. The first responsibility of the press Council is:

[English]

" To help newspapers and news agencies to maintain their independence; to build up a code of conduct for newspapers, new agencies and journalists in accordance with high professional standards; to ensure on the part of the newspapers, news agencies and journalists the maintenance of high standards of public taste and foster a new sense of both rights and responsibilities of citizen."

[Translation]

This responsibility of maintaining high professional standards calls upon fostering a sense of both rights and responsibilities of citizens and catering to the public taste. We will be totally neglecting all our responsibilities if we confined ourselves to such questions as whether it is a small or a big newspaper and how much financial aid should be given or not given. It is the television rather than the newspaper that is determining this taste. The public taste is being determined by the foreign televisions that have an access to every home and every village today. Who is going to control it? In 1978, when this law was enacted, the Parliament of India felt that it was necessary to exercise such control over newspapers so as to uphold the peoples' moral and ethical values and also to see that the newspapers are not able to dissuade them but educate them about their rights and responsibilities. The newspapers might be making big strides today but they have not been able to make advances during

their lifetime due to lack of training and are being influenced by Doordarshan today. I am not talking about our own Doordarshan but am using a generic term. The foreign televisions are reaching every home, every slum.

We were not familiar with the Press Council when it was formed in 1978 but, today, we know something about it. I admit that no information and Broadcasting Minister can know or determine the chronology of programmes being made in his department or in any other field. Earlier, Doordarshan had only one channel. I do not know how many channels it has today but, Madam Chairperson, you will pardon me, as I never watch television and I do not possess one but people tell me what programmes are being telecasted on it. I also read about it in the newspapers and journals and have some knowledge about it.

Some day ago, I heard about one FM radio sponsored by 'Times of India' or any other group but a programme was broadcasted on it in which a girl makes a complaint in a question-answer session or some grievances and redressal cell the name of the programme perhaps. It mitigates the pain and agony of the complainant. The problem of the complaining girl is that her mother denied her giving some make-up item she wanted for her facial make-up. Then after some guests stepped in their house, she made a desperate bid to steal that make-up item from the vanity-bag of the lady guest. Later, that lady guest complained to her mother that she had that item in her vanity bag when she visited the girls house and after her return to her own house found that item missing in her bag. On this, the mother asked the girl whether she had stolen that make up item and the girl was worried as to what to do now. The organiser of the programme appreciates

her beauty as well as the art of picking purses and extending a hand of co-operation to join hands with him with a promise that they can conquer the world with this blend of the salesmanship and girls stealing qualities. This is how the morality of a 14 years old girl is being build. Who is going to control it?

We expressed our extreme anguish here against the Press Council in a recent discussion over which newspaper publishes what. Everybody is concerned about the character assassination being resorted to by these but how is it going to affect us when there is no character building. Character assassination is not done without reason. But how is the television presenting the character building of a 12-14 years old child? Whatever is being telecast on these all new channels today, through I reiterate that I am ignorant about the technicality involved in opening and operating new channels, yet what is the remedy for the advant and ouslaught of foreign television that is propagating an alien civilization in India which leads to aberrance from all our values which we have been cherishing for long? China has evolved a remedy and more recently Saudi Arabia too has found its remedy. It is learnt that they have jammed and banned all the dish antennas used for catching foreign telecasts. There are some nations who dare to challenge it.

I have experienced it particularly during emergency that the foreign newspapers and radios did a splendid work in support of people who defied the dictator of the day. People listened to Akashwani less than they listened to BBC even in jails. The BBC used to tell people that there was nothing to worry about the things were going on smoothly. People had the information about who did what and where. Therefore, we are alive to the power and importance of the mass media in preserving democracy. But, today,

it is being misused for character assassination under the impact of the western civilization which, of course, has certain plus points.

But we are averse to the present trend of that civilization. Gun culture is prevalent in America and people there speak and know the language of the gun. People in India, too, are in the process of learning that language and pistol civilization is developing here as well. It is learnt that one of the TV Channels is dedicated to the telecast of violence and violence alone, other to the dance in nudity. How far can the parents control their wards from being influenced by this vulgar civilization?....[Interruptions]

You should be, to some extent, serious about it. Women, in the world, should not be allowed to be looked at as a consumer item, at least in this House. We are not able to understand it. This is Parliament and this should not be a practice here. Therefore, we would like the Hon. Minister to brief the House on this matter that confining it presently to the Press Council alone will not do. Just saying that we will consider it and constitute a Committee or appoint somebody to probe the matter will not do. The Government should immediately find a solution to it.

Now, coming on the foreign newspapers, I would say that deals have been struck and when a particular newspaper failed to clinch the deal, it was offered to the other one and the two joined hands to launch a campaign against it. Today, money has occupied a paramount position above God. When the deal slipped out of our hands, it was struck with some newspaper of Calcutta. So, it is very dangerous for the country. Seminars are conducted on how to check the foreign newspapers. All this drama is going on for capturing a foreign

newspapers but for us, it is not the question of drama alone.

It has been provided in section 13 (2) (g) of the Press Council Act:

[*English*]

The council may in furtherance of its objects perform the following functions, namely:

and (g) of it says:

“ To undertake studies of foreign newspapers including those brought out by any embassy or other representative in India of a foreign state, their circulation and impact.”

[*Translation*]

The Government did anticipate at the time of enacting the law that there can be entry of several such newspapers and publicity media agencies which may not be in the interest of the country, and also had thought as to how the newspapers published by foreign embassies will be monitored. Today the circulation of newspapers all over the world are engaged in publishing obscene matter, scandals and vulgar pictures and stories of the people's private life. How far it is justified to pay lakhs or crores of rupees to get the photographs and stories for publishing them in newspapers. Sir, this is called 'titillating journalism'. This is how the newspapers are functioning these days. All these people have already come to India. Persons like Mudroch have already reached here and they want to purchase and have a complete hold on newspapers, television and radio. Similarly one Mr. Turner was also expected to come here. But he could not come due to snag in his plane. Now some of his representatives have come. all these

people are engaged in establishing themselves here to have complete hold on our media. The concepts adopted in 1978 have changed a lot after a gap of 16 years. Our broadcasting procedure has changed a lot. How then would the Government manage to face the situation ?

17.00 hrs.

It is a very important question which should be replied by the Hon. Minister today because there is one more thing here.

[*English*]

Section 13 (2) (1) of the Press Council Act says:

“ To concern itself with the developments such as concentration or other aspects of ownership of newspapers and news agencies which may affect the independence of the Press.

[*Translation*]

If foreign capitalists like Murdoch and others having the capacity to invest millions and billions of rupees start having a hold on our media, we would be left with nothing. That is why when we suggest for “concentration and other aspect of ownership of newspapers.” It is the responsibility of the Government to see that such foreign entrepreneurs do not come. When the Government or the Press Council of India possess themselves with a law to deal with such situation, how then the foreign Newspapers establish their hold on Indian newspaper and earn undue profit. In the present circumstances, everybody needs money and if the multinational companies are allowed to work here with the sole motive of earning money, it would have a

bad impact. When we see this happening in the House itself, how then it can be prevented outside. The Hon. Minister should intimate the circulation of different newspapers, so that we may also become vigilant. Circulation aspect is a very insignificant one. The Government should think of protecting the country from the invasion of the foreign media and for this, there is no need to enact a new law. The present law is sufficient to take care of this. What is needed is to implement the law. This is my submission to the Government.

Sir, I would like to put up 1 or 2 points before concluding. The first is that our culture alone is not being invaded by the foreign media. Day before yesterday, I had pointed out that an American company is acquiring the right to telecast the world cup in our own country, though we ourselves- India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are the host countries. The Sri Lanka Government gave the right to telecast the match to their own television whereas we invite multinational companies for the purpose and the concerned Ministry is unable to do anything in this regard. I am distressed to see that international company is invited for this purpose which gets the right to telecast the matches and Doordarshan has to request the company for telecasting right in India. Sir, we must maintain some dignity. The new policies of the Government have brought us to such a stage. Therefore, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what policy is proposed to be adopted in the *World Cup Cricket Matches proposed to be hosted by India in 1996*. I do not know what legal rights do the Government have but whatsoever rights it has must use them. The House should also take a unanimous decision that whenever India hosts a game, our own media and not for multinational companies are given the right to telecast the matches.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we do know that the Airlines of the host country where international games are organised are called official carriers. If America host Olympic games, Indian Airlines or Air India cannot at any cost be called the official carriers. Similar rule applies if international games are held in Japan. Then why rules are changed in a particular situation. It is only Americans who can go to any extent and we are always ready to bow to them. Day before yesterday also, I had raised the matter here in the Zero Hour. At that time, the Hon. Minister was not present here. It appears to me that the matters raised during Zero Hour become zero, because nobody is responsible to give reply to them; the matter remains confined to where it had started. Today, the Hon. Minister is present and I would like him to give reply in this regard. At the same time, certain incidents took place in Doordarshan during the last week, we read about these in the newspaper. The Hon. Minister went to a particular officer to investigate the matter who refused to allow him to come in. Perhaps, he was of the Joint Secretary level. I do not remember properly, I read it in the newspaper. Thereafter, the Hon. Minister just directed the Ministry to transfer the particular officer somewhere else. I also read in the newspaper that the officer was corrupt and was also a haughty person. It has usually been observed that the person who is corrupt is haughty also and only action taken against such persons is that under Article 311 of the Constitution they are transferred to the other Ministry where they again commit irregularities. This is all what has appeared in the newspapers and is not version. The said officer was corrupt and haughty to such an extent that he did not let the Hon. Minister enter the room and the Hon. Minister could do nothing.

One thing I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister is that he has not become the

Minister for the first time and he stick to his values even when he was not in power. I do agree that in the present system, if a person tries to work honestly, he is pushed back. However, the Hon. Minister would have to combat the situation. We do expect him to deal strictly wherever such malpractices take place.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the end, I would discuss the matter regarding people who work in the newspapers, particularly the journalists. Nowadays, newspaper owners do not run their newspapers like newspapers; they invest the company's money in other enterprises such as cement companies and divert all the profit to other companies and in this way depriving the employees even from their salaries. He would continue to fight against it till our last breath. The Government will have to check this practice. As a whole in the society, there is large scale of unemployment in this field, whatever number of newspapers we may increase in the country. The Government will have to find out a way to check the newspaper owners from committing such atrocities. Regarding Press Council, the Government does nothing more than patch up work. However, the basic problems remain unsolved and the owners keep on misusing their money and power, deprive the employees of their due rights, and invest money in other projects, they also increase the prices of newspapers. A newspaper company has announced that it will provide its newspaper six days in a week for Rs.1.50 a day but on seventh day it will sell its paper for Rs.7/-. The MRTTP law has been made ineffective under the new liberalisation policy. How is it justified? It is against the consumer law. How can anybody to charge Rs.7.00 for the seventh day when he can afford to charge Rs.1.50 for six days. Nowadays, judiciary is so much overburdened that we are not take the matter to them. Now the newspaper owners

who do not know a,b,c of writing are working as editors. It is because such persons have inherited the ownership from their parents. Indian journalism is being treated cruelly today, and the journalists do not have the strength to revolt but the Parliament and the Government have the power to make provisions through legislation. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon.Minister to section 13-2 (i), since that power is in his hands. The Government should exercise that power. It hardly makes any difference if the Bill is passed. It is only if the Hon.Minister adopts a clear cut policy in this regard, that the Bill would be meaningful.

[*English*]

SHRICHITTA BASU (Barasat): Madam Chairperson, at the outset I want to bring to the notice of the House and particularly to the notice of the Hon.Minister in charge of the Bill the fact that I have got no objection, as such, on getting this Bill Passed. But I am constrained to say that this Bill is inconsequential and it is only of peripheral nature. It does not touch the heart of the problem which faces the Press of our country today and it does not solve even the general problems faced by the Press.

I take this opportunity to invite the attention of the Hon.Minister to certain basic issues and to certain basic policy frameworks and if those basic issues and basic policy framework are not addressed and determined, I think that there is nothing to do with this Bill, if it is adopted.

My first point is that there is great need of having an elaborate, comprehensive and well thought-out media policy. What is the media policy of the Government at present? Many Hon. Members have discussed about it. Many Hon. Members have also pointed out the effect of it.

But what is the real fundamental basis of the media policy of our Government? It is, therefore, necessary that the Government should come out with a media policy and this media policy must be properly worked out, properly thought out keeping in view the changes that have taken place in the world, changes that have taken place in our country and the changes that have taken place in the information technology. Therefore, this is the first need that there should be an elaborate media policy of our country. There have been new changes, new challenges, new methods of distortion, new methods of cultural invasion. And unless, there is an effective response to those policy changes, those changes in the reality of the situation, the media policy cannot complete with the media policy that is working to the detriment of our country. Therefore, what is needed is to frame, is to evolve a comprehensive, well thought out media policy to meet the present situation in the country.

Many Members have pointed out the threats that is coming from across the border, the threats from the international media sources. And these threats, these dangers are to be met. These threats and dangers cannot be met by army. These threats can be met by a different media policy. A cultural invasion can be met by a different alternative cultural policy. Therefore, what is needed is a new media policy for our country. I want that this media policy should be in adequate response to the changes that have taken place in our country, outside the country and to meet the threats, to meet the challenges from outside.

17.17 hrs

Shri P.C. Chacko *in the Chair*

I want to make it clear that while framing this media policy, we should be vigilantly guarding against the potential cultural invasion upon us, on our society, on our

social fabric. As many Members have already pointed out about the various dangers, therefore, I refrain from mentioning those dangers that are there. This new media policy must comprise among other aspect the following. The first point is that there should be adequate measure to strengthen the Press Council Act. Unless this Press Council is further strengthened, is given more teeth to meet the situation, to meet the danger, as has been pointed out, I think, these challenges cannot be met, the distortions that have crept in this field cannot be removed. Therefore, this media policy should have a clear perception about the restructuring of the Press Council machinery. This new media policy should also have a new perception about the freedom of the press. What do we mean by the freedom of the press? Today's freedom of the press of about a decade earlier. So far as freedom of the press is concerned, I only want to draw the attention of this House to this basic perception that I have got the right to differ from you.

Equally important is the duty to protect your right to differ from me. That is the basic essence of the freedom of speech. I have got the right to differ from you, at the same time, I should also accept the position that you have also got the right to differ from me. It is my duty also to protect your right of differing from me. The perception has to be the basic foundation of the freedom of speech. It must be incorporated in the new media policy.

Sir, this new media policy should also include the very basic problem of diffusion of the ownership of the newspaper. I have got many facts and figures to suggest that the newspaper industry has become the monopoly of the monopoly houses. In our part of the country, it is the jute barons who invest money in the newspaper industry to

bring out newspapers. Therefore, in our part of the country, it is generally called the Jute Press; it is not called as Press, it is called as Jute Press. Maybe, if you pronounce this word 'Jute in Hindi, the Jute Press becomes jhoot Press. Therefore, the ownership pattern of the newspaper industry should also be brought into the framework of new media policy. And herein comes the problem of democratisation or decentralisation of capital engaged in the newspaper industry.

Sir, the new media policy should also include a code of conduct for journalists and editorial independence. Many Members have pointed out how the owner of the newspaper, when he becomes the editor, removes the editors and editorial staff at his whims and caprices. If the freedom of speech and expression has to be preserved then your media policy should also spell out your basic approach to this editorial independence and decentralization of capital engaged in a newspaper industry. A media policy cannot actually be a media policy unless these things are included in that media policy.

On many occasions we found that there is a conflict between the legislature and freedom of speech and expression. I do not want to mention about the many instances that are there. Recently, there has been a case in Maharashtra. Therefore, it is necessary that there should be a codification of legislative privileges and the freedom of speech and expression. I do not like to mention about the instances. Therefore, if the interest of the freedom of speech and expression and also in the interest of the legislative privileges, there should be a codification and a line dividing the two; the line separating the two should be made much more pronounced so that one cannot interfere in the realm of another.

Sir, another thing is about the entry and equity participation of the foreign Press. So far as I know, many foreign newspapers are trying to get into India and start their newspapers. My other suggestion is that this policy framework, which I have mentioned earlier, should be formulated and for that purpose I feel that there should be a Press Commission to discuss these issues, to give thought to these problems and to come out with specific recommendations on these provisions. On the basis of that Press Commission's Report the new media policy should be formulated incorporating the recommendations of the Press Commission as I mentioned earlier.

It is reported that the publications of several foreign companies are trying to get into India. Time, The Sun, The Financial Times, DPA have already submitted their formal proposals to your Government for starting their publications from India. What is the response of the Government of India? I am told, The Ananda Bazar Patrika has already entered into a collaborative scheme with The Financial Times of London. I am told that is going to be cleared. This is a very important part of the media policy of our Government.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, I only want to draw your attention to the Government's current policy regarding this. I quote from the minutes of the Cabinet Meeting on National Media Policy held on May 23, 1956. It has not yet been changed formally.

"The entry of foreign news agencies would be to the detriment of the objectivity and the business prospects of Indian news agencies."

Have the Government decided to change it? If they have decided to change it,

under whose authority, behind the back of this Parliament, they have done it? I think some members in the Cabinet, as has been reported are very much interested to have this entry allowed under the so called new economic policy, globalisation and liberalisation. As a matter of fact, taking clue from this, Alexander Nicoll, the Asia Editor of The Financial Times says:

"His paper began considering India as a possible point of publication only after Delhi unfolded the process of liberalisation."

They have said they feel that the policy of the Government of India of liberalisation and globalisation creates a condition for allowing the foreign newspapers.....[Interruptions]... I do not think and you also should not think that the Minister should be removed from his job. Please look into it. You should not yield to the pressure of changing the media policy that is in the interest of the nation.

They say Indian culture consists of a very basic element. That is called compassion. Now they say there should be competition. But we should understand the compassion and competition cannot go hand in hand, cannot move side by side. Our Indian culture says we are for compassion. We are not always for competition. Now we have got the philosophy of competition everywhere.

I therefore conclude by saying that the time has come when there should be a proper review of the media policy of our country which would be compatible to the changes, which will be adequately responsive to the new information technology, which would be adequately strong, adequately effective to curb the malpractices in the field of journalism, which is equally effective to see that there is no

monopoly grip over the newspaper industry and which also effectively can serve the interest of the nation and combat the cultural invasion from foreign countries.

And for that, I request the Government to take proper steps to have another Press Commission. The new Press Commission should take into account all these issues and formulate the recommendations and on the basis of those recommendations the Government should come out with a new media policy.

Thank you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity.

I know that the scope of this Bill is very limited. But since a very important subject is the subject matter of the Bill, naturally, Members are taking this opportunity to express their views on some of the basic questions which are agitating the minds of the country as a whole.

Sir, I will not go into a large canvass. But I would like to request the Hon. Minister to keep one or two things in mind, give his thought to them and if possible, to respond today itself. The Press Council is expected to be a very important organization. We say that we do not believe in regulating the Press or controlling the Press or interfering with the Press because freedom of Press is a fundamental right in this country. But there have been occasions, and not too few, when we have found that a section of the Press has behaved irresponsibly. One of the functions of the Press Council is to go into the complaints made against the Press and to give its findings after a quasi-judicial proceeding. The council is headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge.

Sir, once I was a complainant before the Press Council. The concerned newspaper did not choose to even appear. They had no defence to make. I gave evidence before the Press Council. It gave a report in my favour. It came to the conclusion that the report was totally mischievous and gave a direction to publish it. And that publication was made again in a mutilated fashion which did give me another cause of action, but I did not pursue this futile exercise.

Against one of the former Members of this House, who is now a Member of the other House, allegations of misappropriation of money were made. He went to the Press Council. The Press Council gave notices to the newspaper. The newspaper did not have the courage to appear in spite of several notices. And then when a report was given against that newspaper saying it was irresponsible journalism, not one line appeared in that newspaper. Is the Press Council able to control this type of irresponsible journalism?

Therefore, what I would say is that the time has come for an in-depth study of the results of the functioning of the Press Council. I am making it very clear that I do not want any interference with the papers; we are not trying to regulate the papers or trying to influence the newspapers or their editors or their policies. But, Sir, 'right' also presupposes some sort of responsibility. As Shri George Fernandes was saying, character assassination should not be very lightly indulged in.

It is very very important to realise that some newspapers- fortunately not all- are deliberately planting stories on motivated basis, on political considerations, spreading calumny. But I do not want that they should be hounded. I have many friends in the profession of journalism. I know their

difficulties also. They have difficulties. They are made to write things. Some of them are made to write things which they do not wish to. In these days of unemployment, lack of alternative employment, when one gets a good job in a newspaper, they have to survive also. But all are not compromising also. Some are protesting against that.

I would only implore upon the Hon. Minister, for whom I have got the highest affection, that he is presiding over a very important Ministry. I know his ideas are all right. He is also a prisoner of the circumstances. I do not want him to lose his job. Therefore, I am saying that as a good player- he is a good cricket player and also a football player- he should do little dribbling here and there and try to come out of some of these things. Therefore, when you say of teet to the Press Council, I know, these should not be very lightly given. Some sort of protection has to be given. As we zealously wish to safeguard the freedom of the Press, we wish to zealously rule out the abuse of the right, abuse of the freedom of the Press.

Apart from that, I am not going into the very basic issues which have been raised like the attempted takeover of our Press by the foreign and others. Today, we have become victims of American whims, wishes and caprices. How far we are free, once again we have to consider very seriously. That is a wide canvas. I am not going into that. Recently, a tendency has developed wherein the owners of big newspapers, who are real captains of industry, are suddenly donning the mantle of editors or journalists. We all know what had happened in the case of an old lady of Bori Bunder. One of the shocking things had happened in that case. What had happened to a well established journalist of a great reputation Today, the

only claim to credibility of the owner of the company is his wealth and he has become the virtual editor. Other experienced and well reputed journalists and reporters had to leave. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar was also a journalist. I do not know whether he is still a journalist or not.....(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I am asking his views. I respect him.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): He has crossed that stage. He does not need your certificate.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But, he needs my affection, I believe.

Anyway, this is a very dangerous development. Our subservience to capital and more to foreign capital is eating at the vitals of our country and that is why we have lost our perspective of proper cultural life. Our values are getting distorted. And, that is why a Member like Shri. George Fernandes has to shout in anguish and agony.

The Minister had to call a meeting and I am glad he did call a meeting yesterday to consider the effects of present day tendencies of violence and sex; the lurid things that have come in our country and are engulfing the social and cultural life of our people. The younger generation, which is in the formative year of life, is the worst affected. This is the biggest danger. We are behaving in a manner as if money is the whole thing in this country and if it is foreign money, it is still better.

Therefore, Sir, I take this opportunity to request the Minister to give a serious thought to it. I am glad that he has taken an initiative in this regard. Something has to be done. In

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

the name of freedom of Press let them not have the freedom to pollute the country. Let there be no freedom to give a go by to what is the best in our Indian culture of which we are proud. Let a situation not be created wherein a family gets disrupted because parents and children cannot sit together and see a programme. This is the state of affairs where we have come to.

Our pride is that we have a certain sense of value. We had film makers like Satyajit Ray, Mrinal Sen and Ritik Ghatak who brought laurels to our country. They are respected throughout the world. We should spread their messages both within and outside our country. The Hon. Minister is an enterprising Minister. I request him to look into these issues very seriously and see that the Press Council becomes an effective organ. If necessary the Minister can widen its ambit and see that it has the authority to go into this and take effective action. Its function should not merely be submitting reports which nobody reads far less takes action. Therefore, Sir, this is a very very vital issue. After all, our country is passing through a serious crisis. There is unrest in the country also. There is an attempt to create a division among the people of this country on the basis of religion and so on. Here, press should play a very important role. Unfortunately, divisive trends are getting more prominence in the press than unifying aspects.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, so far as this Bill is concerned, it seems innocuous. But how do you differentiate between big, medium and small newspapers? Those guidelines are very important, at the same time, there should be true freedom of press and freedom of culture in this country. Let that not be given a final go by.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call the next

speaker. I would like to inform the Hon. Members that we should pass this Bill today itself. We had started the discussion yesterday. The time allotted for this Bill was two hours and we have already taken three hours and thirty-five minutes. Still four more Hon. Members want to speak. Then, the Hon. Minister will reply. If the House agrees, we will extend the time and pass this Bill.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is an innocuous Bill and with a limited purpose and therefore, I support this Bill.

The Bill provides for categorisation of various newspapers viz., large, medium and small, on the basis of their circulation. Further, the Government can do that by way of a Notification from time to time. So, the Government need not come before the House quite frequently with Amendments to the main Act. That could be avoided by this Bill.

There has also been some opposition from my BJP friends. They were saying that the small newspapers will be affected by this Bill.

Anyway in the absence of a debate on Demands for Grants of this Ministry it is quite natural that this has given the representatives of the people an opportunity to highlight different aspects. I feel that there should be a full scale debate on different aspects of our media policy, the status of the media, including the electronic media and the impending threat to our culture in the wake of this new international television culture.

Sir, the continuity has got to be there. The world is changing. Nobody can prevent

the process of change. Nobody will deny that we welcome a change but that change should be for the better and not for the worse. So, there should be a continuity in our inherent culture and on no occasion we should part with that. The intellectuals and others have got to address themselves on these things.

Now, I will come to the Press Council. I would like to quote what Justice Sarkaria, the Chairman of the present Press Council had said. He said : "That the Council's present powers to admonish one and censure or disapprove the conduct of a journalist are adequate."

I can not persuade myself to agree to this.

You just now heard our senior Member, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, who is also a veteran lawyer of national repute. He had also cited some instances. The present Chairman of the Press Council does not want to be vested with punitive powers. At present the Press Council exercises only a moral authority.

In the changing situation, in the present scenario, only morality, I am afraid, is not capable of bringing about the desired result. In this country, anybody may declare emergency. Only during emergency, employees were coming to their offices in time; trains were running in time. If this is the situation and when crimes are alarmingly on the increase, we have to strengthen our law; we have to, looking at the new situation, also provide for very sufficient punitive action everywhere.

In the Middle East, when somebody rapes somebody, his hands are chopped off. Here, even after committing heinous crimes, by engaging senior lawyers, anybody

can go scot free. Time is coming when there will be many more criminals of such type. So, naturally, we have to look afresh at our laws, different provisions, etc. including the Press Council. Like Press Council, we have other councils also like Medical Council, Bar Council. If we look at their provisions, we will find that they have punitive powers. If they have such provisions, why not the Press Council? There should be a study made in the light of observations of Justice Sarkaria with regard to their adequacy. In how many cases, they have censured; in how many cases, they have won, and what has been its impact on those particular cases, on those particular journals or newspapers later on?

At the same time, our country is not a level playing field. Take any area. In journalism, press is no exception. Of course, during the days of struggle for independence, the Press played a very commendable role for the purpose of organizing masses against the foreign rule. Gandhiji also took to journalism. He brought out journals and other things. Shri Aurobindo used to edit newspapers. That was how the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* took birth. So, naturally, Gokhaleji, Tilakji, Lala ji, all those national leaders, they themselves brought out newspapers, journals to see that their message of struggle against the Britishers, their message of independence reached the masses. So, it was a very nationalistic role that the Press played, a laudable role that the Press played.

But the things have changed. Thereafter, it has turned to be a business. There has got to be special treatment meted out to certain newspapers. The Hon. Minister hails from Orissa. I also belong to Orissa. In Orissa, by and large, all the Chief Ministers, are themselves responsible for the birth of newspapers starting from this one. Prior to that, there was a national figure of repute of

those days, who could be called rightly "Gandhiji of Orissa", late Govind Das. He also started Samaj newspaper. In certain States, it is not even today running on business lines; even today, they are running in losses; then they go for donation and subscription also. There is no element of profitability even today. You cannot compare such newspapers with national dailies, The Times of India, The Hindustan Times and others. Where multi-storeyed buildings are there, even money earned out of it is diverted to some other purpose also. I have another reservation about it. I support the idea, in terms of circulation, that this 15000 will be raised to 25000, thereafter 50000 will be raised to 75000 and so on.

Then we have different areas—backward areas and comparatively developed areas. In the backward areas, I would request that let there be a study so that the newspapers do not suffer. In all the areas imbalance and inequality is there. Naturally, some sort of a preferential treatment is there for small newspapers being published from backward areas only. We have to see that the interest of newspapers do not suffer.

The Fourth Estate, as we call the Press, the pillar of democracy, is also a sign of vibrant democracy. The way there has been a growth in the newspaper is a good sign. It has grown to 400 per cent, which is a welcome feature. It is linked with the literacy level also. But when we talk of minor irrigation, medium irrigation or major irrigation, these are fixed in terms of acreage. There is no change in that. Same is the case with industry. There are small industries, medium industries and large industries. That is also measured in terms of large money. With the erosion of money power and income arising out of inflation and something like that. But here, I think probably it is linked with literacy rate. I do not know what they are doing.

Sir, as you know, pen is mightier than sword. So the pen should be exercised properly. Shakespear's pen was mightier than Napoleon's or Hitler's empire just disappeared. A journalist, who is possessing a pen, should use it properly. We have to see that he does not misuse it. So there should be a provision in our law so that its misuse can be prevented.

I would like to bring to the attention of the Hon. Minister one particular point regarding Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI). There is only one RNI sitting in Delhi in an office in R.K.Puram. I had been to him once. His office is in a mess. The functioning of the Press Council has to be toned up, at the same time this RNI should also function properly.

Our good friend Shri Chandulal Chandrakar said about their work as to how properly and sincerely they work. I know you also have a bitter experience of RNI. There is a cumbersome procedure to get the newspaper registered and get a title for that. In a vast country like India, with a large population, in a country of continental dimensions. If somebody from Kerala wants to register a newspaper or wants to bring out a journal or a weekly or a monthly, one has to spend thousands of rupees and has to come to RNI office several times. Why can this not be decentralised? How can there be just one office in a country of such a big size? Therefore it has got to be decentralised. Why should not officers of the State Government be given powers? If an Additional District Magistrate recommends a title for a newspaper, the RNI office in Delhi refuses it straightaway.

18.00 hrs.

They just say that that title is not

available. But if we quarrel with them, two or three months after some other things also will go on in the process and then they oblige. So, something has to be done about it.

Again, about this study etc. I have also mentioned. The advertisement rates also. I think, should be suitably revised from time to time. Otherwise, the small newspapers cannot just survive.

Sir, may I mention the plight of the journalists? Hardly any of the journalists attached to small newspapers coming out in backward areas gets any salary. On the contrary they spend money from their pocket on postage etc. just because they have a fancy or hobby to be called journalists. There are some other things also, which they exploit. That is the situation.

I am not going to touch the other questions about the wage board recommendations, etc. They are not implemented properly, and even without getting anything they sign as if they are taking or enjoying some salary, etc. All these things are going on. So, in a country like ours, we have to address ourselves to these questions. Since there is a time constraint and you have been reminding me to conclude. I would not like to continue further, but I would just say one thing. There is need for a full-scale debate on different aspects of this matter. It is very important, particularly, in the wake of the new TV culture which has been agitating our minds. In spite of the efforts of the Government and the Hon. Minister the Television is in a terrible mess.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go to a new topic.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Television, with the multi-channels and all those things is not functioning properly.

With these words, I thank you for giving me time, I support this Bill and at the same time stress that the observations made by me and various other Hon. Members need to be given due consideration.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Mr. Chairman, at the outset I express my support to the Bill which the Hon. Minister has moved with great disappointment that a dynamic Minister, a good friend of mine, could only bring such a very small piece of legislation. Of course, I do not want to reduce the importance of the Bill, but taking into account the importance of the Press Council and the media, and also taking into account the fact that the original Bill was enacted in 1978, a comprehensive Bill is long overdue which unfortunately, despite his capacity, the dynamic Minister of Information and Broadcasting could not bring to this House. I hope that he will avail of the next available opportunity to bring such a comprehensive Bill to this House for a full-fledged discussion.

Sir, many of the Hon. Members of this House have already mentioned almost every point but I just would like to confine myself to two or three points, very shortly and briefly.

One is what Shri Sushil Chandra Verma, a Member of the Press Council has submitted before this House that the Press Council should be only a moral authority. If it is only a moral authority, do not think that the Press Council will be able to discharge the duties conferred on it by the statute itself, the Press Council Act, 1978.

I would also like to submit before this House that it is for this House to look into the fact whether the Press Council has performed or discharged its duties conferred

on it.

I have a great respect to the Chairman of the Press Council, who is an eminent judge, who is retired now, who is doing an excellent work and taking up onerous responsibility on him. Until and unless this Press Council is given punitive powers, the Press Council will not be able to discharge its duties. Here I would like to mention Section 13 about which Shri George Fernandes has made an elaborate mention. I would like to quote Section 13(2) (c):

"To ensure on the part of newspapers, news agencies and journalists, the maintenance of high standards of public faith and foster a new sense of both rights and responsibilities of the citizenship"

If such a very important function has been conferred on the Press Council, under the present circumstances, the present Council will not be able to discharge its duties.

We can be very much proud about our journalists. When the Americans are very much proud about their journalists, who have unearthed the watergate episode, we can also be proud about our journalists, who have unearthed Mega scam, securities scam and such other things. We are also proud of them. They must be given protection: they must be given encouragement: and they must be given all other facilities. But, at the same time, it is quite unfortunate to say that there are journalists, who happen to be in the profession under certain circumstances.

There was a saying about lawyers. That is, as "last resort of a scoundrel". Of course, I do not agree with that. Now, it so happens that whether this "last resort of scoundrel" will be made applicable to some of the people who have come to the

profession of journalism. I do not know. We will have to analyse one thing and we will have to see, how far these people, who happen to be in the profession of journalism, will be able to serve the country and our national interest.

Sir, I would like to ask one thing. What was the performance of some of the newspaper about the incidents happened in this country? Of course, as regards the incident occurred on December 6th and 7th 1992, we are all proud about some of our national newspapers and our media, who have stood steadfastly to the very principle of secularism and democracy in this country. They fought for secularism. We are all proud of that. But at the same time, there are certain newspapers, especially the regional newspapers, which brought out false news. Sometime back, 20 newspapers in UP brought out a special edition containing false news saying that the then Government under Mr. Mulayam Singh had opened a fire and as a result of which 200 and more people were killed. It was a blatant lie. It was a canard. I would like to know what could this Press Council do. When for a small Offence, the administration punished many people, why such a stand or action had not been taken at that time? Of course, it may not be the duty of the Minister for Information and Broadcasting. But, Shri Ram Lal Rahi, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, is sitting here now. I would like to ask him one question. What did the Government do when a leader sitting in Bombay talking very much against one community, degrading and denouncing that community. I would not want to use much harsher word because I would also be put on a par with him. When the largest minority community of this country has been described as those to be treated like Jews in Nazi Germany, what did the Government do? Did the Government know our feelings and it is the

resentment of a large section of the people on it. The Government should honour it. The Government should take into account this feeling. The minority people are agitated. If there are no such provisions and no teeth are given to the Press Council or any other agency to take action how will they or Government take steps against them? This is the question that I am asking.

Sir, for newspapers, I can very well understand, if a dog bites a man, that is not a news and if a man bites a dog, then it will be a news. But quite unfortunately, there are journalists, who are only going in for such a news item.

That is the whole trouble in this country. That is why an impression is given by no lesser a person than Shri Somnath Chatterjee—a very senior Member of this House—of his sad experiences with the Press Council. The Government should take note of it and see that such experiences shall not be repeated to anybody else. We must give democratic rights, independence and protection to the press and maintain the freedom of the press. But, at the same time, such democratic rights should not be misused or abused by the journalists infringing the fundamental rights, honesty and integrity by making false and baseless allegations.

Sir, I come from a State where the stalwarts like Swadeshbhimani Ramkrishna Pillai, Kesari Balakrishna Pillai, Verghees Mappila, Vakkam Maulavi, Sahodaran Ayyappan, Mohd. Abdul Rahim who fought against the despotic rulers and colonial power.

Sir, there are seven thousand and odd newspapers in this country out of which one newspaper from Kerala—I am proud to say—is having the largest circulation in the

country. The people who are connected with the management of the newspaper in that State are put to great difficulties and hardships. One such matter was pointed by my Hon. colleague, Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are like me connected with the management of medium newspapers. What is the position of the medium newspapers in this country? There are allegations against small newspapers in respect of circulation. But I would like to say that there are many honest small newspapers in this country.

Sir, the small and medium newspapers have to depend on the Government income. Medium papers whose circulation is from twenty five thousand to seventy five thousand newspapers have to depend on Government assistance. The big newspapers, the English newspapers etc. may be able to maintain with their own resources. But the small and medium newspapers have to totally depend on Government aid. So, I want a categorical assurance from the Hon. Minister that he will take necessary steps to support the small and medium newspapers expeditiously by prompt payment for Government advertisements.

Sir, I once again take this opportunity to support Shri Sriballav Panigrahi about the Registrar of Newspapers in Delhi. It should be decentralized on different regions. Now, I had an occasion to go to the Registrar's Office. He has a legacy of his own. Then only I decided not to go there. I do not find any fault with the Registrar. He is given circumstances under which he has to work. So, I urge upon the Hon. Minister to take immediate steps to improve the conditions of that office.

Lastly, until and unless the Government take necessary steps or provide powers to

the Press Council to take action against the delinquent newspapers- especially when the secular and democratic polity is under strain— we will not be able to serve the cause of the nation in the best interests of the country.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing here an important yet a brief topic. Press Council Amendment Bill 1993 is being discussed here. Its aim is very small and limited. It has to be decided as to which newspaper is small and which is big on the basis of their circulation. It is a very small matter if the Press Council leaves it to the Government to decide. But even a small matter leads to some other related matters. That is why, the need is to go into the depth of the matter. But we have a democratic system in our country. We have our own constitution which gives us freedom of expression. Every citizen has a right to convey his views to the other person. How he does it needs monitoring.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the newspaper is an important media to keep educated people informed. But this media should reach the poor people also. The big newspapers do not cater to them. Because their price is higher and as such the published contents do not hold much meaning for them. It becomes socially and politically important to decide how it is to be done. There are several means for financing the big newspaper, they are powerful also and can express themselves better. In a democracy it is seen that the Press wants to control the Government and the Government wants to control the Press. May be it results due to this tug-of-war and there should be an effective way of keeping check. If this is not

the matter, then, it is a good thing but the situation of this tug-of-war is not good. Having freedom, and autonomy is a good thing, that is why, under the Constitution we are mutually responsible to each other. The Press is responsible and so is the Government. It involves the public also.

Sir, the Constitution of India ensures to all its citizens social, economic and political justice and freedom of expression and following any religion, to make our society totally secular, socialist, democratic and republic. It is specifically written in the Constitution. Thus, every citizen should be ensured this freedom of expression. It is said that our constitution is important from this point of view and it has been created by our people. How should the newspapers reach the public? It is difficult to run the small newspapers. I have a personal experience. When a newspaper is proposed to be started, it needs to be registered first of all and an application is sent to the A.D.M for getting a title, etc. Some newspapers want registration from the point of bringing about a social change or from economic or political point of view. Anybody who has got contacts can easily get the registration. I am citing the example of a newspaper which has been seeking registration for the last 6 months to no avail. I was told that there are some loopholes but even after plugging the cited loopholes nothing is being done.

What should be done to streamline this system to ensure that the minimum possible time is taken for registration? In Delhi, the facility of making passports is provided in the Regional office. Is such a service possible for the newspapers also to ensure that the registration process becomes easier? It can even be centralised. If it can be made possible, then, the small newspapers will not need to come to Delhi. Their registration can be done in their respective states and

thus the registration process can be made simple. Sometimes it is a matter of freedom of expression and sometimes it is a matter of big or medium newspapers. They are established papers and thus, get advertisements from private companies as well as the Government and this way, they get more prosperous. If the advertisement process is not smooth and the timely payment is also not made, then, their existence is endangered. Earlier the news-items used to be hand-composed, but now, photo-composing is being done. The newspapers also require more capital after their modernisation. It requires more sources of information for that. What steps are proposed to be taken by the Government to provide all these facilities? Although, now, Doordarshan has also become an important medium but the newspapers are still read. Small newspapers have a larger readership. There is a talk of extending the limit of newspapers which have a circulation of 15000. The number of newspapers has also increased and its circulation will also increase in proportion, thus, it should be kept in view while making the division. Efforts must be made to ensure that small newspapers are financed. Though it is true that there can be exploitation of their employees by the newspaper owners. The steps must be taken with a view to save them from such exploitation. The first step is composing of news-items followed by proof-reading, printing, cutting and circulation. The Correspondent contributes news-items. Nobody knows what are the working conditions of that person. We have left it to their discretion and whenever we see a need to enact a legislation to limit it, we will introduce such a Bill. It should be considered in entirety. It means that all the points should be given an equal consideration. Only then we will be able to reach a good conclusion. That is why, when we consider the newspapers, we should think about their

employees also. How the news-items will be collected should be considered. The question of considering the whole media is an important one.

It is being said that the newspapers are going to be affected by the foreign capital. In what sectors the foreigners want to invest? They have already dominated our ideological base now if they start dominating our economic and financial base, then, what will become of our nation's existence? The existence of our nation is threatened. When somebody comes from abroad he must be bearing marks of his culture. Foreign capitalists will affect our culture also. How can we ignore such an effect? Thus, it becomes imperative that the foreign influence does not make inroads into the Fourth Estate. Democracy depends on independence. Our independence will be in our control only. If some foreigner comes and decides our national matters and forms an intellectual base and asks us to play a second fiddle to him, then, it will not be in the interest of our nation. Therefore, for the social, economic and political building of the country, everything should be properly planned since the social changes take place at a slow pace without being noticed. One cannot notice the economic changes but political changes are noticeable when there is change in the Government. Social change is a very slow process and every development affects it. Therefore, such an arrangement should be made that the newspapers can educate the people properly.

Today, Doordarshan is taken broadly as synonym of entertainment. Films of all languages be they Gujarati, Marathi, Oriya, Telegu or Tamil should be shown on it. We can have entertainment from cinema but entertainment is not everything. Besides, the Programmes relating to science,

education and culture should also be telecast on it. There should be some thing which connects us with our culture. We may not go in for very serious talks and heavy programmes of science but we can aim at those things in some other ways. Such aims can be fulfilled by educative plays whose main themes can be to teach the society.

There is a second danger to Doordarshan is of foreign culture. As Shri George Sahib has said, the things which take place there do not happen there. Things should happen in our country as we wish. We ourselves have to fix our limits. Today, the situation is such that the education of our children is being affected by Doordarshan. Our freedom of thought has also been affected. If someone is sitting before Doordarshan and a guest comes to meet him, he will not talk to him but simply keep on watching the programme. Our social relations are being affected by it. These things have an affect on our thinking too. We want that no form of art should be an obstacle in the way of the telecast of Doordarshan; rather it should assist in it. Therefore, the provision of classification of newspapers in this Bill should be pondered over in this context, since ours is a great country-

Ham Kon The, K'ya Ho Gaye
 Aur Kya Hohge abhi
 Aao Vicaren Aaj Mickar
 Yeh Samasyain Sabhi
 Yadhpi Itihas Apna
 Gyat Pura Hai Nahi
 Ham Kon The Is Gyan Ka
 Phir Bhi Adhura Hai Nahi
 Bhulok Ka Gaurav Prakriti Ka
 Punya Pooja Sathal Kahan
 Phaila Manohar Giri Himalaya
 Aur Gangajal Jahan
 Sampooran Deshon Se Adhik
 Kis Desh Ka Utkarsh Hai
 Uska ki Jo Rishi Bhoomi Hai

Wh Kon Bharatwarsh Hai

In order to create an identity of India, we certainly will have to make it more refined. I firmly believe that we shall be able to build our nation by means of any form of art:

Agar Toofan Mein Kishti Ho To
 Ho Sakti Hain Tadbeeren
 Gar Kishti Mein Toofan Ho
 To Khuda Hafiz Hai Kishti Kai

Let us take up the process of nation building. We would like to take it up properly. We cannot be a mute spectator to what is going on today. Our present is also to be taken into consideration so that the process of Nation building can march ahead. This is my submission.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now all the names sent by the whips of the Parties are exhausted. Umrao Singhji, since you wanted to speak, I am giving you chance to speak as a special case. But you have to conclude in five minutes.

18. 28 hrs

SHRI UMRao SINGH (Jalandhar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, certain fundamental issues have been raised in the debate on this Bill, though the Bill is very innocuous. But there are certain aspects which have not been touched.

Our Supreme Court has, recently, given a historic judgment on secularism after hearing the petition on the dissolution of the State Assemblies and secularism has been accepted as a basic character of the Constitution. When we are considering the new policy of the Press, we must take into consideration the new concept of our

Constitution accepted by the Supreme Court.

Sir, There are many ills in our society which are created by the Communal Press. The feelings of hatred have been spread; provocative speeches are not only being delivered, but they are also being published. But these are the issues on which we had many problems in our country. In my own State which had experienced the darkest days in the Indian history, it is said that the Communal Press is responsible for creating such a situation in the State. So, I would like to say that taking advantage of the new judgement of the Supreme Court and the interpretation of secularism as a basic structure of the Constitution, the whole structure of the Press Council and the whole structure of the Press Policy of the country should be redrafted.

Newspapers having allegiance to communal parties, communal feelings and those which are known for spreading violence and spreading violence should be curbed immediately. Though we have the freedom of Press, under the garb of the freedom of press, all sorts of news are being published. Taking advantage of this, we have created a situation in the country where feeling of one community against another has been so much created that sometimes we had violence, riots and very difficult situation.

We have experienced terrorism in Punjab. Still terrorism is continuing in Kashmir and in other parts of the country. Where we have this phenomenon, under such situation, how should the Press report? That is very important. We have seen that the terrorists going to the newspaper offices and getting all sorts of news published, their Press notes, their anti-national activities, their provocative speeches. The Government of India and the State Government remain silent spectators. It is not only that their own

biased news has been got published but in many cases, the media people have been killed. The Doordarshan officials, AIR officials have been killed. Some editors, some people working in the newspaper offices, so many hawkers of a particular newspaper were killed.

My submission is, the whole media policy in the country should be so framed that this country should accept the principle of secularism which is enshrined in the Preamble of our Constitution. The Press is responsible for creating public opinion. But in this country, a feeling of enmity is given. If a public opinion is created against this, I think, most of our problems in the country can be solved easily.

My friend, Mr. George Fernandes has said something about the Gold cup. I am also connected with Sports and I know the problems faced by the sports. It is not that we invite any foreign media or any foreign TV to come and take the coverage. All sports organisations which organise the World Cup or Asian Games or Olympic Games require huge expenses. For Olympic Games, I can say, the main source of income is TV rights. It is advertised and all the world companies come for bidding. They come individually and some make consortium and make a bid. Those giving higher bids get the right. Similarly, if we want to organise in our country, an international competition, a competition of world cup nature, we need huge money for organising such a competition. So, we have to see the financial aspect also. I am sure, our Government is not so rich; our Sports Department does not have so much money that it can give huge money to the Organising Committee by which the Organising Committee can organise things. Similarly, we had Asian Games and we are proposing so many sports in this country.

If this approach has been adopted, certainly no foreign TV can come and then how can we show our games to the whole world? After all, the games are seen not only in India but also all over the world and everybody in the world is interested to see World Cup whether it is cricket, football or other atheletic. When every country is interested to see, can our media make arrangements of such a nature that the whole world can view it? Where are facilities? Where is the necessary equipment to cover such a big event? In the interest of sports and of inviting more and more international competition, any curb from the Government on the organisation of games and on the copyrights or on the TV rights is not justified. Doordarshan is a commercial organisation. If they can come forward, nobody can stop them.

I would like to say a word about cultural organisations. A lot has been said about culture.

[*Translation*]

Our culture is not that fragile. It reminds me a couplet on Iqbal:

KUCH BAAT HAI KI HASTI MITATI
NAHI HAMARI

SADIYON RAHA HAI DUSHMAN
DORE JAHAN HAMARA

[*English*]

We have our people living all over the world. But they are maintaining our culture much better than we are maintaining here. They are more Indian than us. Whether they are living in London or New York, they move about like Indians and have Indian heritage and they also follow Indian religion of their

forefathers. Our culture is so strong that nothing can affect it and nothing can change the basic traditions of our culture. We are very proud of that.

I would like to thank our worthy Hon. Minister. He has been very kind to sanction a second channel for Jalandhar which is my Constituency. I hope that the second channel should start functioning soon.

There are many irregularities which have been pointed out about the functioning of Doordarshan. I hope correct measures will be taken and the working of media, whether of Doordarshan or All India Radio or other media should be improved

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):
Are these his personal views or the views of the Congress party?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):
These are his personal views. He is the
President of the Women Hockey
Organisation.

[*English*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, first and foremost I would like to convey my grateful thanks for the excellent participation of the Hon. Members, for their very erudite contribution, their candid and valuable suggestions, their constructive criticism and specially, the very high level of debate. This is exactly what is so important for the functioning of democratic institutions to which we are committed and for which we are proud of as the largest democracy in the world which has its electoral process.

It is in this context that I would like to respond with all humility in letter and spirit to the points made and I would like to give my assurance that deep examination, incisive analysis and consultations will be made with our sister Ministeries as well as with the Press Council of India.

I shall also convey the views of the Hon. House and the Members to the authorities concerned as well as to the Press Council of India.

Now about this particular amendment. As the Hon. Members have said, this is a very small amendment and it began in January, 1991. If one has to go to the evolution of this, it was as a basis of the recommendations of the newspapers associations and the language newspapers associations who in 1988-89 referred the question to the Government and as a result, the Government agreed with the revision of classification of the papers from 15000 to 25000 for the small ; upto 75000 for the medium and 75000 and above for the large. In Feb.1991, this was conveyed by the Press Council of India vide their Letter Number 15/33/90, February 1st, 1991 from the Secretary, Shri G.L.Ahuja to the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Shri Imtiaz Ahmed. With your permission, I would like to quote this. Section 5 of the Press Council Act, 1978 deals with the composition of the council.

Explanation thereunder for Sub-clause (b) of Clause 3 says:

"A newspaper shall be deemed to be:

- i) "big newspaper" if the total circulation of all its editions exceeds fifty thousand copies for each issue;
- ii) "medium newspaper" if the total circulation of all its editions exceeds fifteen thousand copies but does not exceed fifty thousand copies for each issue;
- iii) "small newspaper" if the total circulation of all its editions does not exceed fifteen thousand copies for each issue.

The definitions of big, medium and small newspapers, as mentioned above and incorporated in the Press Council Act, 1978, were presumably based on the definitions as prevailing at that time as per public notice of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, as published in the Gazette of India.

Recently it was brought to our notice that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have issued notice No.2/13/86-MUC dated 23.5.89 in the Gazette India Extraordinary, according to which, the newspapers and periodicals as defined in the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, shall, based on their circulation, be classified into big, medium and small categories, as indicated below with effect from 1.4.89:

CIRCULATION PER PUBLISHING DAY

CATEGORY	EXISTING	REVISED
Small	Below 15000 copies	Upto 25000 copies
Medium	15000 to 50000 copies	Above 25000 and upto 75000 copies

CIRCULATION PER PUBLISHING DAY

CATEGORY	EXISTING	REVISED
Big	above 50000 copies	Above 75000 copies

The operative part is this:

"The matter has been considered by the Press Council of India in its meeting held on January 21-22, 1991. The council has decided that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may be approached to get the Explanation under Section 5(3) of the Press Council Act, 1978 amended by appropriate legislation to revise the definitions of big, medium and small newspapers with effect from 1.4.89 to bring these in line with the latest classification as per the Notification dated 23.5.89.

Further, the process of re-constitution of the Press Council of India for a three year term has already been initiated by us. The panels of names, inter alia, from among the persons who own or carry on the business of management of big, medium and small newspapers under Section 5(3) (b) are to be invited towards the end of March or early April 1991. At that time, it will be of crucial importance to have the latest definitions of big, medium and small newspapers. It is therefore, requested that immediate action in the matter may kindly be taken."

Sir, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting took immediate action in July 1991, when my distinguished predecessor

took office on the 16th of June, 1991. Till then, no action had been taken. There was another Government before that day. I do not wish to say anything about that. The Bill was brought in 1992 in the Rajya Sabha. That hon. House gave me permission in December 1993 to get it passed and this hon. House has given permission today, on the 12th of May, 1994. So, I would like to say that timely action was taken by the Ministry on the specific desire of the Press Council of India. It was not a hurriedly thought out diabolical plan to muzzle the Press or to control the Press as my hon. colleagues have tried to make out. The Government have no intention to muzzle the Press. It is committed to the freedom of Press and it has been following that. Otherwise, in 1978, when this Bill was brought as an aftermath of the emergency to which many Members have referred to, it would have been easier for Shrimati Gandhi who came back to power in 1980 with a three-fourths majority or for Shri. Rajiv Gandhi who came back to power with four-fifths majority to have it amended or to scrap all this. So, we are committed to the functioning of democracy. That is why, we have brought in participative democracy. We are committed to the freedom of Press, freedom of expression and freedom of thought in all actions of the Government of India, whether it is the Literacy Mission, whether it is the various developmental programmes, whether it is the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Panchayati Raj, Nagarapalika and also the expansion of the services of PIB, DAVP and RNI; decentralisation is being talked about. We have started the regional offices of the various organizations which the Members

wanted. It was done in deference to their wishes, in response to the situation and environment. We are exactly doing that.

Everyone has taken a dig at the Doordarshan and All India Radio although it was not a subject matter of today's debate. But, at the same time, every Member has been demanding for a Low Power Transmitter or a High Power Transmitter or expansion of these services in their constituencies. That is the reality today. Anyway, we are very happy that the same people who have concern about Doordarshan or the Television are also demanding expansion of these services in their own constituencies. I do hope that it is not a political matter and it is not a matter of prestige of having a Low Power Transmitter in one's own constituency.

This amendment is important not because I am saying it, but because the Press Council itself has said in its letter. I am very grateful to all the hon. Members for participating in this debate. Although this is a small amendment— my good friend Shri Umrao Singh of Jalandhar has said that it is an innocuous one; that is his personal perception— because it is an important one because there are many facilities, as I said in my opening remarks, which are being given to small and medium newspapers by various State Governments, like the Government of Maharashtra. And I would like to quote:

“The growth of the Press has been phenomenal in the last decade and more so if one compares it from 1956.”

It is a very healthy sign that people wish to be informed. The role of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry is to inform, educate and entertain for the successful

working of our democracy. It is healthy to have an inspired, enlightened and educated public opinion. When once it gets distorted with a slant then they are prejudiced, which is partisan, which has the vested interests to which many Members have reflected in this House and I would not like to repeat it.

I am very happy that the present House is far more tolerant to this than the fireworks which I saw in the Rajya Sabha. The Members have expressed deep concern at the type of blatant yellow journalism. And I understand that the Members of the Rajya Sabha can say anything without much restraint, whereas we, the Lok Sabha MPs, have to be careful because of certain exigencies of the situation.

On the 31st December 1956 the number of newspapers in English was 1133; Hindi 1254; and others 4183, totalling 6570. In the same period the circulation in English was 24,74,000, Hindi 22,20,000 and others 62,58,000 totalling 10,95,20,00. On 31st December 1990 the number of newspapers was 4777 as against 1133 in English; 9695 as against 1254 in Hindi; and 14019 as against 4183 others, making a total of 28,491. The circulation of news in English was 72,13,000; in Hindi 19,15,00,00 and others 26,79,70,00. It comes to 53,16,00,00. So an increase of 400 per cent in the number of newspapers and an increase of 500 per cent in circulation has been there.

Besides this many Members have spoken that help must be given to small and medium newspapers. My colleague Shri Sriballav Panigrahi also mentioned about backward, underdeveloped and tribal areas. The facilities extended to small and medium newspapers by this Ministry, by the various media units, is like this. First is the facility extended by Press Information Bureau. One is the newspapers. The PIB, in pursuance of

its policy of providing more and more services to the small and medium newspapers gives a number of special facilities to them besides making available its general services such as news releases and features, it has been supplying other types of services such as ebonoid blocks, charbas for Urdu papers and illustrated photo features. News services; a number of services tailored to the need of small papers have been introduced, in-depth stories written in simple and capsule forms covering developments in various spheres such as science, economic growth, agriculture, health and family welfare are also prepared and supplied to them in all major languages of the country. Third is the photo service. The Bureau also supplies illustrated photo features and ebonoid blocks to small papers, the charbas service which consists of ebonoid zinc block for use in Urdu litho print has become quite popular. Fourth is the special services cell. The Bureau has set up a special services cell at the headquarters office with representatives in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Cell is entrusted with the task of preparing field based development stories and making them available to the language newspapers. Emphasis is on providing locally relevant photographs, cartographs and ebonoid blocks. Press parties; organising Press Parties to various Central Government projects is another important activity of the Bureau which enables representatives of the Press to have first hand knowledge of the developmental activity going on in different parts of the country.

Representatives of different papers are taken at frequent intervals to selected projects for this type of special service. Small and medium language papers get a representation in these conducted tours, the last one was about a week back.

Accreditation rules have been liberalised

to extend greater facilities to small and medium papers. As per rules, only the newspapers with a circulation of over 5000 copies are eligible for accreditation. In order, however, to assist the smaller papers, this condition has been relaxed; and now, two or more small newspapers can jointly see accreditation for a common correspondent. The rules also provide that special consideration may be shown to newspapers devoted to science and technology and to those published from hilly or backward areas or from regions that are under-developed in terms of information and communication. Bureau's mailing list now contains a large number of small and medium newspapers as well as correspondents accredited on their behalf. These facilities are extended to language newspapers as well.

Then, Sir, I will come to the facilities extended by Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity, DAVP. Newspapers with a minimum paid circulation of 2000 copies are now eligible for securing Government advertisements. Papers and periodicals published in backward areas, remote tribal areas- all in tribal languages and meant primarily for tribal readers - are made eligible for securing Government advertisements, if the minimum paid circulation is 500 copies only. This concession is also available to papers and periodicals published from J & K State. Newspapers and periodicals with an uninterrupted publication of four months have now become eligible for securing Government advertisements as against a period of six months which was provided in the earlier advertisement policy. Standard print has been done away with. Newspapers and periodicals with a circulation of 2000 copies have been exempted from submission of Chartered Accountant's Certificate. In the matter of advertisement rates, DAVP rate structure provides an un-bulit weightage for small and medium

newspapers.

During 1992-93, Sir, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, to obtain news services both for Doordarshan and AIR, paid Rs.21,00,00,00; to PTI, English-Rs. 1.55 lakhs, Hindi- Rs.25 lakhs, teleprinter charges Rs.30 lakhs; to UNI, Rs.121 lakhs; Rs.25 lakhs to Hindi, Rs.6 lakhs to Urdu, teleprinter chargers Rs.25 lakhs; so, total comes to Rs.177 lakhs.

These are just as illustration to show that we have given some support to the small and medium papers. I can assure you, Sir, that the views of the hon. Members which are a vital feedback to our Ministry, will be the guiding principle in deciding what are the concessions we can give. [Interruptions] Most of the Members spoke on some of the common points. Those are: media policy, foreign media, Prasar Bharathi, increase of papers, facilities, circulation and registration by RNI, wage board, houses for journalists, regional papers, advertisements, type of journalism- investigative, yellow, defamatory, blackmail, communal, commercial, monopolistic, exodus- owners as editors, editorial independence, cross-media participation, about Press Council of India, its composition and restructuring that it should be a watchdog of democracy, timely steps and actions must be taken, appellate court and that the Press Council should have various powers including *suo motu*.... (*Interruptions*)

19.00 hrs

That more funds should be given; there should be regional basis and the Press Council of India should look into *suo motu* rather than depend on the complaints. It should be given more teeth. About implementation of the provisions, there is a mention by hon. Mr. George Fernandes. My

friend, Mr. Ahamed, said that it should be effective. Mr. Somnath Chatterjee said, it should be effective with wider ambit. Most of the Members asked about comprehensive legislation.

I would like to respond by saying that in deference to the wishes of both the Houses of Rajya Sabha as well as the Lok Sabha, on comprehensive legislation, we shall definitely examine it in its totality. After examining it, I would like to come to the House. I would not like to make an assurance.

Mr. Chitta Basu had wanted the media policy. The media policy has been the subject- matter of discussion in my own Consultative Committee. As a result of the discussions, we had two sittings of the Consultative Committee on Media Policy. Some Members felt that it should be information policy rather than the media policy. While we were deliberating, I did get letters of apprehension from various editors and even from the Press Council of India trying to know what the Consultative Committee of Parliament was going to do about discussion on media policy. There was an apprehension that there may be a curb on the freedom of the Press. So, we told them that this was a sub-committee of the informal Consultative Committee of Information and Broadcasting of all parties. It has to function for six months. It will be meeting the Press Council of India. It will be consulting the Editors' Guild of India. It would be meeting the Press people- working journalists.

The main thing which was concerning the Consultative Committee was the reflection of the Members that India must have Indian ethos, Indian personality, our culture, our society, the social values, the moral values. It is with this end that the Consultative Committee has decided to form

a sub-committee. They will report back to the Consultative Committee. And it has to be placed before Parliament before we can take any action on the media policy as such. In a free democracy, there is no media policy. It is in a controlled democracy or democratic centralism where such a media policy is enunciated. Therefore, we would like to be very careful while discussing this media policy. It gives wrong type of signals. It is more in line with the information policy of Government or of Parliament which would be more in consonance with the views of the Press rather than the media policy. The sub-committee has been set up. I am sure, they will start functioning. In six months' time, we should be able to deliberate first in the Consultative Committee. Then, we would like to come here.

As far as control of media by the Government by this small innocuous amendment is concerned, Mr. Umrao Singh said about the amendment. I would like to quote Mr. Vinod Mehta, editor of *The Pioneer*. He is a known critic of Government. In fact, both of us were in the same annual function of the small and medium newspapers. Mr. Dilip Padgaonkar, the former editor of *The Times of India* was there. There was scathing criticism of the Government. There was scathing criticism as of here on Doordarshan, All India Radio, Information and Broadcasting Ministry. But Vinod Mehta had this to say and I quote:

"I am a critic of Government. But I would like to place on record here in this august conference that this Prime Minister and this Government has never tried to muzzle the Press and is not doing so."

I would like to leave it to the wisdom of the hon. Members to see whether by this

amendment we are trying to curb the Press or the freedom of the Press.

Or whether Mr. Vinod Mehta was speaking out of turn?

Mr. Chairman, the Press Council of India is a body consisting of 29 Members and not even one Member is from the Government of India. Only five Members of Parliament, three from the Lok Sabha and two from the Rajya Sabha, are its Members. Out of three two Members of Parliament, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee and Shri Chandul Chandrakar, are sitting here. One Member, Shri Murli Bhandari has already retired. Other Members are the people of eminence, like the Members of the Bar Council of India. The Government only issues the notification. These Members are elected from various representative bodies, like the Editors, the working Journalists and others. All these things are mentioned here.

I am very grateful to Shri Farnandes for pointing out that these are the statutes which are already available. I admit, Sir, that the Bill was passed in 1978 under different circumstances. The requirements at that time were somewhat different than what they are today. Yesterday, some of our colleagues took part in the discussion, where we had the lady M.P., Censor Board, Film Federation, Information and Broadcasting Consultative Committee, and we all expressed our serious concern over the cultural invasion of our moral and spiritual values, the invasion of our ethos and psyche. This has to be combated. All of us will have to put our heads together. It is not a question of 'I' or 'you' doing it. It is we who have to do it. And, this was the general consensus which arose after four-and-a-half hours of deliberations.

I am willing to have a dialogue with the

Members of the Consultative Committee and various Members of the Press. If both the Houses of Parliament feel that the Press Council has to be looked into from today's point of view and not from the angle of 1978, I would like to consult the Press Council also. It would be unfair for us to take a position regarding people who are not present here. I would like to have a dialogue with the Members of Parliament, the Editors' Guild and other media people. Let us see if we can restructure it so as to make it more effective.

Many hon. Members talked about the investigative journalims. They praised it and in the same breath they also talked about the yellow journalism, blackmailing and character assassination which is taking place. It is a serious matter, as serious as the sex, violence and indecency coming into films. Without consulting the Press Council of India I would not like to take a decision. I always take a stand in consultation with the Press Council of India. There is no question of Government trying to interfere in the functioning of the Press or the Press Council of India.

The question regarding foreign media is agitating the minds of the hon. Members. I have said earlier also in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha that in 1955-56 the Cabinet took the decision not to allow foreign media in our country. I think Shri Chandrajeet Yadav quoted Pandit Nehru. It is the Bhagwat Gita for us. If Laxmi Narayan Pandeyji feels happy, I say that it is the Ramayana for us. We have not made any change in the policy that was there before the independence. As I said in the Rajya Sabha, if anybody writes to the Government, then it is the duty of the Government to either consider it, reject it or modify it.

Certain proposals have been mentioned

by The Time, The Financial Times and some other newspapers from America. Sir, if any one writes a letter, it is a common courtesy to reply. If one goes by the sense of the debate in this House, very many viewpoints have come which are totally diametrically opposite. Therefore, the Government has to study the various implications and ramifications on the security, integrity, stability and unity of the country, whereas I found from my own Benches here that there are voices which are wanting foreign television to come and do sports programmes. There is an equally strong voice saying that foreign newspapers should not come in. What is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander. We tend to give different standards to different viewpoints. So, all these things have to be taken very deeply. One has to be broad. One has to be very incisive. It is because these ramifications can be very very wide and can raise a Frankenstein monster if I may say so. Therefore, these proposals which have come from various parties are under examination and will be under examination. It is because there is no cut off date by which any proposal can come. Any man can come to India as a private citizen. He can have a media blitzkrieg. Then it is said that some baron had come, some prince had come and some kind had come. Neither had I given nor the Government had given those titles. If the press chooses to call someone a baron or a duke or a prince or a Maharaja I cannot help it. Therefore, certain epithets and titles have been given to various people. They had done public relations' exercise. They had met various people, including the Prime Minister. In this case, the hon. Prime Minister had said it in no uncertain terms which has come out in the press that what had come out in the press, the Government of India does not approve of it. It is affecting the sensibility and sensitivity of our people, the ethos and the cultural values of our

country. It is because of that although there was a lot of criticism in the yesterday's meeting which was held in the Annexe- the Ministry, in deference to the wishes of the hon. Members and with respect to the sentiments of the Members of both the Houses had taken the initiative to write to our High Commissioners where these foreign Television Channels are located to bring it to their notice and to say how the Parliament, the Press as well as the people of our country have been reacting to such type of things which are totally antithesis of our ethos and our cultural values. So they thought that just by writing a letter nothing happens. Sir, one has to make a beginning somewhere. So, we have tried to go to the country from where it is produced. It is because, our Indian laws cannot touch them. These are Satellite Channels from outside. We do not want to ban or jam anything because we do not believe in jamming out anything. Ours is the country of Mahatma Gandhi which opens its windows to all the cultures of the world and yet refused to be blown off their feet. That was Gandhiji's ethos. That is the Indian ethos of assimilation of synthesis and acceptance of good values we are not afraid of any cultural invasion. So many invasions have come from the sea, from the land and now from the Satellites. We have withstood them. We had survived 5000 years as a cultural ethos. It is neither Ramayana nor Mahabharata or Bhagwad Gita or Quoran or Bible which had kept us together, but it is our Indian culture which had kept us together for 5000 years. When we had history, there are some countries which did not have geography. They are now trying to bring in certain things, introduce certain things and we seem to be in a panicky situation. I do not think it is such a panicky situation. But we should be aware of it, we should be conscious of it. We are ready to combat it. We are ready to even overcome it. This is exactly what the media units are doing.

As far as foreign media is concerned, we have not allowed it so far, although there is a sense of liberalisation, there is new economic policy and so on. But, as of today, we have not taken any decision. Any proposal which comes, we shall discuss it, we shall examine it from the various implications and ramifications and what is not in the national interest shall not be done.

About Prasar Bharati, as was assured by my distinguished predecessor, according to that, I met all the Opposition Leaders of both the Houses.

I have met all the associations. There were certain misgivings in the minds of the employees who are going to join the Prasar Bharati. Our Congress manifesto talks about Prasar Bharati. We are committed to it. But, again, one has to see the various ramifications, because when it was passed in 1990, there was one channel. Sixth of December 1992 had not happened.

Now, Mr. Upendra, the man, who piloted it even in the Rajya Sabha last month, when he was discussing this, his press statement came out. I do not wish to quote his Rajya Sabha speech. I know that I should not be quoting him. But his press statement said that he was also having misgivings of giving up all the channels to Prasar Bharati. He said, "The Government must retain one channel for various reasons because of the environment in which we are living today."

Mr. George Fernandes wanted to know hopefully about Chilla. The AIR and Doordarshan engineers have given 20 FM channel- FM stands for frequency modulation. It was decided by this august House in 1977-78, when my good friend was the Minister. His Government and the distinguished, respected Member, Shri Lal K Advani, who was the Minister of Information

and Broadcasting said, that India will have from 1978 onwards FM channel, because the frequency is allotted by the International Telegraphs Union, which is known as Sagfa. And AM Radio is on its way out. That was the medium wave. Therefore, any radio you have is FM Radio and 20 channels of FM Radio are today operative from the First of April through the INSAT II B. And any Indian sitting anywhere in India can hear any programme of his choice in any language anywhere. So, this is one of the most integrating factors which the R&D Department of All India Radio have done. On the same INSAT II B, by the same digital technique, we are expected to get 20 channels of Doordarshan from 15th of August. Therefore, when such technological advancement is taking place, and what is known today is Super Highway, now the Vice-President of the United States has been given the charge of the Information Super Highway. Even your teleprinter, your TV, your telegraph, your shopping list, your mailing list, everything under the sun can be run by this; and this is something which should be concerned about, because this is what the future technology is going to get us into our country.

Today, I think, about 118 electronic beams are being beamed on to India, which can be taken by an appropriate dish. We only see five or six dishes, whichever dish cable operator gives us. But the media, the press, claim that 118 satellite beams are coming into India. What does it make of our security, what does it make of our stability, what does it make of our cultural heritage is something on which, I agree that there should be full debate; and I will be willing to share what ever we have with the hon. Members; and I would like to be guided by the wisdom of both the Houses on this matter. It is not something which a Minister or a Department of the Government of India

has to be concerned about; it is for every one, the Parliament, the people outside the Parliament must be concerned about it, because it is the entire Indian ethos which is going to be affected. Therefore, in this new scenario, I think, the media policy, the foreign media, the Prasar Bharati has to looked at; and this is exactly what the Government is doing; it is studying all the ramifications. We are committed to Prasar Bharati. It is in the Congress manifesto of 1990-91. It is a matter of time before the Government can take a decision on that, because we do not want to start something and then try to control it. It is better to be preventive rather than to be curative afterwards.

I have mentioned about the increase of papers. Regarding facilities, I have informed the House. Regarding circulation and registration of RNI. The RNI has taken certain steps since August 1992 for the expeditious disposal of registration cases and certain administrative action. Certain man power has been done, but we are willing to improve it further; and we will take a more introspective look at the RNI, as far as the registration and the circulation is concerned.

I believe that delay breeds corruption; delay means denial of justice. It shall be our endeavour to cut down the delay, as far as possible.

As far as other media things are concerned, we are computerising it. We are trying to make it as transparent as possible. Even for satellite channels, whenever any programme is selected it is done openly with the help of a computer. Anyone can come and see it. So we would like to bring in as much transparency into the working of I&B Ministry as far as is practicable.

About the Wage Board, I must

compliment my colleague, Shri P.A. Sangma. In spite of meeting trembling blocks twice, he has brought it to the Cabinet. The Cabinet has taken a decision because of the Pay Commission and other things which were on the anvil. There was a little resistance for a Wage Board but now the Wage Board is coming and I think my colleague, the Labour Minister will be consulting various bodies in this regard. When hon. Member Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee asked me about this yesterday, I had requested her to contact Shri Sangma. We have an open mind for the small, medium and big newspapers and working journalists of various categories. I have a large number of categories in my own Ministry. We are interested that a Wage Board should come and people get their due share which is rightfully theirs so that they are not denied of their right.

I have already mentioned about the regional newspapers.

Regarding, advertisement, I would say that we have a policy on advertisement. It is not as a source of patronage or political power, but the advertisements are done because of the requirement of the various Ministries who pay for them. As wide coverage or publicity is given, it is also kept in mind, as I read out, that small, medium and language dailies especially in backward areas are given due consideration and due help. But that should not be taken as a patronage for surviving. It is not as a means of survival of a newspaper. It is for the dissemination of information, employment and other developmental schemes of Government, which is the main thing for which advertisement is done. The views of the Members will definitely be kept in mind while reviewing it and we shall review it to see that we are responsive to the points made by the hon. Members in this House.

I have mentioned about various types of journalism which are taking place and about which Members have also said. I would like to depend on my sub-committee. Within six months they are going to come back to the Ministry of I&B and then I shall be able to come to Parliament and have full discussion on this. It is something not only crucial but there are various implications and a very thin dividing line between the freedom of the Press and curbing the freedom of the press; use of press and abuse of press, as one Member said. So I would like to have the wisdom of the House on this.

I have mentioned about the composition and restructuring of the Press Council. I would like to consult them before I say anything on this. We have an appellate court and that also requires to be seen. The powers and the implementation of the various statutes, which are available, are also nicely brought out by hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes.

Then Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat mentioned about press, electronic media, Prasar Bharati, CNN and he quoted Pt. Nehru also. Shri Chandulal Chandrakar also asked as to how long it takes for the registration to go through these 37936 and odd newspapers. We are trying to streamline it and if necessary we shall go to the Finance Ministry for more support. As you know, all Ministries have an embargo on recruiting more people. We will see that by modern method of management, we can cut down on the paper work, cut down on the delay in registration as well as verification. It is not always the fault of the RNI, which is also the favourite target just like Doordarshan.

For every ill of this country Doordarshan is blamed; So also is RNI. One cannot clap with one hand. If someone gives some

defective or inadequate information, and if someone takes titles from the RNI and sits over it, it cannot be helped. So, I would welcome this time-bound programme which has been mentioned by certain Members, that if someone takes a title, within a certain period if he does not complete it, then it should be automatically cancelled.

I would also like to respond to the suggestion of Shri Chandrakar, because I would like to take advantage of his experience as an editor, a newspaperman, as well as a Minister and senior Member of Parliament. We would like to bring down this problem.

A mention was made about the wage board. I have already answered it.

Then it was suggested that the Press Council of India should have more statutory powers. Now, the Press Council itself feels that there are adequate powers as ably stated by the hon.lady Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. They do not wish to have more powers even if you want to give them. Unless we have a dialogue it will put them in an embarrassing position. I do not think it would be good for us, or for them. But I would definitely like to convey the anguish of hon. Members that they are concerned about the character assassination and attacks on their reputation. After all, public figures do have to live in the society with the people and like a woman's honour and dignity, reputation is one of the important assets of any person.

On Doordarshan, we have increased the agricultural programmes. Shri Chandrakar mentioned about it.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): It is not at all sufficient.

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO: It is not sufficient, I agree. I am not happy myself. But from three days a week we have increased it to five days a week. These are not like coffee vending machines where we punch a coin and coffee or the ticket comes out. We require staff, people with sensitivity. It is no use dishing out third class programmes. We would like to make it informative, educative and entertaining.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): You are not putting them in the news item.

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO: We would like to introduce news items on agriculture also. We will see.

SHRI G.M.C.BALAYOGI (Amalapuram): It covers only the urban areas, not the rural areas.

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO: The Shri Chandrajeet Yadav also spoke about the Press Council, the regional papers, foreign media and indecency. I have already mentioned them. Then I have also responded to his suggestion to consult the Labour Minister on working journalists. Then about advertisements also I have mentioned.

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya wanted the implementation of Prasar Bharati and the Broadcasting Council of India. She also mentioned about the young Press that there should be decentralisation and democratisation. I am glad that the hon. Members felt that there is a monopolistic tendency, there is cross participation in media which was not allowed till 1992. It has created certain problems. I think we have to take a look at the cross media participation. It does not happen elsewhere in other countries. But somehow the powers that be in their wisdom had taken a decision. I shall

definitely convey the feelings of the Members and I myself would like to take a review of this, and may be, go back to Government.

Then about foreign media channels, lot of heat has been generated. We discussed for four-and-a-half hours yesterday. It was felt that this was not the proper time. We are trying to come back to the House with certain proposals after our meeting and I think this is a question of concern for all of us.

Shri K.D.Sultanpuri also spoke about language papers which are functioning in every State. We would like to help them but not as a type of patronage but as a means to disseminate, because we realise the importance of the language papers and small and medium newspapers and their reach to the common man.

Shri Sushil Chandra Verma has given certain suggestions and he also referred to the role of the State Governments. He will be glad to know that on the 23rd and 24th of June we are having the bi-annual Conference of Ministers of Information of the States where we shall be bringing to their notice the various problems being faced by the newspapers, working journalists, threats to their security and their occupational hazards, as well as the Cable Bill and Doordarshan programme and other programmes which are coming up. I require the help of the State Governments in the implementation of these programmes because the implementation or enforcement of most of these things depends on the State Governments. The Central Government does not have any agency. Neither do we like to use police powers for doing that.

Then, Shri Syed Shahabuddin complimented the PCI. It is a fact that under limited resources, they have been doing a

wonderful job just like our journalists have been doing an excellent job; some of them have done an excellent job and some of them have got the ire of the House. So, one cannot make a sweeping statement on anything. But the Press Council of India has been doing it with utmost restraint, with their moral authority. I have answered on the floor of the House in this Session about the number of cases, where admonishment, censure and double censure have taken place. In one case, the Rajasthan Government had taken certain action. Otherwise, the Press Council feels that moral authority is the best authority rather than punitive or any other type of a thing. It should not be a parallel law court. Otherwise, it defeats the very purpose. I think, when we discuss it in detail, we can see whether the Press Council of India would like to have any other thing. And we will have to have a dialogue on that.

Again, Shri Syed Shahabuddin referred to about circulation and composition of the PCI.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee referred to the recommendations from the Press Council. About the foreign newspapers, she said that they do not want any powers. She spoke about advertisement and wage board.

Shri R. Anbarasu welcomed the amendment and said that it was essential for the newspapers. He spoke about the classification, yellow journalism and about the offence of defamation to be made into cognisable and non-bailable thing. This is not coming under my purview. It has to go to the Home Ministry or to the Law Ministry.

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao also spoke. Shri Passi spoke about the same points. Shri Ramesh Chennithala wanted a comprehensive legislation because the

freedom of the Press, which is the fourth pillar of democracy, the fourth estate, must be given its rightful place. Then, he wanted regional language as representation and transparency.

Then, Shri George Fernandes offered many points, which are very thought provoking and specially the one about the existence of the statute and asked why has it not been implemented. He was specific on two points one was on Doordarshan and the other was world cup. I will just come to that. The incident about which he has mentioned, already steps have been taken and what has come out in the newspapers is only a tip in the iceberg. But administrative action is being taken. No one will go scot free. As you know, the course of justice does take a little longer in our country than other countries. It takes time to bring a culprit to book. One has to be given a fair chance to defend himself and an opportunity to defend himself. Shri George Fernandes had been a Minister and he knows very well how long arm of law takes to bring a culprit to book. We have seen the cases of Mahatma Gandhi, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and others, which have taken years. But, I do hope, it does not take such a long time because there are serious points, which have been raised. And we would like to bring it to a logical conclusion.

Shri Chitta Basu wanted a Media Policy. I have already answered to that.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee, I must say, gave very good suggestions about which I am going to respond.

Then, Shri Sriballav Panigrahi raised a point, about which I have already dealt with.

Then, Shri E.Ahmed wanted a comprehensive legislation and referred to Section 13(2), under which some of the

powers cannot be discharged by the various people.

Shri Umrao Singh wanted a foreign TV to come in. I would like to respond to this.

Mr. Chairman, I have referred to some of the main points of each and every hon.Member, who spoke on this Bill.

Now, I would take up the question of world cup 1996. I have made a statement in the other House about this during my reference to the Press Council Act. About the question of giving licence to telecast is given by the Ministry of Communications.

The licence to put up a dish is also given by the Ministry of Communications but to bring in an equipment, it is given by the Ministry of Finance.

As far as the security of the country is concerned, clearance has to be given by the Home Ministry and the Defence Ministry; Information and Broadcasting Ministry does not come anywhere. But the law of the land, that is, the Wireless Act of 1785 and the Telegraph Act of 1930. make it imperative on the Government and the Government agencies- at that time there was only telegraph and wireless ; this Act was amended in a small way in 1959 when T.V was introduced, and in 1928, when radio was introduced in this country in 1927- that as on 12 th of May, 1994 excepting Doordarshan, no one can uplink. That is the law of the land and that is the Constitutional position. This is the stand which was taken by Doordarshan during the Hero Cup embroglio. It was only the decision of the court which compelled Doordarshan to cooperate. All the departments were directed by courts to cooperate with the foreign multinational. For the first time the sovereignty of our motherland was

surrendered when a foreign television company was allowed to uplink from Guwahati to a foreign satellite. It does not happen in any other country in the world. If today the Information and Broadcasting Ministry or Doordarshan is not asked about the World Cup telecast, then, I am afraid, what Mr. Umrao Singh has said is not correct. He gave the instance that in trying to get more money, in trying to show spots, Doordarshan has done an excellent job, as far as 1982 Asian Games are concerned and as far as 1987 World Cup cricket held here in Delhi is concerned, when Doordarshan was the host broadcaster. There are only 19 countries in the world of 168 countries which play cricket. Nine of them are full members, the others are not full members. Mr. Umrao Singh was saying that the whole world wants to see cricket, but I think hardly one or two per cent of the world watches cricket. The world is not as crazy as us to watch cricket and spend five days in the cricket field. I am a crazy cricketer, so I know it. But, for the recent Davis Cup matches, Doordarshan has got excellent congratulations from BBC, from American TV as well as from the Australian TV. So, as far as quality is concerned, Doordarshan is second to none. Doordarshan is willing to import the state-of-the-art equipment and even to purchase it. It is willing to send its camera people and its crew, and is willing to even get consultants from the same company, but not at the cost of sovereignty of our country. That is the law of the land as it stands today- what it is going to be tomorrow, I do not know-although it is archaic 1785. Some Britisher said it is archaic. That gentleman is controlled by 1215 Act of Magna Carta, and he calls it 1785 Act archaic. The American Telegraph Act has only two years less vintage than us and yet they have not amended it. No country in the world allows any one to come, excepting permitted by Government and through the prescribed

route, which is Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. But I am told as far back as three days, the Worldtel which is supposed to have got a contract from the PILCOM Pakistan-India-Sri Lanka Committee which has got nothing to do with the Board of control for Cricket in India or Pakistan because it is a joint management committee, are having discussions with Doordarshan, and hopefully they will come to an understanding where Doordarshan will be the host broadcaster and the whole of India and the cricket lovers of this country will see it because that will be the right perspective as far as the Constitution and the law of the country is concerned today. But if the law is changed tomorrow, any one can come, anyone can go and anyone can set up. This thing when I was asked, I said: supposing someone takes a thing to Hazrat Bal and starts transmitting from there, as it was happening when they gave up their arms, then what will happen? Then there was no answer from the people who were asking me in the Rajya Sabha. So, therefore, it is the sovereignty and unity of our country. I can assure my good friend Shri George Fernandes that I will not buckle under any pressure, even at whatever price I have to pay, to maintain the sovereignty of my motherland to which I am a signatory. I am also in the armed forces. I shall never allow my mother India's sovereignty to be surrendered. It will be at the risk of my life and myself.

There have been critical comments on Doordarshan. But they have been generic and general in nature. If one goes by the statistics and if one goes by the comments, I think these criticisms are vintage; they may be 2-3 years old. They do not reflect the situation of today. The people in Doordarshan have been raising magnificently. They have been fighting odds in spite of constraints of resources. They have been managing six channels so far.

On the six channels, I would like to state here that it is not for Doordarshan to produce 14400 hours of programming or 44 hours of programming per day. It is a platform which Doordarshan and the scientists and the INSAT 2-B is giving to the people of India, to the young and creative talents of F.T.I.I., of Jamia Milia and of the institutions set up by the State Governments to come and produce the programmes. The ninety crore Indians are being offered a platform to come and show their creative ability and tackle what is coming in the cultural onslaught which is coming up for which we are all concerned.

Thank you, Sir, and I move that the Bill be passed.

[*Translation*]

Dr. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Sir, the hon. Minister has given an answer which resolves most of the queries but two things have been left unanswered. First, on what basis the registration of newspapers is done? Secondly, the process of certification is faulty to such an extent that the small newspapers are deprived of the Government advertisements. Is that process going to be revised? The other point was raised to decentralise the Registrar's office. Whether the regional offices are working as zonal offices?

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO: There is no question of depriving anybody. Every newspaper will enjoy this right. Advertisements are not given on the basis of patronage. Each Ministry informs as to what is to be done to disseminate Government information and what should be the circulation? Everything is done on this basis. We would give importance to the small and medium newspapers since they have more access to the common man, instead of the big newspapers. We are

doing the registrations speedily to improve the situation. If we go into the details of its functioning, it will take quite a long time. Some steps have been taken in this regard. R.N.I and the Ministry have made some progress in this regard. It is being modernised. We are going for the computerisation, through which less time will be taken. Reduction in delay will help in bringing down the corruption. People will not have to run to Delhi for this purpose.

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Press Council Act, 1978 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

MR CHAIRMAN: Now we take up clause by clause consideration.

Clause 2. The question is:

"That Clause 2 do stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

Clause 1- Short Title

Amendment made

for "1993" substitute "1994" (2)

(K.P.SINGH DEO)

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

The Long Title was added to the Bill

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

SHRI K.P.SINGH DEO: Sir, I beg to move:

Enacting Formula

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed"

Amendment made

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Page 1, line 1,—

"That the Bill, as amended be passed"

The motion was adopted

for "Forty -fourth" substitute "Forty-fifth" (1)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next item in the agenda is item no.14, that is, Coir Industry (Amendment) Bill.

(Shri K.P.Singh Deo)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

DR.LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this bill is a very important Bill. We can take it up tomorrow.

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was accepted

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, the House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 13th May, 1994 at 11.00 a.m.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

19. 47 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on

"That the Long Title stand Part of the Bill"

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The motion was adopted.