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Phalguna 28, 1907 (Saka)

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Fifth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 19, 1986/Phalgun 28,
1907 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Inclusion of "pollution" in Union list

*346. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the discontentment due to pollution from two fertiliser manufacturing units in Dharuhera near Rewari, Haryana ; and

(b) whether Government would make the subject of pollution from all sources as a Central subject in view of its impact on national life and economy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHIR Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir ; However, a proposal for inclusion of 'Environmental Protection' in the Concurrent List is under consideration.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Mr. Speaker Sir, pollution is the dangerous contamination of the ecological system. Air, water and sound pollution are endangering the physical and mental health of living

beings. Air is polluted by chemical dusts, gases, vapours, fumes, etc. resulting in decrease of oxygen content which is essential for human life, and increase of carbon-dioxide and poisonous gases in atmospheric air which endangers human life by suffocation or irradiation when inhaled, the nightmare of which is the Bhopal gas tragedy.

Water pollution is the result of chemicals and hot water when dumped into streams and lakes by industries leading to the deterioration of water due to the destruction of biological cycle of natural water.

I know it is impossible to attain an environment absolutely free of pollution, the process of economic growth of the country with rapid industrialisation, but I feel Government must set standards which allow for tolerable amount of pollution.....
(*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER : What is the question, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : She is trying to come to the question.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI ; I am coming to the question. The Multitec International Ltd. and Oriental Carbon and Chemical Ltd. are liberating untreated noxious, poisonous gases from sulphuric acid plant, ruining vegetation and the standing crops, and playing havoc to the health of human beings and animals. So, I would like to know whether before giving permission for setting up these fertilizer plants, the Pollution Board of Haryana was consulted and whether permission was obtained. If not, what are the reasons and what practical steps are being taken to ensure preventive action rather than *post mortem* steps to be taken by the Pollution Control Board in the above cases, and also how many cases have come to the notice of the Board during the last three years and the action taken on them ?

MR. SPEAKER : She has burnt midnight oil for preparation of this question, so I have allowed her.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : Sir, as far as these two industrial undertakings are concerned, a complaint was received by the local Magistrate, and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate took an action under section 133 of the Cr.P.C. to shut down these two industrial undertakings.

These undertakings went to the High Court. The honourable High Court vacated the order of closure and ordered for further investigation. After investigation a Group was formed and certain standards were prescribed; certain actions have been prescribed to be taken by these two industrial undertakings. Some of those actions they had taken. Where certain machinery is involved they have placed order for the machinery. This is the position with regard to these two industrial undertakings. We are very much aware about the pollution which is being created by industrial undertakings and we are taking steps to monitor these things.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : My second question is this. How long it will be under consideration? May I know whether any of the States were consulted? If so, what are the reactions especially of States like Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka?

MR. SPEAKER : He has not said that there was anything under consideration.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : He said it in his answer, Sir. How long it will be under consideration? May I know whether any of the States were consulted? If so, what are the reactions of the States, especially, States of Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : I think I was not clear. I have not suggested that anything is under consideration. Certain standards which have been prescribed have been communicated. I think she is referring to part (b) of the question where I have replied that a proposal for inclusion of environmental protection in the Concurrent List is under consideration. The point is this. For some time it is being felt that this subject should be brought under the Concurrent List. A Committee was appointed under Mr. N. D. Tiwari, the then Planning Minister which recommended that environmental protection should be brought under

Concurrent list. But, apart from bringing it in Concurrent list, there are certain other provisions whereby Parliament is competent to enact legislation under Articles 248 and 253 of the Constitution. It was under these provisions of Article 253 that Air Pollution Control Act was passed by this Parliament.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Pollution has been causing great havoc in this country. Other countries have already taken some steps to control pollution and action has been taken by them in this regard and they are very advanced also. But we are still discussing what steps we have to take about controlling pollution. I would like to know from the Honourable Minister what concrete steps are going to be taken in the near future because during the last six months three times gas leakage pollution has created havoc among the people in my constituency. The resident authorities still do not know what to do about it and how to face such a tragedy. So, what are the steps which Government propose to take if such a thing happens again? This, I would like to know from the hon. Minister.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : Sir, actually it is for this environmental protection that in the last Session of this Parliament I have given an assurance that we propose to bring a comprehensive Bill for environmental protection and, Sir, I assure this honourable House that in this very Session we will bring that Bill for environment protection. It will cover all the aspects of pollution and environmental protection under its umbrella apart from the Acts which are already there. We are also suggesting to bring certain amendment in the existing laws controlling air and water pollution so that the Act may become more stringent and provides the teeth to these Acts so that against those factories which are polluting the atmosphere or the water, strong action may be taken.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I want to draw the attention of the Prime Minister to a very important matter, i.e., about the problem of pollution in the Indian Rare Earths Factory at Bloor, Cochin. According to some unofficial studies the incidence of cancer among the employees of this Indian Rare Earths is very high. Children are born deformed because of this pollution.

and unfortunately this factory does not come under the purview of the Pollution Control Board. So, I want a categorical reply from the Prime Minister on what measures will be adopted to control the pollution or whether a high level inquiry committee will be constituted to inquire into this pollution incidence in the Indian Rare Earths Factory.

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI : Sir, I am afraid, for this particular question, about this particular factory I would require notice.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : If the hon. Member gives us the details, we will definitely have the complaint looked into.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Thank you for allowing me to put the question, Sir, because this question pertains to my constituency.

Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it has been brought to his notice that large cropped areas have been damaged on account of pollution from these two fertilizer units from year to year during the past three or four years and whether the Government would consider in the proposed Bill provision of compensation to farmers when their crops suffer in such areas, whether any action has been taken on the representation of a large number of farmers in this regard to compensate them for the loss to their crops due to pollution from these two fertilizer units.

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI : Sir, I have already told that with regard to these two units the complaint was lodged with the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and he took action under Section 133 of the Cr.P.C.

As far as the damage to crops is concerned, the provision in the civil laws is to file a suit for the damages against those factories. (*Interruptions*). Sir, for the present we do not have enough provisions to take any action under the present pollution control laws which are there—Air Pollution and Water Pollution Control Acts.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Question No. 347.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Sir, it does not mean that each one of the farmers has got to go to the court in order to get compensation. Should not the Government themselves on their own take action and pay compensation on the representation that has already been made by them, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 347—
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

Iran-Iraq War

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*347. **SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :**
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the renewed escalation of the Iran-Iraq conflict has caused considerable anguish to India as both the countries are friendly to India and also fellow members of the NAM ;

(b) whether it is a fact that this conflict in in the sixth year and has cost both the countries incalculably in terms of loss of human life and resulted in destruction of property and retardation of the process of growth and development ; and

(c) if so the latest moves made by India to end this conflict ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has issued a statement on 18 February, 1986 conveying India's anguish and concern for the renewed escalation of Iran-Iraq conflict.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In its statement issued on February 18, 1986 the Government has called upon both the countries to cease hostilities immediately and to move away from the path of conflict and confrontation to a negotiated peaceful settlement. India has expressed its readiness to assist them in a sincere and constructive manner to bring about a just, comprehensive and honourable solution of the differences between the two parties.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, thanks to the Government of India for their sincere efforts made on more than one occasion to bring these two warring

nations to negotiating table, as an effort to put an end to this long war. But such efforts are not yet successful. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the difficulties coming in the way in bringing these two nations, who belong to NAM, to the negotiating table? What has been the reaction of these nations—Iran and Iraq to the recent statement issued by the Government of India expressing its anguish and concern over the continued war by both these nations, particularly in the context of a unanimous resolution passed by the UN Security Council only 8 or 10 days ago, after such a statement issued by the Government of India, calling for immediate ceasefire?

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : Sir, one of the reasons why the negotiation has not succeeded is this. Many negotiations have been taken up by the Non-Aligned Movement, the Secretary-General, and by the Islamic Countries Organisation. But none of them could succeed because of the reasons that the positions taken by the two Government were wide apart and there was no way to bridge them. Repeated attempts and negotiations have failed to bridge them.

It is true that in the last meeting, in the last escalation of the conflict in February, last month, the Security Council have passed a resolution, calling for immediate ceasefire on the same lines in which the Non-Aligned Movement and India were urging them to do. While Iraq accepted that UN resolution, Iran did not participate in it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I think, as reported in the Press, there has been some change in the hard attitude of Iran, particularly on the initiative of the Algerian Foreign Minister. The Algerian Government has taken some initiative now, as reported in the Press. That Foreign Minister visited the Gulf countries and as a result of that initiative, it is reported that Iran is now giving up its demand relating to the sacking of Iraqi President, Mr. Hasan. Is the Government of India aware of this and in this context, whether the Government of India, as the Chairman of NAM, is thinking of taking fresh initiatives alone or also with the help of other world bodies like GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council), ISO (Islamic Countries Organ-

isation) and other bodies interested in bringing an end to this long war going on in the Gulf region as early as possible?

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : Sir, we have no confirmation of the report which the hon. Member has referred to about the initiative from Algeria, and as for taking any new initiative, we are looking to the past failure of all the initiatives, not only by NAM and India as Chairman of the non-aligned movement but, as I said earlier, by the Islamic countries, by the Secretary-General's Special representative. They do not see the utility or fruitfulness of any new initiative to bring about any results.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : What are the countries which joined India in bringing peace and stoppage of hostility between Iran-Iraq; whether India is proposing to take up this issue in the UNO to find a solution for this problem; whether India is going to arrange a tripartite meeting between Iran and Iraq and some other peace-loving countries?

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : The four foreign ministers who are involved in the non-aligned initiative including India, Cuba, Zambia and Head of the Political Department of the PLO. that was the group of four foreign ministers who took the initiative, the Islamic countries, all the Gulf countries, are involved in the initiative, and the late Mr. Olof Palme, the Prime Minister of Sweden was the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. Moreover we are in constant touch with both the countries and very recently the Special Envoy from Iran, the Deputy Minister came here. He met me and the Prime Minister and he carried a message and we gave them our views on this situation. We urged him to bring about immediate cease fire and to move away from confrontation. All this is going on.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Despite obvious financial and weapons superiority of Iraq over Iran and the reverses that Iran suffered as a result of it, it again now has surged forward and has put Iraq on the defensive whether it is in the Fau Peninsula or further up.

Has the Government made an analytical study as to what forces and factors

are behind this resurgence of Iran and has the Government taken note that the American fleet, part of the Seventh American Fleet, the Enterprise and some other vessels, have anchored off Karachi? Has this got anything to do with the danger of Iran-Iraq war spilling over into the other Persian Gulf countries and whether the United States of America has told Iran that any spreading of the war into the Gulf countries would threaten the vital interests of the United States?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : In a conflict like this, the local conflict, the danger of its spilling over in a wider context is always there and the involvement of the outside powers and the major powers is always there and that is the reason that we have always taken this position that they should be settled peacefully through peaceful negotiation.

There are conflicting reports about the relative strength. But we would not like to pass any judgment on this matter, their relative strength. Moreover, these are not very verifiable sources. We get the analysis from different sources and, therefore, I would not like to pass a judgment on this.

Fortunately, in this conflict, although it has gone on for several years, there is no direct involvement of the outside powers, Although Iraq is getting replenishment of arms from some sources whereas Iran is getting spares and others from other sources, apart from that, there is no major problem.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : The American fleet off Karachi. It is also a direct danger to us. Can you tell something about it?

MR. SPEAKER : We are having a discussion on it.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : We have a call attention tomorrow. We will answer that.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I said.

Inclusion of 'Tanti' Community in the list of Scheduled Castes

*348. **SHRI C. P. THAKUR :** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations to treat 'Tanti' (Tatwa) Community as synonym of 'Pan', which is in the list of Scheduled Castes in Bihar ;

(b) whether Union Government have invited the comments of State Government of Bihar in this regard ; and

(c) the date by which the decision is likely to be taken by Union Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal to include 'Tanti' (Tatwa) as synonym of 'Pan' which is in the list of Scheduled Castes in Bihar is being considered along with similar other proposals in the context of the proposed comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in consultation with the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration including the Government of Bihar and the Registrar General of India. At this stage, it is not possible to indicate the date by which the proposal for the comprehensive revision of the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would be finalised.

Further, amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Articles 341 (2) and 342 (2) of the Constitution.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : The whole idea of putting certain castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is to promote their social, educational and economic conditions. Now, is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that according to the recent census there are certain Scheduled Castes in Bihar in which there is not a single Matriculate or a single literate woman and there are certain Scheduled Tribes like the Pahadia tribes of Santhal Parganas and the Birhor tribe of Chota Nagpur who are fast disappearing. I want to know what steps is the Government taking for their improvement. It is not enough that you allot some funds for their improvement. In spite of that this is the position.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : It is not there in the main question. It is out of context.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Is the Government thinking to include Bhuiyan of Chota Nagpur in the list of Scheduled Tribes and Machwa, the fishermen in the list of Scheduled Castes as their conditions are also as bad as other Scheduled Castes ?

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know how it arises out of the main question. You can ask only about Tanti community.

SHRI C. P. THAKUR : There cannot be other supplementaries on this.

MR. SPEAKER : There are 500 odd communities. They are asking for it.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : We cannot say about all of them.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : In 1970 or 1971, the then Law Minister, Mr. Panampally Govinda Menon introduced an amending Bill including so many communities as recommended by the State Governments in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Of course, from Kerala State Kudumi community was also included. But that is not the question. The point is that even though that Bill was introduced it could not be passed. Will the Government now consider reintroducing that Bill and get it passed by the Parliament.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : The Government is coming with a comprehensive Bill and at that time we will consider all the aspects. From time to time this question has been raised and it is only the Parliament that is competent to add or delete any name of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. So we are intending to bring a very comprehensive Bill in this regard.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Since the Government proposes to bring a legislation for amendment of this list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, may I know from the hon Minister which are the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, communities the Government propose to include in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ?

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think it arises out of the main question. It is irrelevant.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : It is not possible to indicate it now.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is only regarding Tanti community. There is no more scope for questions. You can put a separate question if you want to ask other things.

Feasibility studies on Computerisation in Various Departments

***349. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the money spent for conducting feasibility studies on computerisation in various departments and the subsequent legal, operational and administrative implications ;

(b) the names of the agencies which were entrusted with such studies and the names of department for which such study was conducted ; and

(c) the names of the department in respect of which reports have since been submitted by such agencies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Government of India has spent about Rs. 14 lakhs, for conducting feasibility studies on computerisation of various Departments for 19 major studies conducted by outside agencies. In addition, feasibility studies on computerisation of various Departments have been carried out by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Department of Electronics, which have been set up by the Government of India as a nodal organisation for assisting the various departments with their computerisation requirements. NIC carries out such feasibility studies free of cost. So far an estimated 120 man-months of effort has been made by NIC for preparing feasibility studies. Wherever legal, operational and administrative implications are involved, they are looked into by the concerned Departments or by NIC on a case to case basis.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the enclosed *Annexure*.

ANNEXURE

Table—1

*Feasibility Studies on Computerisation of Various Departments
Undertaken by Outside Agencies*

Sl. No.	Name of the Govt Orgn.	Name of Agency to whom the contract was given	Title of Report	Date of contract given	Cost of the study	When submitted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	CBEC	CMC Limited	Computerisation of Import Cargo Operations	1984	Rs. 1.2 lakhs	1985
2.	CBEC	M/s WIPRO Information Technology	Computerisation of Import Cargo Operations	1985	Free	1985
3.	CBEC	M/s ORG System	Computerisation of Import Cargo Operations	1985	Free	1985
4.	CBEC	M/s PCS	Computerisation of Import Cargo Operations	1985	Free	1985
5.	CBEC	M/s ORG System	Central Excise Duty Assessment Operation and Revenue Accounting.	1985	Free	1986
6.	CBEC	M/s WIPRO Information Technology	Central Excise Duty Assessment Operation and Revenue Accounting.	1986	Free	Not Submitted
7.	CBEDT	CMC Limited	Computerisation in Income Tax Department	1982	Rs. 1 lakh	1983

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	DGTD	IIM, Calcutta	DGTD Information System	1970	Rs. 10 lakhs	1975
9	P & T	M/s. A. F. Ferguson & Co.	Computerisation in P & T	1976	Rs. 0.99 lakhs	1976
10.	Department of Post	Karnataka State Computer Centre	Postal Life Insurance	—		
11.	-do-	ECIL	Money order Inventory			
12.	PM's Office	TCS	Document Inventory & retrieval system	1985	No Charge	1985
13.	PM's Office	TCS	File tracking and retention system	1985	No Charge	1985
14.	CCI & E	Computech International	Computerisation in CCI& E	1985	Rs. 1 lakh	1986
15.	External Affairs	TCS Tata Burroughs	Computerisation in the Ministry	1985	No payment made yet	1985
16.	External Affairs	CMC Limited	Computerisation in Indian Embassy in Washington	1984	-do-	1985
17.	Economic Affairs	CMC	Preliminary feasibility study	1985	-do-	1985
18.	Deptt. of Personnel	CMC	Personnel Information System	1985	-do-	1985
19.	Northern Railway	CMC	Passenger Reservation	1984	No charge as part of the project	1985

Table—2
List of Feasibility Studies conducted by National Informatics Centre (NIC)
for Government Departments

Sl. No.	Name of the Govt. Organisation	Title of Report	Year of Submission
1	2	3	
1.	Ministry of Finance	1. Bombay Custom House Computerisation	1983
		2. Custom and Central Excise Information System	1978
		3. Central Excise Revenue	1983
		4. Directorate of Rev. Intelligence Computerisation	1985
		5. National Budget Information System	1985
		6. Accounting System for Controller General of Accounts	1978
		7. Introduction of MICR Technology in Banks for Dept. of Banks	1984
2.	Ministry of Commerce	8. Customs Revenue Accounting	1985
		9. Directorate General, Commercial Intelligence & Statistics for Foreign Trade Data	1981
		10. CCI&E computerisation at Bombay	1983
		11. Office of Textile Commissioner, Bombay	1984
		12. Import Export Data Bank	1982
3.	Ministry of Communications	13. Foreign Post Office, Bombay Computerisation	1984
4.	Delhi Administration	14. DESU inventory management and control	1984
5.	Ministry of External Affairs	15. Passport computerisation	1984
6.	Department of Personnel	16. Computerisation for NAM	1983
		17. Computerisation in DPAR	1985

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7.	Ministry of Agriculture	18. MIS for Deptt. of Fertilizers	1986
8.	DGS&D	19. Vendor performance rating	1984
9.	Food and Civil Supplies	20. MIS for the Deptt. of Food	1986
10.	Ministry of Petroleum	21. Production monitoring of oil refineries for Oil Coordination Committee	1983
11.	Central Electricity Authority	22. Monitoring of the Daily Electricity Generator	1978
12.	Ministry of Water Resources	23. Indira Gandhi Canal Project monitoring	1985
13.	Ministry of Industry	24. Information System for Industrial Licensing	1982
14.	DGTD	25. Information system for monitoring industrial production	1985
15.	Ministry of Urban Development	26. Urban and Regional Information System	1983
16.	Ministry of Transport	27. MIS on National Highways	1983
17.	Ministry of Health	28. 20 Year Road Development Plan	1984
18.	Department of Coal	29. Hospital Management System	1980
19.	Department of Education	30. Coal Production and Distribution Information	1985
20.	Ministry of Law & Justice	31. System Computerisation for Coal India Ltd.	1978
21.	Ministry of I&B	32. Asian Games Computerisation	1981
22.	Survey of India	33. Computerised retrieval system for Constitution of India	1984
23.	Ministry of Agriculture	34. Computerisation for PIB	1986
24.	DSIR	35. Computerisation for Survey of India	1983
		36. 'Project Tiger' computerisation	1983
		37. Computer requirement for National Institute of Oceanography, Goa.	1985

Table—3

The following departments have given NIL report indicating that no feasibility reports have been prepared for them by any outside agency.

1. Registrar General of India
2. Planning Commission
3. Department of Statistics
4. Department of Steel
5. Department of Mines
6. Department of Fertilisers
7. Department of Food and Civil Supplies
8. Department of Scientific & Industrial Research
9. Department of Agricultural Statistics and Information Group
10. DGS&D
11. Ministry of Programme Implementation
12. Ministry of Urban Development
13. Ministry of Irrigation
14. Department of Sports & Youth Affairs
15. Department of Arts
19. Department of Women & Child Welfare
17. Department of Education
18. Department of Culture
19. Ministry of Welfare
20. Bureau of Public Enterprises
21. Department of Legal Affairs
22. Department of Expenditure (CGA)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, computerisations is undoubtedly an extremely important component of Government's current policy. It is also an integral part of modernisation package for 21st Century. But it will have a great impact on job potentialities in our country. In France, England and Germany where computerisation has been done, roughly 40 per cent of the employment potential seems to have been lost directly as a result of computerisation. Studies also revealed in England and France that in one decade, loss of employment of white-collar is about 40 per cent. In the Banking Sector only, England has since lost 3000 jobs,

(Interruptions)

Britain has lost 50,000 jobs in banking sector. Computerisation will only make the office more capital-intensive.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, you please come to the question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, please don't think that I will be as lenient to you as to the lady.

MR. BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister as to whether this aspect of job-potentialities in our country for computerisation has been studied or not.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, the Government is very well aware of the impact computerisation is going to have in all areas of Government activity and activity in the society. We feel that the computerisation is not going to reduce employment potential but it is going to increase the employment potential.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen what he is telling. You are asking questions before listening.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : In Japan which is a densely populated country, it is not only computers but robots are being used and most sophisticated machines are being used. Yet, the employment potential has not gone down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is what he is going to do.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I will substantiate my statement. I will give the figures of one Excise Collectorate in Delhi. The cost which was involved in putting up one computer there is Rs. 3 lakhs but the benefit has accrued to the Department in one month's time is Rs. 7.8 lakhs. Rs. 7.8 lakhs will be available for providing employment to the people. (Interruption)

We will be utilising that amount of money for putting up more industries, for having more employment guarantee scheme more irrigation, for having more fertilizers, for opening more schools and it will provide more employment.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I do not understand. I hope the people will understand.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, you please come to me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, there is vast unemployment in our country. The Government has imposed ban on recruitment also. May I know from the hon. Minister for installation of computers in about 24 Departments—it has been stated in his reply—what will be the amount of money required for installation of these computers and for import of computers from foreign countries. May I know from the hon. Minister the quantum of money involved for the installation of computers.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : We are not importing all the computers which are being used in the Departments from outside. Computers are being manufactured in our country also and they are being used by the Departments.

Now as far as computerisation in the entire country from the district level to the Central level is concerned, we are going to have one computer each at four places in the country, called the Regional Computer Centres. In these Regional Computer Centres the information will be collected from all parts of the country and that information will be made available to the Planning Department, the Power Department, the Irrigation Department, the Education Department and for all other governmental activities to have better plans to use that information to increase the efficiency and reduce the time. We are going to have computers at the district level also. If we take into consideration all the computers used at the Central Government, State Government and district levels, the cost involved is going to be in the vicinity of Rs. 100 crores. Rs. 62 crores are provided in the Seventh Five-Year Plan and the rest of the money will be made available by the State Governments and other authorities also to have this facility. Please bear in mind that this facility has to be used by us. If we do not use this facility, we are going to lag behind the world; if we do not use this facility, our efficiency may not go up;

if we do not use this facility, we will not be able to compete with the world in industry, in agriculture, in health and hygiene and in many other areas.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I want to know whether Government have any plans to install or provide computers in major Central jails of this country.

MR. SPEAKER : What do you mean? To check their escape?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) - Although we have not got a specific programme to computerise the jails we are examining how we can computerise the crimes that are taking place across the country and try to correlate them and see how we can catch the crooks better.

If I may add a word in answer to the previous supplementary, the question is not just of jobs. With computers actually jobs do not go down; they go up, but they go up at different places; there is a shift of employment; it is not a loss of employment. But here as Government we also have a slightly different responsibility. We are here as guardians looking after the money which belongs to the people of India and we must see that this is not wasted and is invested in the best possible way. What we are seeing happen is that the cost of governance is going up so much that positive programmes for the people are being compromised. Now we have to save as much money as we can and streamline the functioning. Whether it is government, whether it is public sector units, whether they are other units which serve the people in the best possible way so that the people get the best services and the minimum money is spent on such services and the maximum money can be spent on positive projects which actually give development results to the people. It is very easy we could spend Rs. 180 crores in the Seventh Plan and employ every one in the Government; we could give tremendous employment, but it would do no good to the people of India. One small example Shivraj-ji gave about the case of computerisation in one tax department. He was talking about Rs. 7 lakhs. What does it mean? It means that the people who would have been running up and down the tax department for five years have made

their payment—if I remember rightly now because I got the note very long ago—in three months. That means, harassment to thousands of people has been avoided. The Rs. 7 lakhs that he was talking about and which has been saved is not saved in terms of money; it is saved in terms of the interest gained by getting the payment made in three months instead of over five or ten years. This is the people's money which has been saved—which could have been lost. This is the way it actually help the people, it helps development; and it is not a waste of money. The employment potential is changed. Employment for a lot of people doing manual work is changed to service areas and other areas in the production and servicing. We can also go through the other route. We can say we need lots of employment. We can get rid of typewriters today. We will have thousands of scribes who will write everything Government does. We will increase employment. We can get rid of sewing machines, we will have tailors who will only sew by hands. We can do all sorts of things we want. But the point is will that be beneficial to this country or not? Is this country going to move ahead or are we going to move backward? This is the basic question.

We feel the country should move ahead. I believe most of this House feels that the country should move ahead. But if certain people have doubts about that, they are most welcome to put them forward.

(Interruptions)

DR. V. VENKATESH: How about introducing computers in the Parliamentary work?

Quarterly performance report to the Centre
by States re. Physical progress of Plan
Programmes

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*350. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD
SETHI:

SHRI B.V. DESAI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the States and Union Territories have been asked to send quarterly performance report in terms of concrete physical progress of plan programme;

(b) if so, whether stress has been laid particularly on anti-poverty schemes;

(c) if so, how many States have so far reported their performance to the Centre; and

(d) whether calling for such report will also ensure proper utilisation of plan funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) Planning Commission has issued instructions to all the States and Union Territories to furnish quarterly progress reports regarding expenditure as against approved plan outlays for each head/sub-head of development. As regards monitoring of achievements in physical terms as against the physical targets fixed, necessary instructions to the States and the Union Territories are being issued.

(b) and (c) The major anti-poverty schemes, namely, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RIEGP) are being monitored intensively by the Department of Rural Development. All these anti-poverty programmes are also being monitored as part of the monitoring of the '20-Point Programme' by the Ministry of Programme Implementation. All the States and the Union Territories have been reporting the progress of implementation of these anti-poverty programmes.

(d) Yes, Sir.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Sir, the Hon. Minister in his reply mentioned that the State Governments have been reporting to the Centre; but there is no mention about the performance of the States. However, I would like to know as to whether there has been a serious shortfall in the target set in some of the major components of the 20 point programme and also the Poverty Alleviation Programme in 1985-86 financial year. I would also like to know whether it is a fact that some Governments have transferred the funds allocated for the purpose to some other purpose or allowed them to lapse because they are not committed to it. If so, what steps you have taken against

them and the name of those States and also whether the Government of India has conducted any survey to know about the implementation of these programmes.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Sir, the question has three parts. So far as the first part is concerned, i.e., shortfall in physical target, it is for the departments concerned which are in charge of each of the particular development work, to report.

Secondly, so far as diversion of funds is concerned, it cannot be stated right now immediately. On receiving specific directions from the hon. Prime Minister on 5th August 1985, a letter was issued by the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to all the Chief Ministers and the Heads of the Union Territories suggesting them to monitor the plans. Thereafter on 31st October 1985 a letter was followed by the Secretary, Planning Commission as a follow up measure. The difficulties which we found were that in various manners, they were sending report not according to a particular proforma. That is why on 13th March 1986, the Planning Commission did prepare a proforma. This has been despatched to all the States and Union Territories to the Chief Secretaries. This proforma gives the required heads of development.

Thirdly, as I answered last time, if the entire plan amount is spent, then it is possible to locate whether there has been diversion. If the entire amount is not spent, it becomes a grey area, a twilight zone. We grope to find out whether actual diversion took place.

Now, Sir, with this method of prepared proforma, the Planning Commission find will be able even to find out quarterly whether there has been any diversion. Sir it is primarily the duty of the State Government and the Union Territories to do the monitoring. However, with this survey report coming to us, namely, monitoring, the Planning Commission will be able to have a check on the Plan activities of the States and Union territories.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : What is the percentage of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes benefited out of this programme in the Sixth Five Year Plan and what steps are you going to take in the Seve-

nth Five Year Plan to see that the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes get the maximum benefit out of this programme?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : So far as the first portion is concerned, I do require a notice. As regards the second portion, we have indentified the areas which need our emphasis, and one of those is scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The tribal sub-plans have been made so that the money allotted to them is specifically spent for that particular purpose.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : May I know from the hon Minister whether during monitoring of these anti-poverty programmes it has come to the notice of the monitoring agency that the Central Government which is allotting large quantities of wheat as a component of these programmes this wheat is not being delivered to the work force which is engaged in this programme but being delivered to the wholesalers by the District Rural Development Agency and the wholesalers are giving it to the retailers, and the contractor will get this wheat from the retailers? In this procedure six to eight months pass and the labour force engaged in these programmes are not getting wheat and this is being adjusted in the accounting procedure only of the contractors. This has created a great hurdle. It never reaches the people. I would like to know whether the monitoring agency will monitor it so that measures are taken to see that the wheat allotted to the work force reaches the work force itself?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The distribution of wheat for the upliftment of the poor and needy classes is being done by the Department of Rural Development along with the monitoring of Programme Implementation Committee by the Ministry. So, whether actual diversion of wheat has taken place or the people for whom it is meant are getting it or not this question may be directed to that department.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Why? The Central Government is allocating the wheat. Why should we ask the District Rural Development Agency? The monitoring agency is here.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The wheat and other things being distributed for various programmes is not done directly. It is either done by integrated rural development or national rural development or food for work. We have been given the monitoring plan projects only as I have already answered.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : I have pointed out these difficulties, Why should not the monitoring cell consider these difficulties and find a solution to this?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : The hon. Member need not be agitated. I have looked into the matter. One department will not be able to do it. That is why it is being done by various other agencies. One of this is Department of Rural Development. They will be able to say. Planning Commission certainly will be able to say after all these are taken together and our Advisers assess and find out the performance but the diversion of wheat or money can be told by Department of Rural Development and others dealing with food for work.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : When I am pointing out the difficulties it is the duty of the Minister to look to this and report back.

MR. SPEAKER : You better talk to him and try to understand his point of view.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Yes, Sir. I bow down to your ruling.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, the anti-poverty programmes have done a tremendous amount of good to the rural poor in this country. Anybody who is acquainted with the rural areas of this country would know that. I have visited every single village in my constituency and I have verified the amount of good that this programme has done..... (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In fact, their complaint is that they are getting more food.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : However, the Planning Commission itself, over which the Minister presides, on an evaluation report on Integrated Rural Develop-

ment Programme, last year admitted and said:

"Information collected in the present evaluation study indicates that in spite of the detailed guidelines, none of the State Governments have followed them with any uniformity."

That means, that this programme would have been much more effective if the State Governments had taken this work more seriously. The hon. Prime Minister himself has gone to the rural areas in this country and verified that the guidelines and the programmes are not being implemented with the seriousness they deserve. A lot of more good would have come to the rural poor in this country, if the State Governments had acted more seriously.

But after this evaluation study by the Planning Commission, with which the Minister is associated, what further has been done? How far its recommendations after the study and the observations of the Prime Minister after his visit to the rural areas have been implemented? What have you done in this regard?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : I am grateful to the hon Member that he has brought out a very relevant point. In fact, Planning Commission did say that many of the States and Union Territories are not conforming to the various letters and instructions issued by Planning Commission from time to time. When they send the reports, are also not according to the points involved, but at random. That is why, as I have said earlier in answer to another question, the Planning Commission have now made a proforma and so far as earmarked provisions are concerned, it is mandatory for them to send the report, and regarding non-earmarked provisions the Planning Commissions are also insisting that they comply with the proforma and send us the reports.

Regional Imbalance in Development

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*351 **SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :**
PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that despite the successive Five Year Plans regional imbalances still continue and a number of States have not received a fair share of development.

(b) the programmes launched by Government in the Five Year Plans and the expenditure incurred thereon against the allocation made ;

(c) whether some further vigorous plans are contemplated by Government so that adequate attention is paid to achieve the objective of the balanced development of different regions ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The successive Five Year Plans have sought to reduce regional imbalances by measures like weightage in allocation of Central assistance to less developed states under the modified Gadgil formula, various area development programmes and anti-poverty programmes.

All States got their share of development as agreed to by them with Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (d) The following table gives figures regarding approved out-lays and the expenditure incurred over the various area development and anti-poverty programmes on fifth, Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans :

(Rs. crores)

Sl. No.	Programmes	Fifth Plan		Sixth Plan		Seventh Plan
		Outlays	Expenditure	Outlays	Expenditure	Outlays
0	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Integrated Rural Development Programme	103.68*	32.67*	1500.00	1661.17	2701.46
2.	National Rural Employment Programme	—	—	120.00	1834.26	2487.47
3.	Rural Labourless Employment Guarantee Programme	—	—	500.00	499.41	1743.78
4.	Minimum Needs Programme	2607.00	1578.00	5807.00	6547.05	11545.92
5.	Desert Development Programme	15.18£	10.76£	100.00	73.55	244.94
6.	Drought Prone Area Programme	259.09	188.98	350.00	337.42	447.00
7.	(a) Hill Area Development Programme	310.03	338.60	848.84	933.83	1505.03
	(b) Western Ghats Dev. Programme	20.00	18.28	76.00	73.36	116.50
8.	North-Eastern Council	90.00	86.58	340.00	381.15	675.00
9.	Tribal Areas	1042.89	946.00	4006.51	3640.25	6955.63
10.	Incentive Scheme for Industrial Development			100.00	228.75	300.00

*Only for 1978-79 as the scheme was introduced in that year.

£Relates to years 1977-78 and 1978-79 as the scheme was introduced in the year 1977-78.

Apart from continued emphasis on all the programmes indicated above, the Desert Development Programme has now been made a cent per cent Centrally assisted programme in the Seventh Plan. Moreover, the Seventh Plan also visualises decentralisation of planning as an instrument for ensuring balanced regional development.

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : May I know from the hon. Minister the percentage of allocations made in each of the Five Year Plans for industrial development and other development of the backward States in the country.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : I have got the information with regarding to 5th, 6th and 7th Plans. It is a long list and is also part of the statement.

So far as the industrial programmes are concerned, the details have been given in the statement. If you look at this, there are three points, under which assistance is being given to the backward States. From this, you will also find the outlay and expenditure for all these programmes during the 5th, 6th and 7th Plans.

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : I want to know whether any special plan is being prepared to remove the industrial backwardness of Kerala, so that the imbalance in development in the State could be removed at least in the 7th Plan.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Kerala is not a backward State. I may tell for the general information of the hon. members that so far as industries are concerned, there are three categories—Category (1) : No-industry districts and special region districts. Category (2) and Category (3) have different parameters. As far as Category (1) districts are concerned the percentage of incentives and assistance has been increased to 25%, the investment subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs. Accordingly, categories (2) and (3) are also setting high amount of subsidy than before.

MR. SPEAKER : They want to take advantage of the backwardness clause. Shri Ramakrishna More.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Sir, Question No. 352 has not come up.

MR. SPEAKER : It will come on the 27th of this month.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : When I am present here and when the question has been listed for today, why has it been postponed ?

MR. SPEAKER : It has been transferred to 27th. You are supposed to be present on the 27th as well.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Who is accountable for this transfer ? I have not been informed about this.

MR. SPEAKER : It has been informed.

(Interruptions)

Afghan Situation

*355. **SHRI T. BASHEER :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently been in touch with various international moves about the Afghan situation ; and

(b) if so, what is the latest position in this regard and to what extent these moves are likely to lead to an amicable solution ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mr. Diego Cordovez, the Personal Representative of the UN Secretary General, has visited Afghanistan and Pakistan recently for further discussions. While understanding has reportedly been reached on some draft provisions of the political settlement, differences persist on the others.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You replied this question on the television yesterday.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : Yes. In Janavani, yesterday.

SHRI T. BASHEER : The issue has a wider aspect. Apart from that, causing a lot of concern for India and the region. The Afghan problem brings cold war to India's doorstep and arms race by the Super Powers to this region. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that our Prime Minister had

taken up this issue with the Soviet leader Mr. Gorbachev during his visit to Moscow and with Mr. Reagan during his visit to US and whether it is a fact that both the leaders had responded positively and expressed their willingness to solve this problem and find a political solution to this problem. If that is so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps, the Government have taken or proposed to take to evolve a *modus operandi* on the basis of the response from the leaders of Soviet Union and the USA.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT : India's stand on Afghanistan is a principled and consistent one. We are against both intervention and interference and we stand for negotiated political settlement of the issue which takes into account the legitimate interest of the parties concerned. And Sir, in this context, we have supported U.N. initiative. We have noted that the progress made in these talks is slow. However, at the present moment, there is no other international initiative besides the proximity talks being conducted by the U.N. Secretary General's personal representative and we have lent support to this because we are for a peaceful negotiated settlement of this issue.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Loss suffered in Explosion in Indian Embassy at Lima

***353. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated loss of life and property suffered in the explosion in Indian Embassy at Lima (Peru) on 22 February, 1986 ;

(b) the number of employees belonging to Indian Foreign Service in this Embassy ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to compensate the loss suffered by Indians ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a)

Fortunately, no loss of life or injury was involved. The Chancery Building of the Embassy and the Embassy car were damaged, Estimated expenditure on the repairs of building is Rs. 40,000/- and the car has been repaired at a cost of Rs. 28,000/-

(b) Five, including three diplomatic officers and two others.

(c) Does not arise as no loss was suffered by any Indian.

Juvenile Delinquency

***354. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of juvenile delinquents is increasing continuously in the country ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what concerted efforts are contemplated by Government to curb this trend in the society ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) From the published figures available till 1982 it is found that there was an increase in the number of juveniles arrested between 1977 and 1981, and this was followed by a decline in 1982.

(b) Apart from the efficacy of the enforcement of the law, a variety of environmental factors such as industrialisation, urbanisation, economic deprivation destitution, neglect etc ; are found responsible for the problem.

(c) The implementation of various Children Acts applicable in different States and Union Territories falls within the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The Government of India has been pursuing with them the development of the necessary services required thereunder. Besides a financial provision has also been made under the 7th Five Year Plan for assisting the States to strengthen infrastructure and services under the Children Act.

[English]

Productivity Bonus in Defence Deptt. Factories

*356. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that for the purpose of productivity bonus, average of factories in India is taken into consideration and not the productivity or efficiency of each factory in Defence Department ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consider productivity of every individual factory for the purpose of bonus ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Foreign Collaboration for Electronic Production

*357. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the implementation of the new Electronics Policy has increased the production of electronics products in the country substantially ; if so, the details thereof ;

(b) the names of the foreign companies who have been allowed participation in Indian ventures for electronics production and the broad terms of their collaboration arrangements ;

(c) whether Government have received any direct or indirect offer from IBM to resume its operation in India and if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) whether any Government Department or Agency has informed the Department of Electronics for buying/hiring computers from IBM and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The total production of electronics which was worth Rs. 1360 crores in 1983 has increased to Rs. 1890 crores in 1984 and is expected to touch a figure of Rs. 2650 crores in 1985. Besides increase in production, there has been a significant step up in investment in areas like components, computers, consumer electronics etc.

(b) Names of foreign companies allowed participation in Indian Venture for electronics production during 1984 and 1985 along with terms are given in the statement below. In addition, some of the existing foreign equity companies have been allowed collaboration for new products.

(c) Government has not received any direct or indirect offer in specific terms from IBM, "to resume its operation in India."

(d) Department of Electronics has given clearance to ONGC Dehradun and CMC Ltd. for the purchase of IBM Computers. These systems were recommended after going through global tendering procedures and detailed technical evaluation. ONGC has been given the clearance for an IBM 3083 JX with 3 nos. of Array Processor and CMC Ltd. has been given clearance for 3 Nos. of IBM 4361 computer systems for INDONET project.

Statement

List of foreign companies allowed participation in Indian ventures for Electronics products during 1984 and 1985

S. No.	Foreign Company	Indian Party	Item	Terms of Collaboration		Foreign Equity (%)
				Lumpsum Fee	Royalty (%)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	Secesor INC USA	Bipin Kumar Agarwal, USA	IEL Public Telephone (Coin Operated)	\$2,00,000	5.0	25.0
2.	Instagraphic Products UK.	Infocenter (P) Ltd. Hyderabad	Printed Circuits Boards	£70,000		10.07
3.	Molex International	Jai Electronics Industries Pvt. Ltd., Nasik	Professional Grade Connectors	\$1,00,000	5.0	40.0
4.	INT Memories Inc.	K. Ramesan, Madras	Winchester Disc Drives	\$22,500	5.0	20.0
5.	Technico Co. Ltd. Japan	Madhav Hitachi Toga Electronics (I) Ltd. Varanasi	DC Micro Motors			33.27
6.	Packaging IND Group Inc. USA	Pine Chemicals Ltd., Bombay.	Floppy Diskettes	\$2,50,000		16.6
7.	Chemic-Und Filter, West Germany.	Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Ltd., Yashwantnagar	Electronic Dosing Pumps	DM1, 62,000		40.0
8.	Metaluoots Films SPA, Italy	S.V. Mehta, New Delhi	Plastic Film Capacitors	Rs. 32,00,000		40.0
9.	Toshiba, Japan	U.P. Electronics Corpn. Ltd., Lucknow	Colour Picture Tubes	Yen 68,00,000		18.5
10.	Didak Mfg. Co. Ltd., Canada.	Usha Didak Ltd., New Delhi	Floppy Diskettes			40.0

Delay in Launching of ASLV

*358. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether the launching of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) has been delayed due to dislocations at the Shriharikota launch centre ;

(b) if so, whether a firm date for launching has been fixed ; and

(c) whether Government are in search of a launching centre which is free from the attacks of cyclones and other natural forces ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The delay has also been due to some technical problems.

(b) A firm date for launch can be fixed after overcoming the technical problems which have recently arisen. It is now expected to be in the launch window of July-August 1986. A firm date is expected to be fixed around April, 1986.

(c) While it will be ideal to have a launch centre free from cyclones and other natural disasters, it is difficult to do so since it is of great advantage to locate a launch range on the eastern sea coast even though a certain risk due to cyclones/monsoon is generally attendant on such locations. The selection of a suitable site for establishing satellite launching stations is based on various considerations which include the nature of the geographical terrain, availability of land within a certain radius which is relatively free of human settlements, and also importantly, certain technical considerations such as launch safety, launch trajectory realisation and launch window constraints.

Science and Technology Parks

*359. DR. SUDHIR ROY :

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Science

& Technology has been informed by some scientists about the problems arising out of technological parks being floated by non-resident Indians at three places and many of which are in the offing;

(b) if so, what are those problems and the opinion of Government thereon;

(c) the area/areas of technology in which these parks are dealing with ; and

(d) the details of investment being made in these parks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c and d) Groups of non-resident Indians from U. S. A. have on some occasions proposed establishing facilities at a few locations for producing certain high technology items. Some of them have been pursuing their proposals with concerned State Governments. Department of Electronics has approved the following proposals for setting up technology parks by Non-Resident Indians for development and 100% export of software.

(i) Indo-American Capital and Technology Corporation (ICAT), USA for setting up the park at Pune.

(ii) Indus Technology Inc., USA for setting up of two parks—one in Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu and the 2nd at Hyderabad.

The order of investment in each technology park is expected to be US\$ 5 millions.

Coaching Centres for I. A.S. Examinations

*360. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to open coaching centres in educationally backward areas for students willing to appear in IAS examinations; and

(b) if so, the areas identified for setting up coaching centres and when are these centres likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) : On the basis of representations made on behalf of the students, the Government has agreed in principle to set up coaching centres in the educationally backward areas to assist the candidates desiring to appear for the preliminary and main parts of the Civil Services Examination. Since the matter requires considerable preparatory work, which has been initiated, it would not be possible to give any details.

Cess for Pooled Research and Development Fund for Industries

*361. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the continued neglect on the part of the industry in regard to research and development needs, resulting in low production and high cost of production, Government have considered the desirability of imposing Research and Development cess on each industry and creating a pooled Research and Development Fund for each industry;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have also considered the desirability of effectively avoiding repetitive import of the same technology by different manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Government, recognising the importance of research and development activities in the industry, has provided several incentives to encourage this activity. In order to enable rapid commercial exploitation of technologies developed in the laboratories suitable financial mechanisms are to be evolved to facilitate investments on pilot plants, pro-

cess demonstration units and prototype developments. The Technology Policy Implementation Committee had constituted a Working Group to examine the need for setting up a National Industrial Research & Development Fund.

(b) The Working Group had submitted its report and the Technology Policy Implementation Committee have made recommendations thereon. The Government has not taken a final decision on this.

(c) and (d) While import of the same technology by different manufacturers could be coordinated to obtain more favourable terms for technology transfer, it is desirable to avoid repetitive import of the same technology again and again. It has been recognised that, in order to achieve this, there should be a firm commitment of absorption, adaptation and subsequent development of imported know-how through adequate investment in research and development.

Indo-French Centre for Advanced Technology

*362. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indo-French centre for the promotion of Advanced Research is likely to be set up; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Centre will be established in New Delhi during the 7th Five Year Plan. It will function as a registered society for promoting, coordinating, and sponsoring collaborative research between India and France. It will have a Governing Body and a Scientific Council consisting of members from both the countries.

Antarctica Study Centre

*363. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the report given by a study group which was constituted to work out the details relating to the setting up of an Antarctica Study Centre; and

(b) what are the details of the equipment etc. required for the expeditions to Antarctica in near future ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) The Study Group has recommended that initially the proposed Antarctic Study Centre shall start functioning as an Attached Office of the Department of Ocean Development with the logistic base of that Centre located in Goa.

(b) Scientific equipment in the fields of meteorology, biology, geology, geophysics and oceanography will be required in the future expeditions. In addition, the logistic support for the expeditions is provided by the Ministry of Defence through Army, Navy and Air Force and they use a variety of their own equipment.

Completion of Orissa Sands Complex

*364 SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa Sands Complex Project of the Indian Rare Earths Ltd. working at Chhatrapur in Orissa has completed its first phase of work ;

(b) if so, the total investment made in this project so far ;

(c) whether the second phase work has started ; and

(d) the total estimated expenditure on this project and by what time the production is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Rs. 107.27 Crores.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Present total estimated cost of this project is Rs. 122.30 crores. The project

is being commissioned in a phased manner and accordingly trial production of various minerals has started.

Remote Sensing Survey of Goa, Daman and Diu

365. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether aerial photographic survey and/or remote sensing survey of the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu has been done ;

(b) if so, the results thereof ; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to do the survey in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The aerial photographic survey of the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu has been done in late seventies by the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) of the Department of Space for Survey of India (SOI) and Forest Survey of India (FSI). The photography has been used by a number of Government Departments for preparation of topographical, hydrological and geological maps. The Forest Survey of India has utilised this imagery for delineating various types of forests of the Union Territory. In addition, FSI utilised these maps as a ground truth data base for satellite remote sensing survey done by them during eighties.

FSI has also utilised imageries from the landsat satellite received by the NRSA Earth Station at Hyderabad for forest survey applications to delineate closed forests, open forests, etc.

NRSA has utilised satellite imagery for preparing maps of wastelands for Goa and the extent of wasteland in Goa has been mapped.

The Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering (CSRE), Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay have used remotely sensed Landsat satellite data in imagery form and digital computer compatible tape

form to study in an integrated way various aspects of land resources, landuse, drainage maps, surface water potential etc. and for developing Geocoded Data Management System for storing and retrieving natural resources data extracted from remote sensing applications and socio-economic data for Goa area. Necessary computer software has been developed for use on main frame computer and also for micro computer systems for use at rural and district levels.

(c) In view of the above depending upon further specific user needs, surveys will be done in future.

**Proposal for Approval to Indira Sarovar
Hydel Project**

*366. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for according approval to the Indira Sarovar Hydel Project under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be approved ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Detailed assessment of various aspects is going on. In view of the extremely critical environmental and ecological issues involved and the need to weigh the costs and benefits carefully it is not possible at present to say whether the proposal will be approved at all and if so when.

**North-South Dialogue to resolve Economic
Crisis**

3375. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently called for early resumption of North-South Dialogue to resolve the 'most serious economic crisis' the world is facing since the thirties;

(b) if so, the initiatives by Government of India ; and

(c) whether the developed countries in the North have responded positively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) India continues to keep in touch with developed and developing countries on steps which could be taken to revive North-South dialogue.

Analysis of Environmental Problems

3376. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any analyses has been made in regard to environmental problems of the country ;

(b) if so, the main environmental problems which India is facing ; and

(c) what measures are being taken by Government to overcome those environmental problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) These include : land degradation, depletion of forests and vegetal cover, threats to important eco-systems, declining genetic diversity, water and air pollution including dangers from hazardous substances.

(c) Various plan programmes for improvement and protection of environment have been under implementation. some of the more important measures/programmes are mentioned below :

- (i) Soil and Water Conservation programmes ;
- (ii) Social forestry, better forest management and protection practices ;
- (iii) Setting up of the National Wastelands Development Board for bringing large areas under fuel and fodder plantations ;
- (vi) Establishment of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries for protection of endangered species ;

- (v) Identification of biosphere reserves ;
- (vi) Measures for water and air pollution control ;
- (vii) Launching of Action Plan for prevention of pollution in river Ganga ;
- (viii) Environmental impact assessment of hydro-electric, thermal, mining and industrial project ;
- (ix) Formulation of proposals for strengthening legislation for prevention and control of water and air pollution ; and
- (x) Formulation of proposals for legislation on Industrial Safety and Management of Hazardous substances.

Setting up of Teleprinter Equipment Factory

3377. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Siemens of West Germany has expressed its desire to set up a teleprinter equipment factory in West Bengal in the joint sector ;

(b) whether the State Government has approached the Centre for a licence in this regard ; and

(c) if so, when the necessary licence is likely to be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) ;
(a) : No, Sir.

(b) : Yes, Sir. The WBEIDC, a State Government Undertaking, had applied for Letter of Intent in March, 1985 for manufacture of Electronic Teleprinters with foreign collaboration. Subsequently in May, 1986 the party in their representation indicated that they propose to implement this project in joint sector with the participation of Siemens, West Germany using their technology.

(c) The application of the party was rejected on account of capacity constraint.

"Utilisation of Services of Youth for Ganga Action Plan"

3378. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to utilise the services of institutions like Nehru Yuvak Kendra, and the National Services Scheme to involve the people and the Youth in particular, in implementation of the Ganga Action Plan ; and

(b) if so details regarding the scheme of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) As decided by the Central Ganga Authority, a programme for involving the youth in the implementation of the Ganga Action Plan has been formulated in collaboration with the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports. An orientation workshop for Coordinators of Nehru Yuvak Kendras and National Services Scheme was held in Delhi on 20th and 21st February, 1986. The programme envisages organisation of Shramadan youth camps in selected locations for river front conservation and development and for promotion of public awareness about the problems of river pollution.

Electronic Based Industries in Kerala

3379. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start new electronic based industries in Kerala ; and

(b) whether industries producing ancillary items required by large electronics industries will be started at Canannore in Kerala since 'Keltron' the largest such industry is located there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC

ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) ; Government has not received any application for industrial licence for setting up a new electronic based industry in the Government sector. Keltron is a Kerala State Government Undertaking. The responsibility for attracting industries to produce ancillary items rests with the state Government. The Department of Electronics gives necessary guidance whenever necessary.

Researches done by Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar

3380. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar has played a pioneering role in a revolutionary concept—transportation of coal from the mines to the consumers, and if successful this is likely to reduce the load on the overstretched railway system ;

(b) if so, whether the work for developing various agro-products particularly medicinal and aromatic plants, has also been taken up ; and

(c) if so, the details regarding its programme and other things Regional Research Laboratory has developed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In the area of aromatic and medicinal plants, Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar has taken up the following R&D Programmes ;

- (1) Resources survey of Similipahar forest for medicinal and other economic plants.
- (2) Multilocation varietal evaluation trials of *Solanum viarum* lemongrass and Palmarosa.
- (3) Cultivation and improvement of cinnamon and *Dioscrea floribundu* and other economic plants.

- (4) A new programme on 'Plant Resources Survey of Koraput district of Orissa' has been initiated.

Progress achieved is as follows :

- (i) Inventory of the medicinal and other economic plants of Similipahar forest has been prepared. Qualitative evaluation of selected plants suitable for commercialisation have been identified.
- (ii) The multitrail on *solanum viarum* was taken up to select suitable genotypes. Studies were conducted on lemongrass with respect to oil yield per hectare. Improved palmarosa selections were evaluated in replicated trials. A study on the significant oil content was also done.
- (iii) Study is in progress on cinnamon plants.
- (iv) Study on nitrogen and phosphate requirement of *Dioscrea floribunda* was made for tuber production. Another study on mutagenesis of same species was carried out.

Other major technologies developed by Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Bhubaneswar :

- (i) Process for recovery of coking coal fines from washery rejects.
- (ii) Process for beneficiation of chromite.
- (iii) Process for pan sintering of o fines.
- (iv) Technology for transportation of coal, ores etc. through pipelines.
- (v) Development of an acoustic Burner for efficient fuel oil burning.
- (vi) Process for beneficiation of complex sulphides and hydrometallurgical extraction of usable metals.
- (vii) Process for beneficiation and agglomeration of ore fines (Chromite fines).

[Translation]

Filling up the Post of Commissioner for SCs/STs

3381. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that post of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been lying vacant for a long time ;

(b) if so, the reasons for not filling up such an important post ;

(c) whether Government propose either to provide statutory status to the Commissioner or to enhance its powers ;

(d) if so, by what time ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) The post of Special Officer, also known as Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has since been filled up on 11th February, 1986.

(c) to (e) The Special Officer, by virtue of his appointment under Article 338 of the Constitution, has constitutional status ; and the provision of the said Article is adequate.

[English]

Pollution in Dal Lake

3382. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an official survey has been made of the pollution in the Dal Lake as well as of encroachment therein ;

(b) whether the State Administration have approached the Central Government for assistance in implementing a development plan for the Dal Lake ; and

(c) if so, the estimated cost of the development scheme and the likely date for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND

FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir ;

(b) Yes, Sir ;

(c) The scheme prepared by the Jammu & Kashmir Government is estimated at a total cost of Rs. 64 crores spread over three phases. According to the State Government, the work on Phase-I was started in 1978 and on Phase-II in 1983-84, but the progress has been slow due to paucity of funds.

Import of TV Components

3383. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that high quality components for the TV are being imported ;

(b) if so, whether any foreign company has offered its services to establish its unit in India to manufacture such components in India, if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government ; and

(c) what is the Government policy in regard to establish such units in India which manufacture high quality components ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) In the area of consumer electronics the import of components is taking place, primarily, for the manufacture of colour TV sets.

(b) A foreign collaboration proposal has been received from M/s. Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation Limited for the setting up of a Colour Picture Tube plant with M/s. Philips, Holland. The proposal involves majority foreign equity participation and is under consideration of the Government.

(c) The Integrated Policy statement laid on the Table of the House on March 21, 1985 allows foreign equity companies to establish projects in the area of electronic components where the technology is closely held.

Cleaning of River Ganga in Bihar

3384. SHRI D. P. YADAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether operation Ganga cleaning has started in Bihar :

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in Monghyr District ; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for the purpose during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. As of March 7, 1986, draft schemes for Bhagalpur and Monghyr towns at a notional cost of Rs. 14.16 crores and preliminary reports for 14 schemes in Patna at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.96 crores have been received. Out of these, six schemes in Patna at an estimated cost of Rs. 70.44 lakhs have been sanctioned.

(b) The Govt. of Bihar have submitted a draft scheme for Monghyr town at a notional cost of Rs. 4.68 crores for schemes such as laying intercepting sewer, treatment plant. The detailed project reports for each scheme are to be prepared by the Government of Bihar.

(c) As of March 7, 86, an amount of Rs. 35.22 lakhs has been released for six schemes in Patna. Since no specific scheme with detailed project report for Monghyr town has been received the question of sanctioning any amount does not arise at this stage.

Capacity Expansion by Electronics Corporation of India

3385. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Electronics Corporation of India Limited, proposes to expand its capacity during the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, to what extent and the amount proposed to be spent on the expansion of ECIL during the Seventh Plan ; and

(c) the details of expansion programme of Electronics Corporation of India Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 65 crores has been provided for additional investment on expansion in ECIL during the 7th Plan period.

(c) By the end of the Seventh Plan period annual production is expected to reach Rs. 280 crores as against Rs. 77 crores for the year 1984-85.

Expenditure on holding Republic Day Parade

3386. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the holding of the Republic Day Parade, 1986 ; and

(b) the total earnings from the sale of tickets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) The arrangements in connection with celebration of Republic Day in New Delhi are made by various agencies such as Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, local bodies and other official and non-official agencies. The practice has been that the expenditure on various items is borne by the agencies which may be concerned with particular items/activities. Full account of expenditure incurred by various agencies is not collected and exhibited under one head of expenditure relating to Republic Day. It is therefore, not possible to give a total figure of expenditure.

(b) The sale proceeds of tickets for the Republic Day Parade 1986, amounted to Rs. 7,47,095/-.

Industrial licences for VCR and Micro-Wave Oven Units

3387. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Industrial licences granted to set up VCR and microwave oven units in 1985-86 ;

(b) the number of such units set up in the above year ;

(c) whether Government have changed the policy of granting licences to set up such units ;

(d) if so, guidelines prepared for granting new licences to set up VCR and microwave oven units ; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) No industrial licences have been granted to set up VCR and microwave oven units in 1985-86.

(c) to (e) Government had invited composite applications for the manufacture of VCRs/VCPs and microwave ovens. The last date for the submission of applications to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA), Department of Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry, was 24th January, 1986. In response 65 such applications have been received by the prescribed last date, i.e. 24.1.1986, for the manufacture of VCRs/VCPs and 44 for the manufacture of microwave ovens. The applications are at present being scrutinised by an inter-departmental Task Force.

Government propose to issue industrial licences for the manufacture of VCR and microwave ovens only to such parties as are prepared to commit sizeable investments for suitable vertical intergration, with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme ; and which have the requisite inbuilt capacity to keep pace with the changing technology.

Amount for Murshidabad District under Ganga Action Plan

3388. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allotted for the town of

Berhampore of Murshidabad District, West Bengal under Ganga Action Plan ; and

(b) the broad outlines of the plan to be taken up in the town in the next two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) The Government of West Bengal have submitted a preliminary report in November, 1985, for schemes in Berhampore town at a notional cost of Rs. 7.25 crores. The Government of West Bengal have been asked to prepare detailed project reports for the schemes. The actual amounts to be allotted will depend on the schemes sanctioned.

(b) The project proposal envisages the following types of schemes :—

- (i) laying of an intercepting sewer in the town.
- (ii) installation of a treatment plant with component for generation of bio-energy.
- (iii) Low cost sanitation and
- (iv) River Front Development including facilities for river users.

Land Development Authorities in States

3389. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government have been asked to set up Land Development Authorities in order to utilise the Wastelands ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether such an Authority has been set up in Maharashtra ; and

(d) whether setting up of Land Development Authority would provide employment to the rural unemployed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) The States and Union Territories were requested in 1974 to constitute State Land Use Boards with a view to keep continuous watch on the land management problems and to ensure that these problems receive

adequate attention. This request has been reiterated from time to time. At the meeting of the National Land Use & Wastelands Development Council held on February 6, 1986, the need to revitalise State Land Use Boards was reiterated, as also to create them wherever they do not exist.

The Prime Minister wrote to the Chief Ministers in June 1985 suggesting the need to establish a State level organisation on the lines of the National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council to discuss and decide optimum land use policies within the broad guidelines set by the National Council.

It was also decided at the Council meeting on February 6, 1986 that there should be a nodal agency/mechanism in the State for coordinating, funding and activities relating to different schemes of afforestation and wastelands development, as well as for monitoring and evaluation.

(c) A State Land Use Board has been set up in Maharashtra.

(d) Proper utilisation of degraded lands in the country through coordinated efforts of the State Land Use Board would provide better opportunities of employment to the rural unemployed, while ensuring better land use as well.

Technical persons for T.V.

3390. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a revolution has taken place in the Indian T.V. scene in the past few years and T.V. has become a mass medium ;

(b) if so, keeping in view its manufacturers, whether Government have tried to make technical persons easily available to the T.V. viewers who could assist them in case the T.V. gets some defect ;

(c) whether Government are aware that skilled persons are not easily available and their charges are very high ; and

(d) if so, suitable measures taken to help the TV viewers in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS

OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (d) Skilled persons, on reasonable charges, may not be easily available in rural areas. This problem does not seem to exist, by and large, in cities and towns. In addition to the existing skilled manpower available, Government of India has started a Crash Programme for training service technicians for common electronics products like T.V., VCR etc. 44 Industrial Training Institutes have been identified to start this programme from June, 1986 at widely dispersed locations to ensure that services of these technicians become available in all parts of the country. Government proposes to extend this programme to about 100 ITIs/Polytechnics.

Manufacture of Electronic Control Instrumentation Indigenously

3392. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether electronic industrial control instrumentation is being manufactured in India ;

(b) if so, whether indigenous production has been given any protection against cheaper import from abroad ;

(c) whether technology upgradation in this area is taking place ; and

(d) if so, how and to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The present analog technology is progressively being upgraded to digital technology. The indigenous manufacturers are upgrading their technology through :

(i) entering into foreign collaborations,

(ii) obtaining design & drawings for such technology through imports

- (iii) availing the test and development facilities through ETDC for quality improvement ; and
- (iv) R & D recognition and support for prototype development and improving production methods.

Representation from Kerala against slashing of Sales Tax by Pondicherry

3393. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala has represented against the arbitrary slashing of sales tax on many commodities by the Union Territory of Pondicherry resulting in a decline in trade in Kerala ;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken to discourage the Union Territory from taking such unilateral decisions on tax ; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) : The State of Kerala has recently brought to the notice of the Central Government that reduced sales tax on many commodities by the Union Territory of Pondicherry results in diversion of trade from Kerala.

(b) and (c) The matter is being examined by the Central Government in consultation with the Union Territory of Pondicherry.

Underutilisation of Infrastructure

3394. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken to tackle the problems of underutilisation of available infrastructure, following prosperity in agricultural and mining sectors of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : The problems of under-utilisation of available infrastructure have been set out in the Seventh Plan document,

which was presented to the House and also discussed in the House in December 1985. Further, the Economic Survey for 1985-86 also contains a specific chapter on Infrastructure. These documents may please be referred to for the details.

Mobilisation of Resources by Private Corporate sector in Seventh Plan

3395. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) how the private corporate sector intend to mobilise resources to achieve 10 per cent growth rate in the Seventh Plan ;

(b) whether Government propose to allow the private corporate sector to raise additional resources from the rural and semi-urban areas ; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The Seventh Plan aims at an overall annual average growth rate of 8 per cent for the industry sector during the five-year period (1985-90). The private corporate sector is envisaged to mobilise resources during the plan period primarily through internal surpluses and raising of capital from the open market in the form of equity, debentures, etc.

(b) and (c) The private corporate sector is already allowed to raise resources from the market in approved forms throughout the country.

Demands for Asian Blind Union

3396. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the demands which are pending with Government from the Asian Blind Union ; and

(b) the decision so far taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Ministry of Welfare has not received any demands from the Asian Blind Union.

(b) Does not arise.

New schemes for Rehabilitation of the Blind

3397. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :
Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to launch some new schemes to provide employment and rehabilitation opportunities to the blind ;

(b) if so, the name of the States and Union Territories where such schemes are proposed to be launched ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken towards mitigating the employment problems among the educated blind ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) The existing schemes as mentioned in answer to part (c) are available all over the country.

(c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

(c) Government of India are implementing the following schemes/programmes and extending the following concessions for the employment and rehabilitation of the blind and other handicapped persons.

1. 3 per cent vacancies in Central Government in group C and D posts and in comparable posts in Central Public Sector Undertakings have been reserved for the physically handicapped—one per cent each for the blind, deaf and the orthopaedically handicapped. According to the available information, the number of handicapped including blind persons appointed in Group C and D posts in the recent past in Central Government offices and public sector undertakings is as under :

	Ministries/Departments		Public Sector Undertaking	
	C	D	C	D
1982	215	146	583	343
1983	264	423	223	120
1984	182	279	349	123

2. Jobs which can be performed by handicapped including blind persons without loss of efficiency have also been identified. 120 different categories of jobs have been identified as suitable for the blind out of a total of about 1100 categories suitable for the handicapped.

3. Age relaxation upto 10 years is available for appointment to posts in group C and D.

4. 22 Special Employment Exchanges have been set up across the country for the placement of physically handicapped persons, including blind in gainful employment. 36 Special Cells in normal employment exchanges register and place physically handicapped including the blind in jobs. During the past three years, the number of blind and handicapped persons given placement by Special Employment Exchanges, Special Cells and normal exchanges is as follows :

Year	No. of blind persons placed in employment	No. of physically handicapped persons including blind placed in employment
1982	652	9381
1983	285	6444
1984	245	5730

5. 14 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange the training and place them in regular employment. Six skill training workshops and 11 Rural Rehabilitation centres have been added to the VRC's to promote the placement of the handicapped in rural areas. During the past three years, the number of blind and handicapped persons, rehabilitated by these centres is as follows :

Year	No. of blind persons rehabilitated	No. of physically handicapped persons including blind persons rehabilitated
1982	409	3510
1983	415	3966
1984	532	4722

6. Ministry of Communications gives public telephones booths to handicapped persons, including blind persons to help them earn a living. Till now more than 2000 public telephone booths have given to handicapped persons.

7. Loans are available from banks at nominal rates of interest to enable the handicapped persons for setting up self-employed ventures.

8. To encourage their employment in public and private sector. Government of India gives national awards to the most efficient employees and outstanding employers of handicapped.

9. NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED, DEHRADUN

The National Institute for the Visually Handicapped set up in 1979 has been developed into an apex organisation to deal with development of manpower, research and development of rehabilitation services for the visually handicapped in the country. It has initiated several training and research programmes during the past three years.

Tribal Area Development Schemes

3398. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the development schemes in each State sanctioned by Union Government for the tribal areas, during the last three years, year-wise ;

(b) the names of the development projects sanctioned for each State by Union Government for the tribal areas during the last three years, year-wise ;

(c) funds earmarked for each development scheme and projects for each year ; and

(d) the state-wise funds released and spent by the respective States during the same period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) For areas of predominant tribal concentration the tribal sub-plan approach has been in operation since the Fifth Five Year Plan. Development schemes covering agriculture, animal husbandry, horticulture, minor irrigation, soil conservation, forest fisheries education, public health, drinking water supply, etc., are taken up under the sub-Plan. These schemes are incorporated in the tribal sub-plans of the States and discussed at the Government of India level. Scheme-wise sanctions are not issued. These schemes are implemented in the States through 181 Integrated Tribal Development Projects, 245 pockets of tribal concentration (MADA pockets) and 72 primitive tribal group projects.

(b) Information is given in the Statement-I below.

(c) and (d) Schemes enumerated in part (a) of the question are financed by the State Governments out of a pool of resources composed of State Plan flow to tribal sub-Plan, Special Central Assistance released by the Ministry of Welfare, sectoral programmes of the Central Ministries and institutional finance. State-wise amounts released out of Special Central Assistance and expenditure incurred thereon are given in the Statement-II below.

Statement-1

Projects sanctioned during 1982-83 to 1984-85

State	Pockets of Tribal Concentration	Identified Primitive Tribal Groups
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	1. Polepally. 2. Towklapur 3. Yamalamanda 4. Pedda Adsalapalle 5. Vaddipatla 6. Tungapahad 7. Kesvapur 8. Talusingaram 9. Ramulapally 10. Vattikhammampahad 11. Chedella 12. Chandupatla 13. Chikadimamidi 14. Prustapur 15. Vailapally 16. Amangal 17. Kadthal 18. Chaduravalle 19. Yachram 20. Kummara Kuntla 21. Staaratpuram.	1. Bado-Gadaba 2. Bondo Poroja 3. Gutob Gadaba 4. Khond Poroja 5. Parengi Poroja 6. Thoti 7. Dongarial-Khonda 8. Konda Sabaras 9. Kutis Khond
2. Gujarat	—	1. Siddis 2. Kolgha 3. Padhar
3. Kerala	—	1. Kadar 2. Kattunaikam
4. Madhya Pradesh	—	1. Kamar
5. Manipur	—	1. Marram Nagas
6. Orissa	1. Laxhanpur 2. Deogaon Patnagarh 3. Tentelkhunti 4. Athamalik 5. Sinapali 6. Jaipatna 7. Kharian I	1. Birhor 2. Didayi 3. Lodha
7. Rajasthan	1. Jhalra Patan Khanpur 2. Ladpura Ramganj Mandi	—
8. Uttar Pradesh		1. Buxa

Statement-II

Allocation of Special Central Assistance for tribal Sub-Plan and Expenditure reported by the State Governments

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	1982-83		1983-84		1984-85	
	Released	Expenditure	Released	Expenditure	Released	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	428.41	472.15	511.52	607.44	589.40	576.32
Assam	411.00	333.64	477.33	450.12	539.58	533.50*
Bihar	1349.28	1127.82	1566.89	1223.85	1832.47	1750.06*
Gujarat	798.26	798.26	908.26	908.26	1087.62	1087.62*
Himachal Pradesh	140.20	143.22	158.27	133.58	200.51	232.75
Karnataka	68.00	42.58	77.98	59.60	122.61	110.51
Kerala	56.00	50.00	62.51	62.39	64.01	58.17
Madhya Pradesh	2677.83	1625.44	3104.95	1522.46	3652.52	4140.40*
Maharashtra	646.00	721.23	758.75	645.42	799.33	781.57
Manipur	171.00	176.36	197.09	196.79	238.94	238.79*
Orissa	1344.42	1344.32	1495.19	1494.81	1763.19	1762.30
Rajasthan	636.79	667.57	722.11	716.19	839.30	886.54
Sikkim	25.00	N.A	29.18	N.A	37.17	36.17
Tamil Nadu	105.00	97.70	121.88	121.88	135.41	121.72
Tripura	159.00	156.93	181.92	181.38	199.34	200.42
Uttar Pradesh	17.81	18.81	24.39	20.22	26.00	18.81
West Bengal	421.00	418.17	500.08	527.04	524.60*	556.00*
A&N Islands	40.00	26.20	95.00	25.21	3.00	23.38
Goa, Daman Diu	5.00	6.50	6.00	5.99	7.00	6.97
	9500.00	8226.90	11000.00	8867.63	12662.00	13122.00

*Provisional

Improvement of National Highway No. 44

3399. SHRI SUDARSHAN DAS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan for improvement of the condition of the National Highway No. 44 running from Jowai in Meghalaya to Agartala in Tripura by widening and strengthening of the road as per National Highway specification ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The road has already been developed to single lane National Highway specification (3.75 metres carriageway) at a cost of about Rs. 25 crores. Further development of the road involving strengthening of pavement, construction of permanent bridges, culverts, protective walls and widening of road formation is in progress.

Meeting of National Land Use and Waste Land Development Council

3400. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the course of the meeting of the National Land Use and Waste Land Development Council which was held in New Delhi in early February, 1986 have felt the need to set-up the machinery within the State Government's which have the authority to regulate the land use ;

(b) if so, the time by which such a machinery is likely to be set-up in the States ; and

(c) whether the instructions in this regard have been issued to all the State Governments and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The States and Union Territories were requested in 1974 to set up

State Land Use Boards for the purpose of determining and monitoring the appropriate land use in an integrated fashion. The National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council, in its meeting on the 6th February, 1986, decided that the Land Use Boards at the State level should be revitalised, and wherever they do not exist, they must be created. The decision of the Council has been communicated to the States/Union Territories.

Setting up of Nuclear Power Plants in States

3401. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of nuclear power of the total power generation in the country ; and

(b) whether there is any plan to increase the percentage of atomic power generation in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The present installed nuclear power generation capacity is 1230 MW, which is about 3% of the total power generation in the country.

(b) It is proposed to add 470 MW to this installed capacity during the Seventh Plan.

Employment of IAS Officers in Public Sector Undertakings after retirement

3402. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IAS officers working as on 31st December, 1985 in public sector undertakings after their retirement and the reasons therefor ;

(b) whether Government have a scheme to give incentive to the retired IAS officers by employing them in some of the offices which are controlled either by State Government or Union Government ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Wasteland Development Plan

3403. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in February last the Prime Minister announced a plan for wasteland development at the rate of some five million hectares a year ;

(b) whether it requires about 10 billion seedlings and about Rs. 2,500 crores a year;

(c) if so, whether our nurseries are in a position to produce the required number of seedlings and necessary allocation made therefor in the Seventh Plan ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to implement this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) If the entire acreage is to be afforested by planting seedlings, the requirement would be 10 billion seedlings. However, a part of the area would be made green through direct seeding or through fodder plantation too.

The total requirement of funds from all sources for the development of 5 million hectares of wastelands has been estimated at Rs. 2,000 crores per annum.

(c) Steps are being taken to increase seedling production through decentralised nurseries. The total Seventh Plan allocation for afforestation is expected to be around Rs. 2500 crores.

(d) An Action Plan has been chalked out, details of which are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

The Action Plan drawn up by the National Wastelands Development Board and accepted by the State/U.T. Governments for implementation has the following key element :—

1. Identification of Wastelands

Each State/U.T Government has been requested to identify wastelands in their territory whether they be in forest area, revenue/common lands or degraded farm lands.

2. People's involvement

This will be ensured by the following measures :—

- (a) *Decentralised Nurseries* : People's nurseries i.e. kisans, schools, women, Youth groups, voluntary agencies. etc., will be motivated to meet the increased demand of seedlings.
- (b) *Farm Forestry* : Farmers will be motivated to take up tree farming on their marginal lands and planting on their field bunds. A rational policy in regard to distribution of seedlings should be evolved.
- (c) *Tree Growers Cooperatives* : Tree Growers' co-operatives should be organised with the involvement of farmers in raising and distribution of seedlings and in tree plantations.
- (d) *Voluntary Agencies* : The grass-roots agencies, Mahila Mandals, Youth groups would also be motivated in nursery raising and tree plantations.
- (e) *Tree Pattars* : Strips of land along roads, rails, canals, etc., and other degraded land should be given to the rural poor, with usufruct rights on the trees planted by them on such lands.

3. Nodal Agency

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to identify a single nodal agency for ensuring an integrated approach for the implementation of the programme

which is being executed by different agencies, official and otherwise.

4. Seed

The States/Union Territories have been requested to extend the scope of operation of the existing State Seed Corporations to include the production and supply of fodder, grass and legume seeds to farmers on commercial basis.

5. Leasing of Lands

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to prepare guidelines for leasing of forest and non-forest wastelands for afforestation to the rural poor.

6. Forest based Industries must be encouraged to afforest

Wastelands to produce the raw material needed by them. Industries must also be enthused to raise tree cover on wastelands with a view to provide employment to the rural poor as well as to enable them to grow trees on a remunerative basis. The State Governments have been requested to draw up guidelines for the lease of wastelands to industries in this behalf.

7. Urban Fuelwood and Green Belts

The States/UTs. have been requested to ensure that towns and cities have green belts of fuelwood and fodder plantations to cater to the urban fuelwood and fodder needs.

8. Degraded Forest Areas

States have been requested to identify degraded forest lands and to reforest them with fuelwood and fodder species.

9. Forest Development Corporations

The Forest Development Corporations should obtain wastelands on lease from the Governments for raising fuelwood and plantations.

10. Government Departments

Government Departments, public sector undertakings and other

bodies/institutions having substantial areas of unutilised lands must bring such land under tree cover.

11. Media and Communication

A massive publicity campaign through the traditional media of folk art and culture, radio, television and other audio-visual aids should be undertaken to create awareness among the masses.

12. Monitoring and Evaluation

The State/U.T. Governments should evolve appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure qualitative implementation of the programme.

Pending Cases of Goa Freedom Fighters

3404. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many pension cases of freedom fighters of Goa, referred to the Union Government by the Goa Government, are pending with the Home Ministry; and

(b) by what time these cases are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA); (a) 106 cases, out of those recommended by Goa Government for Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension are pending finalisation.

(b) All possible steps are being taken to finalize these cases expeditiously.

Manufacturing of Electronic Watches

3405. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the industries which are manufacturing electronic watches in the country and their annual production;

(b) whether it is a fact that electronic watches are being smuggled into India;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to develop electronic industry and particularly in the field of electronic watches; and

(d) the name of companies which have applied for granting licence for establishing electronic watch factory in India and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) The names of industrial units reporting production of Digital Electronic Watches (DEWs) and Quartz Analogue Watches (QAWs) and their production during 1985 is given in the Statement below. This does not include the manufacturers of DEWs in the small scale sector (SSI) who are decentralised.

(b) It has come to the notice of Government that, to some extent, smuggling of electronic watches, particularly of cheap digital electronic watches, is taking place.

(c) The major steps taken by Government to develop the Electronic Industry in the country include the following :—

- (1) A general liberalisation of licensing policy, with emphasis on promotion rather than on regulation.
- (2) Where controls are unavoidable, as a general rule, resort will be taken to fiscal controls, in preference to physical controls.
- (3) By and large, there would be no restriction of sectoral nature like large scale, small scale, private sector, public sector, etc. except where specific reservations are made on special considerations.

(4) Volume production at the economic level, with contemporary technology would be the guiding principle.

(5) The electronic components industry has been delicensed.

(6) Permitting import of technology, where required to establish appropriate base, or strengthen/update existing base, with simultaneous emphasis on its absorption, adaptation and up-gradation, to avoid repetitive technology imports.

As regards Digital Electronic Watches, the following major policy steps were announced, as part of Integrated Policy Measures on Electronics, in the statement made by the Minister of State (S&T) in Parliament, on 21.3.1985 :

- (i) Semiconductor Complex Ltd (SCL) would be allowed to manufacture and sell low cost DEW modules to DEW assemblers, both in the State public sector and small scale units, as well as other units engaged in the manufacture of mechanical watches, handicrafts, etc.
- (ii) The small scale units may be permitted to sell low cost DEW or other DEW modules based products directly in the market. If the demand out-strips the capacity of SCL, a second unit in the private sector will be permitted to manufacture these modules.

(d) M/s Binatone Electronics (P) Ltd., Sahibabad had applied for an industrial licence to manufacture DEWs. The application was rejected, as it did not fall within Government policy for creation of capacity in the field of DEWs.

Statement

Item-wise Production for the Year 1985

Sl. No.	Name of the Manufacturer	Item Details	Quantity	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
1.	Electronics Corporation of Tamilnadu Ltd. Madras	Digital Electronic Watches	6,096	8.26
2.	Hindustan Machine Tools	Quartz Watches	1,63,000	804.97
3.	Hyderabad Allwyn Ltd., Hyderabad.	Quartz Analogue Watches	94,022	3,24.31
4.	Keltron Crystals Ltd., Cannanore.	Digital Electronic Watches	3,896	7.44
5.	RIICO (Watch Assembly), Ajmer	Digital Electronic Watches	3,708	2.84

Extension of Terms of Commission of Inquiry

3406. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether N. K. Singh Commission dealing with Union Carbide disaster, Mathew Commission dealing with Punjab accord, Kudal Commission dealing with Gandhi Peace Foundation could not report within the time limit initially prescribed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) how many times the term of all these Commissions was extended;

(d) whether it is a fact that the same person is heading different Commissions at different times; and

(e) if so, the names of the Commissions headed by Justice Mathew ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (e) The N. K. Singh Commission of Inquiry was appointed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on 6.12.1984. Its term was initially upto 15.3.1985 but was subsequently

extended by the State Government upto 15.12.1985. The term of the Commission has now expired and the Government of Madhya Pradesh has not extended the term of the Commission any further. Attention is invited to the *suo motu* statement made by the Minister of State for Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals in Rajya Sabha on 19.12.1985.

2. The Mathew Commission was constituted by a Government Resolution dated 20.8.1985 in which it was directed to make its recommendations not later than 31.10.1985. Its term was extended four times. The Commission submitted its report on 25.1.1986.

3. The Kudal Commission was set up on 17.2.1982. Its term was extended four times. The extended term of the Commission is upto 31.7.1986. The Commission could not furnish its report within the specified time because of the enormity of its task of investigating the affairs of a large number of organisations. It has submitted four interim reports.

4. There have been instances of the same judge having been appointed to head

defferent Commissions at different times. Shri Justice Mathew was Chairman of the Inquiry Commission set up to look into the murder of late Shri L. N. Misra and he was Chairman of the Law Commission also.

Removal of Section 309 from Indian Penal Code

3407. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUHDARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether while delivering a judgement in a case of attempted suicide, the Delhi High Court observed that Section 309 of Indian Penal Code is an anachronism and that it should be removed from the statute ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) While refusing to permit the police to continue investigation of an offence under Section 309 I.P.C., the Delhi High Court, on 29.3.1985, observed as under :—

“The continuance of Section 309 I.P.C. is an anachronism unworthy of a humane society like ours, Medical clinics for such social misfits certainly but police and prisons never. The very idea is revolting. This concept seeks to meet the challenge of social strains of modern urban and competitive economy by ruthless suppression of mere symptoms this attempt can only result in failure. Need is for humane civilised

and socially oriented and conscious penology. Many penal offences are the offshoots of an unjust society and socially decadent outlook of love between young people being frustrated by false consideration of caste, community or social pretensions. No wonder so long as society refuses to face this reality its coercive machinery will invoke the provision like 309 IPC which has no right to remain on the statute.”

2. The Law Commission also has recommended repeal of section 309 of Indian Penal Code. This recommendation will be kept in mind when comprehensive amendment of that Code is taken up.

Licences for TV Tubes Plants Manufacturers

3408. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of manufacturers of TV tube plants who have been issued licences so far ;

(b) how many of them are for Black and White and how many for colour TV tubes ; and

(c) the total number of plants wherein licences are being given in Private Sector, Joint Sector and Public Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c)

<i>Industrial Licences</i>	<i>Pvt. Sector</i>	<i>JI. Sector</i>	<i>Pub. Sector</i>
B&W TV Picture Tubes	2	4	4
Colour Picture Tubes	Nil	Nil	Nil
<i>Letters of Intent :</i>			
B&W TV Picture Tubes	5	2	6
Colour Picture Tubes	Nil	1	2
<i>SIA Registrations</i>			
B&W TV Picture Tubes	12	Nil	Nil
Colour Picture Tubes	9	Nil	4

**Recommendations of Second World Congress
on Engineering and Environment**

3409. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Second World Congress on Engineering and Environment held in Delhi on 8 November, 1985 has advocated that no hazardous industries should be set up near heavily populated areas in the country ;

(b) if so, whether these recommendations have been accepted by Union and State Governments ; and

(c) if so, whether any clear instructions have been issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) The recommendations of the above Congress have not yet been received by the Department. However, it may be pointed out that the Department has evolved a set of guidelines on the siting of industries (including hazardous) for use and reference by all concerned.

Production of Uranium Concentrates

3410 SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) quantity of uranium concentrates expected to be produced during the current financial year ; and

(b) how the same is, expected to be utilized in India's Atomic Energy establishments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) It is not considered to be in Public interest to disclose the figures of production of uranium concentrates.

(b) Uranium concentrates produced by Uranium Corporation of India Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under Department of Atomic Energy is utilized for fabrication of fuel for nuclear power stations and research reactors.

Space Programme

3411. SHRI K.V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India's space programme has entered the operational stage which can help farm growth ;

(b) if so, whether the space programme will help to meet the considerably higher resource demands for the multi-sectoral planning ; and

(c) if so, by what time the space programme could achieve the results of the farm growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a), (b) and (c) The Indian Space Programme has a number of activities which have relevance to agriculture and therefore to farm growth. These include activities in satellite meteorology, remote sensing applications to water resources, soil, wasteland identification, identification of saline areas, etc. In the studies of soils, identification of large surface water bodies, identification of saline areas, etc., considerable near-operational experience has been generated through the activities of scientists from the Department of Space and a number of user-agencies. This experience is being utilized in the assessment of potential areas where there is need or scope for action. Satellite meteorological imageries are helping in better assessment of rainfall, which is a very complex phenomenon. The data collection platforms set up under the INSAT programme can give inputs for better water management. There are also a number of studies under way for studying crop vigour and their relations to yield, which are likely to further assist in the progress of agricultural planning and growth. Various inputs from the space programme outlined above to the appropriate agencies of the State and Central Governments whose activities jointly and severally contribute to farm growth in the country. This is a continuing process.

Working group to review trends in Public Finance

3412. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has set up a Working Group to conduct a review of the trends in public finances in the field of generation of resources for development ;

(b) the time by which the results of the study are likely to be made known ; and

(c) the details about other terms of reference of the Working Group ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) The Planning Commission has set up a Working Group to study the financial policy issues for sustained growth with reasonable price stability. One of the terms of reference of this Group is to undertake a general review of the trends in public finances with special reference to the generation of resources for development ;

(b) The Working Group is expected to submit its report by the 30th November, 1986.

(c) The details of the other terms of reference of the Working Group are as under :

- (1) To examine in-depth the causes and areas of growth in non-plan expenditure giving emphasis to growth in Government employment, impact of D.A payments, growth in interest payments and the growth of subsidies ;
- (2) To examine, through detailed case-studies, the possibility of redeployment of staff which could be found to be surplus in some departments to other development departments which need to be explored so as to control the growth of expenditure on staff ;
- (3) To study and formulate sound policies regarding public borrowing and the management of public debt ;

(4) To promote studies of the finances of major public enterprises, using the results to recommend measures to make them financially sound and capable of generating resources for their own development ;

(5) To promote and supervise studies of the finances of local authorities and the state of financial administration at the municipal level, and in the light of such studies to evolve policies to enable the authorities to generate much larger resources than at present to finance essential municipal services and the needed investment in urban infrastructure ; and

(6) To study transfer of resources from the Centre to the States and make such recommendations as may be necessary, which would better meet the relative need of the two levels of Government and at the same time promote efficiency and economy in the use of resources.

Inadequate Financial allocation to Human Resources Development

3413. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the cogent reasons for downward fall of financial allocations to the Ministry of Human Resources Development from First Five Year Plan upto Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) what remedial measures the Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) Although Education has had a declining share of plan outlay from the First to the Sixth Plan, the trend has been reversed in the Seventh Plan wherein the share of Education, inclusive of Culture and Sports has increased from 2.58 to 3.55. One reason for declining share of education in successive plans is the transfer of recurring component of Education in each plan to the non-plan budgets.

Every effort is made to provide maximum possible allocations to Education, within the overall constraint of resources.

Acquisition of four Super Computers for Compiling and Creating Data

3414. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Electronics is providing a system by which the data collecting agencies would not only provide information but also have a mechanism of interacting with the system to monitor the economic progress of the region ; and

(b) if so, whether any time bound programme is framed for this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir, Department of Electronics through National Informatics Centre (NIC) is providing a system by which the data collecting agencies would not only provide information but also a mechanism of interacting with the system to monitor the economic progress. The NIC is expanding its computer network (NICNET) to the State level in the first instance and then to district level for building up an integrated framework for data capture, compilation and exchange of timely information among various implementing and decision making agencies at District, State and Central Government levels. A number of systems to monitor the economic progress have been already developed and implemented by NIC for various Central Government Departments. A flash monitoring programme for large projects and the monitoring of the programme implementation are some of such systems.

(b) Yes, Sir. A time bound programme for the expansion of the NICNET to the State and District level has been framed.

Postponement of meeting of External Affairs Ministers of India and Pak

3415. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the meeting fixed to be held between him and External Affairs Minister of Pakistan sometimes during the month of March, 1986 has been postponed for a future date ;

(b) if so, the probable date and venue of the meeting ;

(c) the subject matters to be discussed at the meeting ; and

(d) whether the statement of Pakistan President, published in the 'Times of India' dated 24 February 1986 as "nothing final yet on pact Zia" will also be taken into consideration during the course of discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R.NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Dates have yet to be finalised for the third meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Commission to be held in Islamabad at Foreign Ministers' level.

(c) and (d) In addition to a review of bilateral relations, specific issues will be taken up by the four sub-Commissions of the Joint Commission which meet at the same time.

Pending cases of Haryana Freedom Fighters

3416. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) number of applications of Freedom Fighters which are pending with his Ministry from Haryana ;

(b) how long these have been pending; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) 256 applications are pending decision for want of the verification reports to be sent by the Government of Haryana. These cases will be finalised on receipt of the reports from State Government regarding the eligibility of the applicants for Samman Pension. As most of these applications pertain to the 1980 Scheme under which the last date for submitting the applica-

tions was 31st March, 1982, they are pending over 3 years.

Committee for Hindi version of Constitution

3417. SHRI ANQOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindi version of Constitution has been given for finalization to any Committee or sub-Committee ;

(b) if so, the name of the chairman of such Committee ;

(c) if not- whether Government propose to set up such a committee ; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (d) The issue relating to the preparation of the authoritative text of the Constitution in Hindi has been referred to a sub-Committee of the Cabinet.

Stepping up of Computer Production

3418. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed any indicative targets to set up Computer Systems Production for Seventh Five Year Plan period ; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has fixed production target of Rs. 2440 crores for the Seventh Plan period for computers and office equipment (Personal/Home computer, Wordprocessor etc.) and to achieve production turnover of about Rs. 870 crores by the terminal year 1989-90.

[Translation]

Approval for construction of Motor Road in Almora District of U.P.

3419. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal from Uttar Pradesh Government for getting necessary approval under the Forest Act for Kathpudiachhina-Seraghat motor road under construction in Almora district ;

(b) if so, when this proposal was received first and the reasons for not according necessary approval to that proposal ;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have again sent revised proposals and if so, when ;

(d) whether a part of this motor road has already been constructed ; and

(e) if so, the time by which approval for construction of the remaining part of the road is likely to be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was received in February, 1982. The work on the project was started in January, 1982 without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government as required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and thus violating the provisions of the said Act. The Act does not provide for grant of ex-post-facto approval and therefore no approval was accorded.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Commercial utilisation of Technology Developed by CSIR

3420. SHRI YESHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the utilisation of research and development work done by laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research continues to be unsatisfactory ;

(b) if so, the percentage of the processes that remained unutilised during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 (upto date); and

(c) measures taken to improve their commercial utilisation to reduce dependence on foreign technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The commercial utilisation of CSIR processes is satisfactory. To further improve their utilisation, processes involving significant investments, are offered through the involvement of engineering consultancy organisations.

[Translation]

Nuclear Energy Generation and New Atomic Power Plants

3421. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a target of generating 10,000 Meghawatt nuclear energy by the end of this century and have made initial preparations to achieve this target ;

(b) the number of new plants proposed to be set up in the country by the Department of Atomic Energy ;

(c) the amount demanded by the Department of Atomic Energy for Seventh Plan period and amount actually provided to them ;

(d) whether Government propose to set up a Nuclear Power Corporation ; and

(e) whether India propose to provide Nuclear Technology to the developing countries of the third world so as to make them economically sound ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT,

ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to the on-going projects, two new atomic power stations each of 2×235 MWe at Kaiga in Karnataka and as expansion at Rawatbhata in Rajasthan have already been approved for taking up during the Seventh Plan period. Additional power stations to be set up and sites for locating these stations are under consideration.

(c) Amount demanded by the Department of Atomic Energy for the Seventh Plan is Rs. 2392.29 crores and the allocation finally made is Rs. 1410 crores.

(d) It has been decided in principle to set up a Nuclear Power Corporation.

(e) India would be willing to share its expertise with other developing countries in power generation from atomic energy.

[English]

Implementation of Rehabilitation scheme for Refugees

3422. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several State Governments are very slow in implementing the rehabilitation schemes for refugees ;

(b) if so, which are those States and whether the Union Government have called upon them for the completion of the rehabilitation work without further delay ; and

(c) the progress achieved so far by the State Governments on the implementation of the rehabilitation schemes for refugees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) Various State Governments have been implementing a number of schemes for rehabilitation of refugees. Progress in implementing certain schemes in some of the States has not been upto expectations. The Government of India have been impressing on the concerned State Governments to complete the process of resettlement work expeditiously.

(c) The work relating to migrants from former East Pakistan in agriculture and small trade is by and large over in most of the States. As regards Tibetan refugees, 38,000 have already been settled with Government assistance in agriculture, small scale industries, etc. About 3,200 more are in the process of resettlement. In respect of displaced persons of Indo-Pak Conflict of 1971, the process of their settlement is over except for provision of certain infrastructural facilities. The work of resettlement of refugees from former East Pakistan in West Bengal is almost over and only some residuary works remains to be completed.

Maharashtra-Karnataka Border Dispute

3423. DR. DATTA SAMANT :

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUR-
OHIT

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to take an initiative to resolve the Karnataka-Maharashtra Border dispute ;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government and the steps being taken by them in the matter ; and

(c) whether any deputation from Maharashtra including Legislators met the former Union Minister of State for Home Affairs in December 1985 in this regard and if so, what assurance was given by him to the deputationists ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) The Central Government has been requested to initiate steps in the matter.

(b) The whole matter is under consideration.

(c) A deputation from Maharashtra met the former Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P. A. Sangma) in December, 1985. No assurance was given to the deputationists.

[Translation]

Development of Aravali Hill

3424. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have accepted in principle the scheme for developing Aravali hill area ;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in according approval to it by the Planning Commission ; and

(c) the time by which the proposed scheme will be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Development of Aravali hill areas is the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise. However, the question of extension of the coverage of the programme of hill areas development to Aravali hill areas is under examination of the Union Government.

[English]

Computerisation in Departments

3425. SHRI R. P. DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how much money Government decided to spend for computerisation of some of the departments, department-wise details;

(b) sources from which such computers are going to be acquired; and

(c) the arrangements for servicing these machines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The Government is implementing a programme for the development of National Computer Network (NICNET) connecting the various Departments/Ministries at the Central and State levels. This programme is being implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC) who have already

developed a number of software systems for computerisation of various Central government departments. During 7th plan, NIC has been given an allocation of Rs. 62 crores for the purpose.

(b) The medium level computers required at the state level will be procured from indigenous manufacturers who have been permitted to manufacture the mainframe or the Super-Mini Computer systems. The Microprocessor systems required will be procured from the indigenous sources. Very large systems required for the network which are not manufactured in the country have been already procured from NEC, Japan.

(c) These machines are being or will be maintained either inhouse by National Informatics Centre or by CMC Limited.

Market Funds for Atomic Power Programmes

3426. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intends to raise market funds for its atomic power programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether nuclear power would be profitable enough to pay for such borrowings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c) It has been decided in principle to set up a Nuclear Power Corporation. The details are yet to be worked out.

Concessions to ex Servicemen

3427. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during 1977-79, a number of concessions like travel concession, sales tax exemption on canteen stores earlier given to Ex-Servicemen were withdrawn; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider restoring those concessions in the

interest of and as a welfare measure to Ex-Servicemen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) No travel concession facility which was earlier available to specifically entitled groups of ex-servicemen, was withdrawn during 1977-79.

As regards sales tax exemption the grant of such exemption is within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. However, according to available information, this facility, wherever extended prior to 1977 was not withdrawn during the said period.

(b) Does not arise.

Progress in Completion of Projects in West Bengal

3428. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) number of Central Government or Centrally Sponsored projects in West Bengal;

(b) the details of financial allocation, achievement and target of these projects;

(c) whether reports of delay in implementing the projects have been received by Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and remedial steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY) : (a) to (d) Figures regarding financial allocation, achievement and targets for the Central Government and Centrally Sponsored projects are not decided and maintained on Statewise basis. In view of this, it would not be possible to provide the precise information on the question.

Tribunal for Border Disputes

3429. SHRI U. H. PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a "Tribunal for Border

Disputes" so as to settle Border disputes between various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether such demands have been made from some quarters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government of India at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government's view has been that the inter-State border disputes can be resolved in the light of their facts and circumstances and that it would be difficult to evolve principles to fit all such cases.

(d) No such demand has been received in the recent past.

(e) Does not arise.

National Crime Record Bureau

**3430. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM :
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has issued any guidelines to all the States Chief Ministers to revitalise the crime record branches at the State and District levels;

(b) if so, the measures suggested; and

(c) whether the States have adopted them and if so, the present position in various States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The Chief Ministers of all States have been requested to set up State Crime Records Bureau and District Crime Records Bureau in the States. While the modalities of setting up the State and District Crime Record Bureau have been

largely left to the State Governments, it has been suggested that a State Crime Records Bureau should be headed by an officer of the rank of DIG of Police and should comprise the State Police Computer Centre, wherever it exists or when installed, Modus Operandi Bureau, Finger Print Bureau and the Crime Statistics of the CID. The District Crime Record Bureaux, though under the overall charge of the District SP/Dy. Commissioner of Police, should be headed, on whole time basis, by an officer of the level of Dy. S. P. or Addl. S. P. depending on data in the District.

(c) Some of the State Governments have already initiated action in this regard.

Upgradation of CSIR Laboratories

3431. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National and Regional Research Laboratories functioning in the country ;

(b) whether Government propose to upgrade these laboratories in order to meet growing demand in high and appropriate technology ;

(c) whether Government propose to fix up time bound programme in certain research projects ; and

(d) if so, the details therefor and the steps taken or propose to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Total number of National Laboratories and research institutes under various agencies are about 236. Of these, 39 including 6 Regional Research Laboratories, are under the aegis of CSIR.

(b) The facilities available in these laboratories are constantly improved and enhanced.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Several Mission oriented programmes have been identified for implementation to

achieve time bound end results. Generally R&D programmes are being oriented in mission mode with defined activity milestones. These are monitored for progress and time stipulations are followed up. In addition certain major programmes of applied nature and research projects sponsored by user agencies/departments/ industries are time-bound.

Micro-Electronic Council

3432. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of members of the Micro-Electronic Council ;

(b) what functions have been assigned to the Council ; and

(c) how many meetings of this Council have been held in 1983-84, 1984-85 and April to December 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) The composition and the functions of the National Micro-electronics Council (NMC) are given in the statement below

(c) The NMC was set up vide the Resolution issued on 31st January, 1985. So far NMC has held two (2) meetings. The meetings were held on July 24, 1985 and December 2, 1985.

Statement

Composition		Name of the Present Member
1. Chairman, Electronics Commission	Chairman	—
2. Secretary, Department of Electronics	Member	Shri S.R. Vijayakar
3. Secretary, Department of Space	..	Prof. U.R. Rao
4. Secretary, Ministry of Communications	..	Shri D.K. Sangal
5. Secretary, Deptt. of Indl. Devp.	..	Shri S.D. Srivastava
6. Secretary, Department of Defence Production & Supplies.	..	Shri P. C. Jain
7. Secretary, Department of Defence R&D (SA to Raksha Mantri)	..	Dr. V.S. Arunachalam
8. Secretary, Deptt. of Atomic Energy	..	Dr. R. Ramanna
9. Secretary, Ministry of Education	..	Shri Anand Sarup
10. Director-General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research	..	Dr. A.P. Mitra
11. Member (Finance), Electronics Commission	..	Shri S. Venkitaramanan
12. Secretary, Electronics Commission	..	Dr. R.P. Wadhwa
13. Two Specialists in the & area of Micro-	(To be nominated by the Chairman,	—
14. electronics.	Electronics Commission)	—
15. Member-Secretary, NMC	Member-Secretary	Dr. N. W. Nerurkar, Advisor, Department of Electronics

FUNCTIONS : The Council shall be responsible :

1. For acting as the nodal point to ensure that the direction, pace and quality of the overall programme in the field of microelectronics is such that, the nation as a whole benefits from the efforts of the various agencies involved ;
2. For formulating periodically reviewing and updating an integrated national plan for Microelectronics, covering R&D, technology development, production, applications etc. in all areas ;
3. For taking measures, both promotional and regulatory, to bring about maximum standardisation in national requirements of Microelectronic Circuits, and where appropriate, Microelectronic sub-systems and systems ;
4. For preparing and ensuring the implementation of a technology plan to meet the nation's short and long term requirements of Microelectronics as defined above, on a maximally self reliant basis ;
5. For considering as part of the technology plan and its implementation, all proposals for import of technology and foreign collaboration/assistance relating to Microelectronics—whether by manufacturing companies R&D, institutions or other agencies—and for taking decisions on them ;
6. For preparing, also as part of the technology plan, an integrated programme of R&D including futuristic aspects, covering microelectronic circuits design, production processes special materials and, as appropriate, capital goods for production, etc, and for undertaking the promotion, coordination and financing needed to have that plan implemented ; for that purpose, the Council will consider, approve and monitor all R&D programmes in the country relating to microelectronics ;
7. For taking all measures, both promotional and regulatory, to ensure the realisation, in a coordinated manner, of adequate production

capacity for microelectronic circuits of all types ;

8. For relating and integrating the measures at (3) to (7) above in such a manner as to ensure that specific user requirements particularly in critical and strategic areas, are met on the basis of maximum self reliance ;
9. For drawing up a comprehensive plan and specific action programmes for the generation, in the shortest possible time of the different types and numbers of scientific and technical manpower needed for the nation's microelectronics efforts, whether in R&D, production or applications, and for undertaking the promotion, coordination and financing needed to have that plan implemented as a matter of priority ;
10. For formulating all such fiscal, import, industrial licensing and other regulatory and promotional policies as may be necessary to ensure that the nation builds up a technological and production capacity in Microelectronics which is maximally self reliant ; and
11. For defining and implementing all measures necessary for promoting all applications of microelectronics relevant and appropriate to our economy and society.

[Translation]

Atomic Power and Heavy Water Plant in Bihar

3433. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the major part of the requirements of uranium in the country is met by the uranium found at Jaduguda in Bihar ;

(b) the reasons for not setting up atomic power plant and heavy water plant in Bihar when raw material is available in abundance there ;

(c) whether keeping in view the serious power crisis in Bihar Government propose to set up an atomic power plant there ;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning indicating the location thereof and the cost involved therein ; and

(e) if not, the difficulty being experienced by Government in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Availability of uranium near the site is not an important criterion in siting an atomic power station or heavy water plant.

(c) The Site Selection Committee constituted by the Department of Atomic Energy have evaluated the sites suggested by the Government of Bihar and its report in respect of Eastern Electricity Region, of which Bihar also forms a part, is under consideration.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Identification of Industries causing Pollution

3434. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the States where prevention and control of pollution board has been set up ;

(b) the number of industries identified by different State Prevention and Control of Pollution Boards as polluted industries in 1984-85 and 1985-86 ;

(c) how many of those industries have taken adequate steps for prevention and control of pollution so far ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The name of the States where State Pollution Control Boards have been set up are: (1) Andhra Pradesh, (2) Assam, (3) Bihar, (4) Gujarat, (5) Haryana, (6) Himachal Pradesh, (7) Jammu & Kashmir, (8) Karnataka, (9)

Kerala, (10) Madhya Pradesh, (11) Maharashtra, (12) Meghalaya, (13) Orissa, (14) Punjab, (15) Rajasthan, (16) Tamil Nadu, (17) Uttar Pradesh, and (18) West Bengal.

(b) to (d) 4054 industries in the major and medium category have been identified as polluting industries, out of which 2076 industries have installed pollution control devices. The main types of industries are sugar, distilleries, caustic soda, fertilizers, oil-drilling and refineries, man-made fibre, iron & steel, textiles, pulp and paper, pharmaceuticals, insecticides and pesticides inorganic chemicals, organic and petrochemicals, dairy, thermal plants, edible oils and vanaspati, paints and dye stuffs, general engineering, tanneries, cement, minerals, mining, rubber products and food-stuffs.

Scheme to familiarise the Central Government officials with Modern Management

3435. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to familiarise the Central Government officials with modern management techniques to impart new skills and to tone up efficiency ; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Training programmes have been organised for IAS officers at three stages, namely, for officers of 6-9 years' service with focus on programme implementation ; for officers of 10-16 years' service dealing with management concepts and decision making ; and for officers of 17-20 years' service with stress on policy planning and analysis. 21 courses scheduled for the 3 stages in the State Training Institutions, Institutes of Management, Indian Institute of Public Administration and Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie have been completed so far. The courses have been designed to develop professional competence and effective implementation of programmes intended to benefit the poor and backward sections of the people.

Besides this Ministry is also conducting vertically integrated one week refresher courses for IAS officers. 77 such courses have already been conducted and it is expected that all IAS officers will be covered by end of June, 1986.

The drawing up of similar training/refresher programmes has been advised to the Ministries/Departments dealing with various All India and Group A Services.

Vegetative propagation of trees

3436. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new method of planting instant tree called "Vegetative propagation of trees" has been recently perfected whereby trees can be grown up instantly ; and

(b) whether it has been tested and if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) Vegetative propagation is an established method of planting some tree species which respond to this practice. Experiments on tissue culture, which is a method of vegetative propagation, have been conducted at the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune. The technique requires extensive field testing before it can be adopted as standard practice in afforestation.

Meeting of National Land Use and Wasteland Development Council

3437. SHRI K. PRADHANI :
DR. B.L. SHAIKESH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the first meeting of the National Land Use and Wasteland Development Council held in February last, the Prime Minister reiterated the desirability of annually bringing 5 million hectares of land under fuelwood and fodder plantations by fostering a people's movement ;

(b) if so, what action has been initiated by the National Wasteland Development Board on such a programme ; and

(c) the role likely to be assigned to the State Governments, private sector industry and the banks in the successful implementation of the wasteland development throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Action Plan has been initiated by the National Wastelands Development Board. Salient features of the programme are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The principal agency for implementation of the Action Plan would be the State Governments.

Forest-based industries would be encouraged to afforest wastelands to produce raw-material needed by them. Industry generally would be enthused to raise tree cover on wastelands distant from rural habitats so as to provide rural employment and to meet the community's needs, without disturbing existing community use.

The States have also been requested to actively explore the harnessing of bank finance, by evolving bankable schemes for afforestation both by individuals and cooperatives.

Statement

The Action Plan drawn up by the National Wastelands Development Board and accepted by the State/UT Governments for implementation has the following key elements :—

1. Identification of Wastelands :

Each State/U.T, Government has been requested to identify wastelands in their territory whether they be in forest area, revenue/common lands or degraded farm lands.

2. People's Involvement :

This will be ensured by the following measures :—

- (a) *Decentralised Nurseries* : People's nurseries i.e. kisans, schools, women, youth groups, voluntary agencies, etc., will be motivated to meet the increased demand of seedlings.

(b) **Farm Forestry** : Farmers will be motivated to take up tree farming on their marginal lands and planting on their field bunds. A rational policy in regard to distribution of seedlings should be evolved.

(c) **Tree Growers' Cooperatives** : Tree Growers' cooperatives should be organised with the involvement of farmers in raising and distribution of seedlings and in tree plantations.

(d) **Voluntary Agencies** : The grass-roots agencies, Mahila Mandals, Youth groups would also be motivated in nursery raising and tree plantations.

(e) **Tree Pattas** : Strips of land along roads, rails, canals, etc., and other degraded land should be given to the rural poor, with usufruct rights on the trees planted by them on such lands.

3. Nodal Agency :

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to identify a single nodal agency for ensuring an integrated approach for the implementation of the programme which is being executed by different agencies, official and otherwise.

4. Seed :

The State/UTs. have been requested to extend the scope of operation of the existing State Seed Corporations to include the production and supply of fodder, grass and legume seeds to farmers on commercial basis.

5. Leasing of Lands :

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to prepare guidelines for leasing of forest and non-forest wastelands for afforestation to the rural poor,

6. Forest based Industries :

Must be encouraged to afforest wastelands to produce the raw material needed by them. Industries must also be enthused to raise tree cover on wastelands with a view to provide employment to the rural poor as well as to enable them to grow trees on a remunerative basis. The State Governments have been requested to draw

up guidelines for the lease of wastelands to industries in this behalf.

7. Urban Fuelwood and Green Belts :

The States/U.Ts. have been requested to ensure that towns and cities have green belts of fuelwood and fodder plantations to cater to the urban fuelwood and fodder needs.

8. Degraded Forest Areas :

States have been requested to identify degraded forest lands and to reforest them with fuelwood and fodder species.

9. Forest Development Corporations :

The Forest Development Corporations should obtain wastelands on lease from the Governments for raising fuelwood and fodder plantations.

10 Government Departments :

Government Departments, public sector undertakings and other bodies/institutions having substantial areas of unutilised lands must bring such land under tree cover.

11. Media and Communication :

A massive publicity campaign through the traditional media of folk art and culture, radio, television and other audiovisual aids should be undertaken to create awareness among the masses.

12. Monitoring and Evaluation :

The State/Union Territory Governments should evolve appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure qualitative implementation of the programme.

Land holding system in Tribal Areas

3438. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has set up a Study Group on land holding system in tribal areas :

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition ;

(c) whether no tribal Member of Parliament conversant with the land holding system in tribal areas has been put on this Study Group ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) whether Government propose to include some tribal Member of Parliament in this Group and make it more broad-based ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the Study Group on holding systems in tribal areas and its composition is given in the statement below.

(c) to (e) The membership of the Study Group is confined to experts in the field of land-holding systems in the tribal areas. The Study Group is, however, expected to interact with people's representatives and members of public. As such, there is no proposal to expand its membership to include members of Parliament.

Statement

The terms of reference of the Study Group of Land Holding Systems in Tribal Areas are as follows :—

- (i) The terms of reference of the Study Group will be to examine the nature and extent of land and landbased resources available in the tribal areas :
- (ii) The extent land-holding patterns obtaining among different Scheduled Tribe communities and the types of institutions as well as forms of institutional arrangements prevalent among them for regulation of the use of the land resource by individuals, LAMPS, village communities on the land resource ;
- (iii) The nature and extent of dependence of tribal communities on the land resource ;
- (iv) the extent and form of awareness of the individual tribal communities relative to the economic value of the land resource ;
- (v) the extent to which traditional access of the tribal communities to land and land-based resources is

recognised under provisions of the various laws.

- (vi) the overt and covert changes following implementation of survey and settlement operations in tribal areas ; and
- (vii) the changes in the matter of control and access to land and land-based resources in the wake of development activities and different administrative and legislative measures.

The composition of the Study Group is given below :

- (1) Dr. B.K. Roy Burman—Chairman Visiting Fellow, Study of Development Societies, 29 Rajpur Road, Delhi-110054
- (2) Shri Gangumei Kabui—Member Professor of History, Manipur University, Imphal (Manipur).
- (3) Prof. G. Parthasarathy—Member Professor of Economics, Andhra Pradesh University, Waltair, Andhra Pradesh.
- (4) Prof. Jaganath Pathy—Member Deptt. of Sociology, South Gujarat University, University Campus, Udhia Magdalla Road Surat-7. (Gujarat)
- (5) Smt. R.O. Dhan—Member Ex-member, UPSC, C-1/15, Pandara Park, New Delhi-3.
- (6) Shri A.R. Bandopadhyaya—Member Commissioner, Santhal Parganas Division, Dumka (Bihar)
- (7) Shri Murkoth Ramunni—Bitra Dharmadam, Cannanore, District, Kerala-670106.
- (8) Dr. Bhupinder Singh—Member-Secretary, Adviser, Planning Commission, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi-1'0001

[Translation]

Central Assistance to Rajasthan for Rehabilitation

3439. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the main decisions taken at the conference of Rehabilitation Ministers of the States held during February ; and

(b) the future schemes of Rajasthan Government for rehabilitation purpose and the details of the Central assistance, proposed for implementing these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) The Conference was mainly convened to review the progress of implementation of Rehabilitation schemes in the various States and Union Territories. It was decided that the States should carefully examine and identify the residuary work to be done and also assign specific tasks to be completed within a definite time frame. It was also felt that such discussions should be held at more frequent intervals. No new schemes are contemplated by the Government of India because all the eligible DP families have been settled in schemes which are almost complete. There is some residual work pertaining to infrastructural facilities like schools, medical facilities, etc. which the Govt. of Rajasthan is taking steps to complete. The Central Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 223.20 lakhs for providing infrastructural facilities in the State. The State Government, however, propose to provide subsidiary assistance to these displaced persons under the centrally sponsored Integrated Rural Development Programme.

[English]

Companies Manufacturing TV Sets

3440. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies in public and private sector which are manufacturing TV sets in the country and their annual production;

(b) the number of public sector and private sector companies which are engaged in manufacturing CTV sets and their annual production; and

(c) whether any foreign company has been granted a licence to manufacture CTV sets in the country, if so, details and terms and conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) 13 units in the public sector and 190 units in the private sector have reported manufacture of TV sets. Their annual production, during 1985, was 2.37 lakh nos. and 22.23 lakh nos. respectively.

(b) 11 units in the public sector and 78 units in the private sector have reported manufacture of CTV sets. Their annual production, during 1985, was 1.19 lakh nos. and 5.41 lakh nos. respectively.

(c) No. foreign company (i. e. a company with more than 40% foreign equity) has been granted industrial licence by the Government for manufacture of CTV sets in the country.

[Translation]

Plantation of trees

3441. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a scheme to plant trees on a large scale; and

(b) whether tribal areas will be given priority in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The Government have taken policy decision to undertake a massive programme of afforestation, to achieve an annual target of 5 million ha. in the country by the end of the VII Five-Year Plan. The National Wastelands Development Board has been constituted to promote, coordinate and monitor the programme.

(b) Afforestation effort would generally be intensive in the tribal areas due to the tribal habitats being largely in hilly areas, which need urgent attention. The planting of species yielding fuelwood, fodder and fruit in particular would be emphasised, so as to meet the needs of the rural poor, including the tribals.

[English]

**Institute for Micro Electronics
and Computer Studies in Kerala**

3442. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up an Institute for micro electronics and computer studies in Kerala in the Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) There is no proposal before the Government to set up an Institute for Micro Electronics and Computer Studies in Kerala in the Seventh Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

**Establishment of Orissa Computer
Application Centre**

3443. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan for training of personnel and data preparation programmes in view of Orissa Computer Application Centre having already been established at Bhubaneswar and the Super Computer Centre being set up there by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any funds have been released for this programme by the Union Government to the Orissa Government so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and what action in this respect is being taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Central Government has advised the Government of Orissa to set up a large training centre

at Bhubaneswar for conducting training programmes on computers for various levels.

(b) Department of Electronics has already initiated a feasibility study to examine :

(i) the entry and exit profile of the trainees who can be trained for careers for the data processing as Programmers.

(ii) the number of trainees that can be trained at different levels

(iii) the detailed content and methodology for courseware design.

(iv) guidelines for conducting training programmes.

(v) the hardware, software, courseware and the manpower requirements as well as time frame for establishing the above mentioned training facility.

Also a separate proposal for the establishment of an Institute for Training and Education of Engineers in the field of Computer Software has been received.

(c) Yes Sir, some funds have been released for this programme by the Union Government to the Orissa Government.

(d) Does not arise.

**Proposals from Orissa for Pollution
Assessment Laboratory**

3444. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Board for Pollution Control has been approached by Government of Orissa to fund atleast one mobile or pollution assessment laboratory;

(b) whether the State Government had also submitted a proposal for the establishment of air quality monitoring in important industrial areas of the State, like Talcher and Rourkela; and

(c) if so, the stage at which these two proposals stand at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal has been agreed to in principle but the exact locations of the air quality monitoring stations have not been decided so far.

Ranking of Technical Posts

3445. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the technical posts in different cadres in various Central departments are inferior in rank and in emoluments to the general posts;

(b) if so, the rationale behind this difference;

(c) whether at any time the Government has undertaken a review of these differences with a view to bridge the gap between general posts and technical posts; and

(d) if so, the result thereof and the policy of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHR P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The ranks and scales of pay of various technical as well as non-technical posts in Group 'A' Central Services are determined on the basis of relevant considerations like levels of duties and responsibilities. Keeping in view these aspects, it may be stated that the technical posts and the non-technical posts are, by and large, comparable.

(b) to (d) The pay and allowances and conditions of service of Central Government Employees, both technical and non-technical, are under review by the Fourth Pay Commission.

Transfer of assets of Dandakaranya Project to Government of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh

3446. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the assets and institutions of Dandakaranya project,

started in 1958 for the resettlement of displaced persons from former East Pakistan are proposed to be transferred to the State Government of Orissa and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof including about the number of displaced persons so far settled; and

(c) the number of more agriculturist families and non-agriculturists likely to be settled during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) As the work relating to resettlement of displaced persons is more or less complete in the three of the four zones, it has been decided, in consultation with the respective State Governments, to transfer the assets and institutions in the 3 zones namely Paralkote & Kondagaon (Madhya Pradesh) and Umerkote (Orissa) to the respective State Governments, free of cost. The Govt. of India is however, providing funds to meet any deficiency in the assets and institutions taken over by them and will also bear expenditure on their maintenance for five years.

So far 36,672 families from former East Pakistan have been resettled in the four Zones of the Dandakaranya Project. After desertions, 25,255 families are now in position.

(c) At present, no further d. p. families are available for rehabilitation in Dandakaranya Project. About 500 rehabilitable d.ps. from various P. L. Homes are likely to be settled in Malkangiri Zone during the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

Preventive Measures for Thorium Powder in Kerala

3447. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE :

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

whether it is a fact that according to a recent study about 5000 tonnes of thorium powder is stored in a broken silo near the banks of Periyar river in Kerala which can

contaminate the drinking water supply of the entire population of Ernakulam district in the event of a high tide; and

(b) if so, what preventive measures have been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) It is not a fact that the thorium powder which is stored near the banks of river Periyar is in a broken silo. The silos are so constructed that even in the event of a high tide, river water cannot enter the silos as revealed from the experience of the last twenty years.

(b) Adequate precautions have been taken in the construction of silos to prevent any leakage and this is constantly monitored by the Indian Rare Earths Limited as well as the Health Physics Division of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.

Protection of Ecology and Culture of Andamans

3448. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the measures planned to ensure protection of ecology and ethnic culture of the islanders of Andamans :

(b) whether any attempts to know the wishes of the islanders on this matter were made ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether any discussion on the subject has taken place in forums like National Development Council, Planning Commission etc ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (e)

The ecology and culture of tribals of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are protected by various means. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulation 1956 provides comprehensive legal cover to vulnerable tribals. This also prohibits any activity by non-tribals in tribal areas without specific and prior sanction of the Administration. Non-tribals are not allowed to enter tribals reserves without prior permission and valid entry permit. The provisions of this regulation protect overall interests which include ecology and culture of tribals. All tribal groups are encouraged to live their own way of life, as embodied in their culture, without interference.

2. The Anthropological Survey of India which has a regional office at Port Blair since 1951 has produced a number of books and papers on ethnic communities, especially the primitive groups.

3. The Planning Commission has constituted a joint Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.G.K. Menon, Member, Planning Commission to formulate an integrated environmental sound developmental strategy for Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Committee has submitted its report which is under consideration of the Planning Commission.

Pollution caused by Unit of the ISRO at Alwaye, Kerala

3449. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaint has been received by Government that Ammonium perchlorate experimental unit of the Indian Space Research Organisation at Alwaye, Kerala is polluting the air and land at Alwaye ;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The State Pollution Control Board conducted an enquiry and directed the Organisation to treat effluents as per prescri-

bed standards. For drying of the effluents solar evaporators have been installed and a major part of the effluents is now treated through the drying beds. A proposal has also been formulated for transportation of the solid waste from the drying beds and its disposal into the sea.

Rehabilitation of Kaiga People

3450. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the amount sanctioned so far by the Union Government for the rehabilitation of Kaiga people displaced consequent on the setting up of Kaiga Atomic Power Station ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : No amount has so far been sanctioned. However the Department of Atomic Energy will take suitable steps in consultation with Government of Karnataka to rehabilitate people who will be displaced consequent upon setting up of the atomic power station.

Asylum sought by Sikh Militants in Britain

3451. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

SHRI B. V. DESAI :

SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :

SHRI V. TULSIRAM :

DR. G. S. RAJHANS :

SHRI R. M. BHOYE :

PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports that a number of Sikh militants including those who are wanted for trial in Indian courts have sought asylum in Britain ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Governments are usually averse to disclosing information on asylum seekers. But, independently, we understand that the U. K. Government has granted asylum to some anti-Indian extremists.

Nutrition Level of Poor and Fixed Income Group

3452. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the average amount of nutrition available to the people living below poverty line as well as to people in the fixed income group ;

(b) whether any perspective plan has been formulated to raise the nutritional level of these sections ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) No information in this regard is available.

(b) and (c) The Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) has been formulated as a part of the long term strategy based on three basic priorities for food, work and productivity and seeks by 2000 to virtually eliminate poverty and illiteracy and achieve near full employment so as to secure satisfaction of basic needs of food, clothing and shelter and provide health for all. The pattern of resource allocation in the Plan has been designed to sustain self-sufficiency in food and make progress in increasing the production of edible oils, pulses, vegetables etc., and thereby bringing an improvement in the quality of life of population.

To raise the nutritional level of the people living below poverty line and other people in the fixed income group the long-term strategy envisages expansion of employment opportunities and stabilisation of income. Besides the main income earning activity, subsidiary occupation to augment family income would be encouraged through imparting suitable skills. Efforts would be made for an extended public distribution system so that cereals, pulses and edible oils in sufficient quantities are made available. Special attention would continue to be given to the vulnerable sections like children, pregnant women and nursing mothers, under the nutrition intervention

schemes like Supplementary Nutrition-Programme (SNP) and Mid-Day Meals Programme (MDM).

Uplift of Denotified Communities and Nomadic Tribes

3453. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the denotified communities and nomadic tribes are socially, educationally and politically backward ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government contemplate to bring them at par with other people ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

Most of these communities are included in the list of other Backward Classes. Only in some of the States, e.g Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, etc., these communities are included in the List of Scheduled Castes and in some other States these communities are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes. The communities included in the list of Schedule Castes or Scheduled Tribes derive, in normal course, all the benefits available to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities under various welfare programmes of the Central Govt. and the State Governments. Likewise, the various schemes under education, economic development, health, housing and other programmes for the development of these communities included in the list of Other Backward Classes are being implemented in the Plans of the States/Union Territories under Welfare of Backward Class sector in order to bring them at par with the rest of the society.

[Translation]

Expenditure on Central Police Organisations

3454. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred annually on Central Police Organisations namely Assam Rifles, Border Security Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Central

Reserve Police Force and Central Industrial Security Force separately ;

(b) whether steps are being taken to provide additional funds with a view to increasing the efficiency of these organisations ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a)

The expenditure figures in respect of the following Central Police Organisations for the year 1985-86 are as indicated against each :

(Rs. in lakhs)

C.P.O.	B.E. 85-86	R.E. 85-86
Assam Rifles	8272.52	8560.29
B.S.F.	18108.92	19498.56
I.T.B.P.	3027.05	3445.83
C.R.P.F.	17083.25	19038.31
C.I.S.F.	6266.83	6550.41

The above figures are exclusive of the expenditure incurred on construction works of the CPOs for which provision is made in the Budget of the ministry of Urban Development.

(b) and (c) The figures given above speak for themselves. Proposals received from various police organisations from time to time for augmentation of staff, purchase of weaponry, equipment arms, ammunition etc. are considered on merits and additional funds provided, where necessary.

[English]

Supply of Nuclear Fuel to Friendly Countries

3455. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is in a position to supply nuclear fuel to friendly countries which are facing problems of uncertain nuclear fuel supplies from the Super Powers;

(b) if so, whether there are any proposals to help these countries ;

(c) if so, whether such supplies would be brought under some form of inspection : and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to take steps to expand fuel production to meet the needs of other countries also, particularly those non-aligned countries which do not have their own uranium ores ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) India is presently producing nuclear fuel just sufficient for her own needs.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Freedom Fighters Pension

3456. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the increase of rupees two hundred in the freedom fighter pension as announced by the Prime Minister in June, 1985 has started being disbursed ;

(b) if so, since when ; and

(c) if not the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) The monthly amount of pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme for living freedom fighters as well as the widows of the deceased freedom fighters has already been raised to Rs. 500/- p. m. w. e. f. 01.06.1985. Detailed instruction have been issued to the Accountants General to modify the pension Payment Orders to give effect to the revision of the amount of pension.

Proposals for House Building Activities

3457. SHRI A. S. GGUNDER : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) were any proposals received from Nationalised and other banks for taking up by them of housing building activities to make up for shortage of dwelling units in the country :

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have approved such schemes ;

(d) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Computerisation Programme for Income Tax Department

3458. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the computerisation programme for the income-tax department has been completed by the Computer Maintenance Corporation and the same is likely to be implemented soon ;

(b) if so, whether consideration to the human problem of thousands of lower grade employees was also taken into account ; and

(c) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) CMC has prepared a feasibility study report for Income Tax Department, and submitted its report to Income Tax Department, whose decision is awaited.

(b) and (c) Since a decision on the Report has not yet been taken, the human problem is yet to be studied in depth.

Colour TVs by FERA Companies

3459. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allowed FERA companies to make colour televisions ;

(b) whether any terms and conditions have been laid down, before the FERA companies were allowed to manufacture Colour televisions ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) which FERA companies are engaged in manufacturing Colour televisions at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. However, companies with foreign equity not exceeding 40 percent are eligible for consideration for the manufacture of TV sets, subject to the condition that they will be required to supply not less than 25 percent of their production in kit form to small scale units for 5 years from the date such companies go into production of TV. Further, use of foreign brand names is not allowed in the manufacture and sale of TV sets.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Measures to Protect Forests

3460. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Wasteland Development Board has taken any concrete measures to build up buffer areas to protect the forests ; and

(b) what other measures are being taken by Government to reduce the pressure on forests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) The National Wastelands Development Board has drawn up an Action Plan for development of wastelands. This includes, inter-alia, buffer areas on the periphery of forests, which could yield fuel and fodder and thus protect the forests. Details of the Action Plan are given in the attached statement.

(b) The following steps have been taken to reduce the pressure on forests:—

1. Promoting the use of alternative fuels (energy sources) for dome-

stic consumption, e.g. biogas, solar cookers, and provision of L.P.gas.

2. Promoting use of fuel-efficient stoves and 'chulhas' to reduce wood consumption.
3. Use of alternative materials to substitute wood in its traditional use for packing cases, railway sleepers, electric poles, etc.
4. Promoting stall feeding to reduce grazing pressure on forests.
5. Abolition of import duty on wood chips and pulp and reduction of import duty on logs to 10% ad valorem, to enable forest based industries to import raw material, thereby reducing the pressure for wood from our forests.

Statement

Action plan for Development of Waste'ands

1. Identification of Wastelands :

The State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to identify wastelands in their territories, whether they be in forest area, revenue/common lands or degraded farmlands.

2. People's Involvement :

This will be ensured by the following measures :

- (a) *Decentralised Nurseries* : People's Nurseries i.e. kisans, schools, women, youth groups, voluntary agencies etc. will be motivated to meet the increased demand for seedlings.
- (b) *Farm Forestry* : Farmers will be motivated to take up tree farming on their marginal lands and planting on their field bunds. A rational seedling distribution policy should be evolved.
- (c) *Tree Growers' Cooperatives* : Tree growers' cooperatives should be organised with the involvement of farmers in raising and distribution of seedling and in tree plantations.

(d) *Voluntary Agencies* : The grass-root agencies, mahila mandals and youth groups would also be motivated in nursery raising and tree plantations.

(e) *Tree Pattas* : Strips of land along roads, rails, canals, etc., and other degraded land should be given to the rural poor, with usufruct rights on the trees planted by them on such lands.

3. Nodal Agency :

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to identify a single nodal agency for ensuring an integrated approach for the implementation of the programme which is being executed by different agencies, official and otherwise.

4. Seed :

The States/Union Territories have been requested to extend the scope of operation of the existing State Seed Corporations to include production and supply of fodder, grass and legume seeds to farmers on commercial basis.

5. Leasing of Lands :

The State/U.T. Governments have been requested to prepare guidelines for leasing of forest and non-forest wastelands for afforestation to the rural poor.

6. Forest based Industries :

These must be encouraged to afforest wastelands to produce the raw material needed by them. Industries must also be enthused to raise tree cover on wastelands with a view to provide employment to the rural poor as well as to enable them to grow trees on a remunerative basis. The State Governments have been requested to draw up guidelines for the lease of wastelands to industries in this behalf.

7. Urban Fuelwood and Green Belts :

The States/U.Ts. have been requested to ensure that towns and cities have green belts of fuelwood and fodder plantations to cater to the urban fuelwood and fodder needs.

8. Degraded Forest Areas :

States have been requested to identify

degraded forest lands and to reforest them with fuelwood and fodder species.

9. Forest Development Corporations :

The Forest Development Corporations should obtain wastelands on lease from the Governments for raising fuelwood and fodder plantations.

10. Government Departments :

Government Departments, public sector undertakings and other bodies/institutions having substantial areas of unutilised lands must bring such land under tree cover.

11. Media and Communication :

A massive publicity campaign through the traditional media of folk art and culture, radio, television and other audio-visual aids should be undertaken to create awareness among the masses.

12. Monitoring and Evaluation

The State/U.T. Governments should evolve appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure qualitative implementation of the programme.

[Translation]

Amount under Seventh Plan for Tribal sub-Plan of Madhya Pradesh

3461. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided in the Seventh Five Year Plan for the tribal sub-plan in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) whether the entire amount required for tribal sub-Plan will be made available by the Centre or Madhya Pradesh Government will also have to contribute some amount from its own resources ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Following amounts are estimated for the TSP in Seventh Five Year Plan for the State of Madhya Pradesh :—

Resource	Rs. in crores
State Plan	1298.70
Special Central Assistance (Estimated)	204.60
Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes (Estimated)	195.52
Institutional Finance (Estimated)	441.25

The amounts are tentative and subject to final Plan allocations.

(b) Madhya Pradesh Government shall provide nearly Rs. 1298.70 crores. Government of India in Ministry of Welfare shall give about Rs. 204.60 crores as Special Central Assistance. Another Rs. 195.32 crores are estimated to flow from the Central Government under Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes.

Land Conservation and Afforestation in water prone areas of Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar projects

3462. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have laid down any physical targets in the Seventh Plan for works in regard to land conservation and afforestation in the water prone area of Sardar Sarovar and Narmada Sagar Projects :

(b) if so, the details of targets laid down and the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon in the Seventh Plan;

(c) the allocations made in regard to estimated expenditure and physical targets for Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh separately, and the basis thereof; and

(d) the criteria laid down for providing Central assistance to the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS. (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The inter-Departmental Committee on soil conservation and afforestation for Sardar Sarovar and Narmada Sagar Projects, constituted by Union Ministry of Agriculture, has recommended that a total of 37.2 lakh hectare area should be covered under soil conservation and afforestation programme during the next 10-15 years.

(c) The Committee has estimated the cost of the treatment works to be Rs. 1332 crores. Appropriate allocations will be provided by the Project authorities after identifying the critical areas.

(d) No criteria has yet been laid down for Central assistance in this regard.

[English]

Discussion with Foreign Minister of West Germany

3463. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he held discussions in February, 1986 at Bonn with West German Foreign Minister on disarmament issues;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion held; and

(c) other issues which were discussed on that occasion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The FRG Foreign Minister felt that the two countries, India a "Leading Member of NAM" and FRG an important EEC Member, could encourage a constructive dialogue on disarmament. The FRG was also interested in the Greek Prime Minister's idea to expand the Six Nations Initiative on Disarmament to include more countries.

(c) Among other issues discussed were IDA assistance to India, North-South dialogue, India's role in South Asia and Afghanistan. The discussions with the Foreign Minister of West Germany showed that the FRG was very keen to introduce into their relationship with India a significant political content in addition to existing economic cooperation,

[Translation]

**Licences issued to Uptron for
Electronics Industry**

3464. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent licences issued during the last two years to UPTRON a public sector undertaking of U.P. for setting up electronic industries;

(b) details in this regard and the names of the places proposed for the said industries;

(c) the number of the licences out of them based on foreign technology;

(d) whether any such industry is proposed to be set up in the hill areas of U. P.;

(e) if so, the places where it is proposed to be located; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) 36 Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences have been issued to the UPTRON, a public sector undertaking of U.P. for setting up of Electronics Industry during the last two years (1984 and 1985).

(b) to (f) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

**Indian Consulate in Basrah affected by
Bombing**

3465. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the nearby areas of Indian consulate in Basrah, Iraq have been raided a number of times by the Iranian bombers ;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to close this consulate for the time being; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) (a) Government has received reports that shells have landed in Basrah during the recent phase of fighting. However, the Indian Consulate building in Basrah has not been shelled/ bombed by Iranian bombers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Ministry of External Affairs is in regular contact with Indian Missions in Iraq. Our Embassy has not suggested closure of our Consulate in Basrah. There are some 1800 Indian nationals in and around Basrah and the Consul General's presence is necessary to provide all necessary assistance to Indian nationals.

[English]

**Investment in Electronics Components
Sector**

3466. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that investment in electronics components sector has been below the expectation.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) measures proposed to be taken to boost the investment and production in this sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Measures taken to boost investment and production in the area of Electronic Components.

(i) In order to ensure that economically viable capacities for the manufacture of electronic components are established in the country to produce components at near international prices as far as possible, Government have taken a series of measures which includes delicensing of the industry. exemption under Sections 21 & 22 of the

M RTP Act and majority foreign equity participation in case of closely held high technologies.

- (ii) In addition a Working Group for expeditious processing of loan applications for electronic components has been jointly set up by the Department with the IDBI.

Enquiry into Deaths in Police Custody in Delhi

3467. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of inquiries initiated by the Government into the deaths of suspects in police custody in Delhi during 1984 and 1985 stating the level at which the inquiries were conducted;

(b) in how many cases the involvement of police into the deaths of suspects was established and the number of cases which were filed; and

(c) action taken by the Government in cases where deaths of suspects occurred due to police torture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) The deaths that took place in police custody during the year 1984 and 1985 are as follows :—

1984—3

1985—5

In all the above mentioned cases inquiries into the death of suspects in police custody were conducted u/s 176 Cr. P.C. by the Sub-divisional Magistrates.

(b) Two cases each of 1984 and 1985 have been filed after the receipt of inquiry report from the S.D.M. In the third case of 1984, 2 Sub-Inspectors were arrested, although the inquest report is awaited. In the remaining 3 cases, the enquiry reports of the SDMs are awaited, but *prima facie* there is no involvement of police in these cases.

(c) Does not arise,

Officials of Indian Embassies seeking Asylum in Foreign Countries

3468. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of Indian officials working in the various Indian Embassies who have sought asylum in foreign countries during the last two years;

(b) whether Government of India have approached those foreign Governments for extradition of such officials ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The particulars of officials in the Indian Missions who have sought asylum in foreign countries during the last two years are as follows :

(i) Harinder Singh, formerly First Secretary, Embassy of India, Oslo. He left our Mission on 19.6.84 and sought political asylum from the Norwegian Government.

(ii) Jaswant Singh Banga, formerly Assistant in the Embassy of India, Stockholm. He left the Embassy on 2.7.84 and sought political asylum from the Swedish Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Extinction of White Browed Hoолоck

3469. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Statesman* dated the 14 January, 1986 wherein it has been stated that the rare white browed hoолоck found only in North East India and parts of Hainan in India-China and South East Asia faces extinction as forests are being depleted and wild fruit trees destroyed ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto and what action Government have taken to save these rare white browed hoолоck ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. However, although reduced in numbers, the hoolock gibbon is not in danger of extinction in India.

(b) The hoolock gibbon is listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 which provides full legal protection against hunting and trade or commerce of the species and its derivatives. It is also included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) under which international trade in the species and its derivatives is strictly regulated. Export of the hoolock gibbon and its derivatives is banned under the current export policy of Government. A number of national parks and sanctuaries have been established in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram where this species and its habitat are protected.

Outcome of visit of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands

3470. **SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands visited India during the months of January, 1986;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held with the Indian Leaders; and

(c) whether any agreement has also been signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The visit has contributed to understanding between the two countries and the talks held between the leaders of the two countries are expected to result in increased cooperation in the industrial and economic fields.

(c) No, Sir.

Implementation of Programmes for Resettlement of Ex-Servicemen

3471. **SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the system Government have adopted to monitor the implementation of Ex-servicemen resettlement programmes by the States; and

(b) the action Government propose to take against States which ignore Government's directives regarding the resettlement of Ex-Servicemen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) As the primary responsibility of implementing such of the programmes for the resettlement of Ex-servicemen as fall within the jurisdiction of the States is that of the States themselves and of the Rajya Sainik Boards/Zila Sainik Boards, the first level of monitoring is the function of the State Government and its agencies. However, the Director General of Resettlement under the Ministry of Defence compiles information which it obtains from the State Government agencies, maintains appropriate liaison with them, and assists the Central Government in the formulation of policy and in pursuing with the State Governments the implementation of such programmes, wherever necessary.

(b) The Central Government is engaged in formulating, with the participation and consent of the State Governments, a consensus on the programmes which need to be introduced for the welfare of Ex-servicemen, and in trying to prevail on various States to accept the policy initiatives taken by the Central Government. The related issues are accordingly taken up by the Central Government with the State Governments at appropriately high levels, both in correspondence as well as in forums like the Kendriya Sainik Boards.

Reservation of Vacancies of Ex-servicemen in Ordnance Factories

3472. **SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation quota of vacancies (14-1/2 percent in Group C and 24½ percent in Group D) for ex-servicemen has been fully filled in Ordnance Factories and other industrial organisations under the Defence Ministry;

(b) if not, to what extent these vacancies have been filled and the reason for the shortfall ; and

(c) what action Government propose to take for proper utilisation of these vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) The reservation of vacancies for ex-servicemen is 14-1/2 percent in Group C and 24 1/2 percent in Group D posts in Central Public Sector Undertakings and 10 percent and 20 percent respectively in the Central Government Ministries and Departments. A statement showing the vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen in Group C and Group D and the numbers filled during the year 1984 in respect of the Industrial Organisations under the Department of Defence Production is given below. Information in respect of the few remaining Industrial

Organisations under the Defence Ministry is being obtained.

(b) The reasons for shortfall in filling vacancies by ex-servicemen are ;

- (i) non availability of candidates ;
- (ii) reluctance on the part of ex-servicemen to apply for posts of un-skilled labour, cleaner, sweeper and maintenance staff where direct recruitment is mostly done ;
- (iii) inability of ex-servicemen to meet requirements for highly skilled jobs.

(c) Instructions have been issued by Government on the need to fill vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen and also reiterated from time to time. Liaison Officers have been appointed in each Ordnance Factory and in different Public Sector Undertakings to notify reserved vacancies to Sainik Boards, Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment Exchanges.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Organisation	Vacancies in			
		Group 'C'		Group 'D'	
		Reserved	Filled	Reserved	Filled
1.	Ordnance Factories	132	38	674	247
2.	Directorate General of Inspection	73	45	93	27
3.	Directorate of Technical Development & Production (Air)	8	4	14	8
4.	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited	223	192	59	21
5.	Bharat Electronics Limited	23	23	26	13
6.	Bhart Earth Movers Limited	107	83	38	19
7.	Mazgaon Dock Limited	23	—	316	452
8.	Goa Shipbuilders Limited	21	7	29	36
9.	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers	3	—	6	23
11.	Bhart Dynamics Limited	—	—	—	—
11.	Praga Tools Limited	16	11	—	—
12.	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited	12	5	2	—
Total :		641	408	1257	846

Rural Conversion Technology Centres

3473. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Science and Technology in co-operation with the Department of Rural Development has earmarked a project for the setting up of "Rural Conversion Technology" in various parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the objective behind the project ;

(c) the number of centres likely to be opened for "Rural Conversion Technology" and the places where they will be opened ; and

(d) the amount that will be spent on setting up of each centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No Sir. The Department of Science and Technology has no project for setting up "Rural Conversion Technology" Centres in various parts of the country in co-operation with the Ministry of Rural Development.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes raised above Poverty Line

3474. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Kerala raised above the poverty line during the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(b) the target for the Seventh Plan ;

(c) the amount being spent for this purpose; and

(d) the details of the plan formulated in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) During the Sixth Five Year Plan period, 2.20 lakhs Scheduled Caste families and 23,307 Schedu-

led Tribe families were economically assisted to enable them to cross the poverty line.

(b) The tentative targets of assisting economically about 2 lakh SC families and 22,000 ST families have been thought of for the Seventh Plan.

(c) and (d) During the Sixth Plan period, the total investment under Special Component Plan for the development of Scheduled Castes and under Tribal Sub Plan for the development of Scheduled Tribes was of the order of Rs. 100.00 crores and Rs. 23.00 crores respectively. In addition to this, an amount of Rs. 13.95 crores was released by the Govt. of India to the State Govt. as Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan and Rs. 2.87 crores as Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan during Sixth Plan period. The strategy of SCP/TSP and SCA is continuing in the Seventh Plan also. Schemes in various sectors are taken up by the State Govt. for earmarking of flow to both SCP and TSP.

Cleaning of Ganga River

3475. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some M.Ps, V.I.Ps, Religious and other organisations have given various suggestions in cleaning of Ganga and such other holy rivers of the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the action taken on each suggestion with outcome thereof ; and

(d) the latest progress in cleaning work of river Ganga.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) Numerous suggestions and comments have been received from various people and organisations regarding schemes for purification of the Ganga and some other river such as Yamuna. The suggestions made relate to schemes to be taken up for cleaning of Ganga, general issues dealing with the problems of water and environmental pollution, need for afforestation

etc. Some of the suggestions received such as generation of bioenergy, sewage treatment, river front conservation, low cost sanitation, prevention of dumping of garbage etc into the river have already been incorporated in the types of schemes to be taken up under Ganga Action Plan.

(d) (i) A Works Programme for the three States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal at notional cost of Rs. 292.31 crores has been approved by the Central Ganga Authority.

(ii) As on 7th March, 1986, twenty-two schemes in nine towns in three States at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.77 crores are under execution. Three schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.05 crores have been completed in U.P.

Central Assistance to Andhra Pradesh

3476. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance granted by the Union Government to Andhra Pradesh for 1985-86 and 1986-87 ;

(b) whether assistance has been reduced in 1985-86 and 1986-87 as compared to 1984-85 ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the names of States to whom assistance have been reduced and the reasons therefor ;

(e) the general principles adopted by the Union Government in granting annual assistance to various States ; and

(f) the names of the States to whom Central assistance has been granted for 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) The Central assistance allocated to Andhra Pradesh for the State's Annual Plan 1985-86 and 1986-87 is Rs. 339.62 crores and Rs. 298.01 crores respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) But for the adjustment of advance Plan assistance, States have been allocated higher Central assistance in 1985-86 and 1986-87 as compared to 1984-85.

(e) The annual provision of Central assistance to the individual States is generally made in the context of their shares determined under the Modified Gadgil Formula for the Seventh Plan and the overall amount of assistance provided for the Annual Plan by the Centre. In addition to the normal Central assistance, the States are also provided assistance for externally aided projects approved for their Plan.

(f) All States have been allocated Central assistance for the Annual Plan 1986-87.

Production of Computer Software

3477. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of turnover in computer software in the country in the beginning of Seventh Plan and the target fixed during the Seventh Plan for this purpose ;

(b) what steps are being taken to reach the target ;

(c) whether certain cities have been declared as "Software cities" ;

(d) if so, names of those cities ; and

(e) what facilities would be available for development of software industries in those locations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Computer software marketed during 1985-86, the beginning of Seventh Plan, may be estimated to be near Rs. 95 crores, and during 1989-90 around Rs. 650 crores, including turn over of computer software for exports.

(b) Government have taken the following steps to promote the development of computer software :

(i) Integrated Policy Measures in Electronics, March 21, 1985.

(ii) New Computer Policy, November 19, 1984

(iii) Department of Electronics is planning to establish Software Development Agency to promote the integrated growth of computer software industry for export as well as domestic markets.

(c) Government have not declared any city as software city.

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

Grievances Cell in Staff Selection Commission

3478. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission has set up grievances cell at its headquarters and also at some of its regional offices ;

(b) if so, the names of its regional offices where such grievances cells have been opened ;

(c) whether any such regional offices of Staff Selection Commission functioning in Madhya Pradesh have opened grievances cell ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1. Regional Director (CR), Staff Selection Commission, 8, Beli Road, Allahabad.

2. Regional Director (ER), Staff Selection Commission, 6, Esplanade Row, West Old Assembly Building, Ground Floor, Calcutta.

3. Regional Director (WR), Staff Selection Commission, Army and Navy Building, 2nd Floor, Mahatma Gandhi Road, (Opp. Jahangir Art Gallery, Kalaghode) Bombay,

4. Regional Director (SR), Staff Selection Commission, 735,

Anna Salai, LLA Building, Second Floor, Madras,

5. Regional Director (NER), Staff Selection Commission, R.K. Choudhary Road, Bharalumukh, Guwahati (Assam).

6. Dy. Regional Director, Sub-Regional Office, Staff Selection Commission, 84, Anand Nagar, Civil Lines, Raipur (M.P.).

(c) and (d) A public grievances cell has been set up at Sub-Regional Office of the Commission at 84, Anand Nagar, Civil Lines, Raipur (Madhya Pradesh) from 3rd February, 1986.

Agreement of Electronics India Limited with Indonesian iFrm for Photo Voltic System

3479. SHRIMATI NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Electronics India Limited has entered into an agreement with an Indonesian firm for marketing their solar photovoltaic system in that country ?

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether this will help India becoming a largest country in third world with regard to Solar photovoltaic system manufacturing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The company concerned, however, is Central Electronics Limited, Sahibabad (UP), a Public Sector Enterprise, of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been entered into between Central Electronics Limited (CEL) and Mada Wikri Tunggal, a leading company in Indonesia dealing with high-technology products, on 24 February 1986, during a visit to India by a High-level delegation from the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce sponsored by Engineering Export Promotion Council. The MOU covers

the Indonesian firm acting as the selling agent in Indonesia for the Solar Photovoltaic Systems manufactured by CEL, training of Indonesian personnel at CEL's factory, assistance from CEL towards market development in Indonesia, and possible subsequent transfer of technology by CEL to the Indonesian firm for manufacturing Solar Photovoltaic system and sub-systems.

(c) Both according to internal assessments and published data by leading international Agencies, Central Electronics Limited is already the largest company in the third world with regard to the manufacture of solar photovoltaics. Arrangements such as the one entered into with the Indonesian company would serve to enhance CEL's production and international marketing base.

Procurement of Insat-ID

3480. SHRIMATI NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that INSAT-ID is being procured ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) when the INSAT-IC is expected to be launched ; and

(d) whether this will help in major improvements to heavy water plants at Kota ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-ID, the fourth INSAT-I satellite, has been deemed necessary to provide the required INSAT space-segment capacities during the period in which transition from foreign procured INSAT-I satellites to indigenously designed and built INSAT-II satellites is expected to take place in a phased manner.

(c) INSAT-IC is currently manifested on Space Shuttle flight 61-I, which has been scheduled for September, 1986. The Space

Shuttle launches are presently suspended and the date for resumption of Space Shuttle flights is yet to be fixed. The Department of Space is making every effort to have launched INSAT-IC by around end of 1986.

(d) No, Sir. There is no connection between the INSAT System and the heavy water plant at Kota.

Participation of Private Sector in Space Programme

3481. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to invite the Private Sector to participate in country's space programme ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Indian Industry, including the private sector is already an important participant in the Indian Space Programme.

(b) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) interacts with Indian Industry, including the private sector, in the following major areas, namely :

- (a) Procurement of goods and services,
- (b) Technology transfer of ISRO development products,
- (c) Technical consultancy to industries,
- (d) Technology utilisation including specialised R & D and fabrication contracts.

Problem of Rehabilitating Displaced Persons from former East Pakistan in West Bengal

3482. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI R. P. DAS :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has expressed its serious concern over the Union Rehabilitation Ministry's insistence that rehabilitating displaced persons from former East Pakistan in West Bengal is a residual problem ; and

(b) if so, the Union Government's reaction thereto and the funds which Government proposes to make available during 1986-87 to the West Bengal Government to solve the refugee rehabilitation problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b) The Issue was raised by the Minister-in-charge, Refugee, Relief and Rehabilitation Department, Government of West Bengal, in the Conference of Rehabilitation Ministers and it was explained to him that since the bulk of the work relating to resettlement of refugees from former East Pakistan had already been completed, the ongoing schemes were of residuary nature and should be completed on a time bound basis. No migrant has come after 25.03.1971,

2. A wide range of measures were undertaken for the resettlement of migrants in West Bengal and elsewhere. These included agricultural schemes, vocational and technical training, industrial schemes, rehabilitation loans for small trade, housing, etc., development of colonies and provision for education and medical facilities. The nature and size of the problem of rehabilitation in West Bengal was assessed from time to time in consultation with the State Government and the last such assessment was undertaken in 1975-76 by the Working Group set up by the Government of India, Based on the recommendations of the Working Group, various schemes were sanctioned. The schemes for (i) medical facilities and (ii) educational facilities, have been implemented. Schemes for acquisition of land for Government sponsored and pre-1951 and post-1950 approved squatter's colonies/ex-camp site families and rehabilitation of families from Indian Enclaves in former East Pakistan are in the process of being implemented, by the State Government with funds provided by the Central Government. Government of India feels that leaving aside the above mentioned problems of displaced persons which are being sorted out, the displaced persons should be dee-

med to have merged with the main stream of the national life and any further assistance for their upliftment should now come from the normal schemes of the State Government. Rupees 85 lakhs (Plan) and Rs. 70 lakhs (Non-Plan) have been provided in the Budget Estimates for 1986-87 for the schemes being executed by the Government of West Bengal.

Marine Eco-System

3483. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether endangered marine species have been recognised and if so, the details thereof ;

(b) whether there is inadequacy of knowledge and information on marine ecosystem such as coral reefs, mangroves ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to protect these eco-systems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Details of marine species which are afforded full legal protection against hunting and trade or commerce under the schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are as follows :

Schedule-I

- (i) All Cetacean species
- (ii) Dugong
- (iii) Estuarine or Salt-Water Crocodile.
- (iv) Green Sea turtle, Hawksbill turtle, Logger head turtle, Olive Ridley turtle, Leathery turtle.

Schedule-IV

- (i) All sea snakes
- (b) and (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

Various agencies and institutions of the Central Government are engaged in field surveys and studies of marine eco-systems. Adequate knowledge is available. Conservation and protective measures have to be taken in cooperation with State Governments to prevent wanton exploitation and destruction of the resources of the marine eco-systems like coral reefs, mangroves.

There are at present two marine national parks—one in the Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) and the other in the Andaman Islands, constituted under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for conservation of these identified marine eco-systems. The intention to constitute a marine national park in the Gulf of Mannar (Tamil Nadu) has also been notified under the said Act. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been asked to provide protection to the marine eco-system of Gulf of Mannar where the endangered Dugong and several other marine fauna and flora are under threat of exploitation and depletion, The State Govt. have stated that they have constituted a high-level committee whose report is awaited and that final notification of the National Park of Gulf of Mannar would be done after the report has been received and examined.

A National Park for protection of wild-life in Sunderbans has already been established. 2585 sq. km. with 1330 sq. km. core area of Sunderban National Park constitutes one of the 15 Tiger Reserves of India under Project Tiger Scheme of the Government. It is further proposed to include Sunderbans in the network of Biosphere Reserves in India for conservation of biological diversity. Research is being undertaken to understand the structure and functioning of the Sunderbans mangrove

ecosystem particularly to evaluate the impact of man-induced stresses such as fisheries, agriculture, clear-felling, tourism, etc. with an objective to develop conservation strategies based on sound ecological principles. There is a Management Plan to control human activities in Sunderbans. All forestry operation in the reserve have been stopped. This programme receives Central Assistance under the Project Tiger Scheme.

A proposal is also under consideration to create a marine reserves in the Lakshadweep group of islands covering Bangaram islands alongwith a few other uninhabited nearby islands. The removal of coral reefs for use as building materials has been discontinued and construction materials from the mainland are being utilized.

Dowry Deaths in the Country

3484. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of dowry deaths which took place in the country during the period from 1983 to date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : The available number of dowry death cases reported during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 are given in the Statement below.

Statement

S.No.	Name of State/U.T.	Dowry Death cases reported during		
		1983	1984	1985
STATES				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5	6	15 (upto July, 1985)
2.	Assam	Nil	1	3 (upto June, 1985)
3.	Bihar	15	20	3 (upto July, 1985)
4.	Gujarat	2	5	9 (upto Sept., 1985)
5.	Haryana	71	56	99
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4	3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	Nil	20 (upto Feb., 1985)
8.	Karnataka	31	45	35
9.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	39	48	Nil

Sl.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	Dowry Death cases reported during		
		1983	1984	1985
11.	Maharashtra	35	68	31 (upto Oct., 1985)
12.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil (upto Oct., 1985)
15.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Orissa	6	22	Nil
16.	Punjab	47	47	32
17.	Rajasthan	24	32	29
18.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Tamil Nadu	4	18	6 (upto Oct., 1985)
20.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Uttar Pradesh	160	202	323
22.	West Bengal	18	16	63 (upto Oct., 1985)
UNION TERRITORIES				
23.	A & N Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Chandigarh	2	1	2
26.	D & N Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	Delhi	41	45	33
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil

NOTE : 1, Figures may be treated as provisional.

2. N. A. Stands for Not Available.

New Framework for Appraisal of Public Sector Units

3485. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMAN-GALAM : Will the the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new framework for appraisal of public sector Units is under preparation ;

(b) whether the present artificial and unnecessary secrecy of running of Institutions from public funds is proposed to be eliminated in order to achieve appraisal, evaluation and corrective mid-course corrections ; and

(c) whether necessary changes in the Official Secretes Act are also proposed to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

SAARC Summit

3486. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Summit have evolved any common strategy to the issue of new international economic order to have more equitable shares in the World Trade and Resources ;

(b) whether South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Summit have evolved a common approach of cooperation for new information order and to strengthen the UNESCO ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) At the SAARC Summit in Dhaka, it was decided to convene a Ministerial Meeting in order to discuss and concert the views of the SAARC countries on the on-going discussions on New International Economic Order and the improvement of the World Trading System through GATT. The Ministerial Meeting is going to be held in Islamabad on April 2-3, 1986.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Murders, Dacoities, Rapes and Thefts in the Country

3487. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state total number of cases of murders, dacoities, rapes and thefts which have been reported during 1985 throughout the country (State-wise) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : The number of cases of murders, dacoities, rapes and thefts reported during the year 1985 (State-wise) are given in the statement below.

Statement

Statement showing the figures of Murders etc. during 1985

Sl. No.	Name of the State/U. T.	Murder	Dacoity	Rape	Theft
1	2	3	4	5	6
STATES					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	926	163	157	8,640 upto July, 1985
2.	Assam	292	229	126	3,174 upto June, 1985
3.	Bihar	2,383	2,203	329	12,732 upto September, 1985
4.	Gujarat	907	239	117	12,560 upto September, 1985
5.	Haryana	345	14	114	3,600

1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Himachal Pradesh	74		4	33	578
7. Jammu & Kashmir	7		4	12	236 upto January, 1985
8. Karnataka	1,003		154	98	16,661
9. Kerala	446		21	120	2,675
10. Madhya Pradesh	2,558		313	1,428	39,019
11. Maharashtra	1,750		448	560	44,908 upto October, 1985.
12. Manipur	13		14	5	523
13. Meghalaya	76		23	17	462
14. Nagaland	36		17	6	328
15. Orissa	568		254	166	11,840
16. Punjab	646		8	82	1,118
17. Rajasthan	1,017		78	522	12,394
18. Sikkim	5		1	6	95
19. Tamil Nadu	1,231		40	184	20,420 upto October, 1985.
20. Tripura	150		212	34	1,131
21. Uttar Pradesh	6,206		2,829	888	48,731
22. West Bengal	1,237		700	422	25,070 upto October, 1985.
UNION TERRITORIES					
23. A&N Islands	12		—	3	102
24. Arunachal Pradesh	35		9	5	222
25. Chandigarh	14		—	4	720
26. D&N Haveli	10		1	1	66
27. Delhi	312		26	83	13,770
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	21		5	10	1,036
29. Lakshadweep	—		—	—	7
30. Mizoram	21		1	53	217
31. Pondicherry	17		—	1	696

NOTE : 1. Figures may be treated as provisional.

2. Figures are based on monthly crime statistics.

Aid to India's Defence Plans by U.S.A.

3488. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether USA is going to aid India's defence plans as appeared in news item of *Hindustan Times* dated 15 February, 1986 ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) We do not have any plans of acquiring military hardware from USA at present. We are exploring the possibility of obtaining components/sub-systems/devices from many countries, including USA, for defence technological systems under development in India.

(b) As discussions with the US Administration are continuing, it is premature on our part at this stage to provide details of the items needed for these technological systems.

Action against Corrupt Officials

3489. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials against whom complaints of misappropriation and irregularities have been received by Central Bureau of Investigation and Central Vigilance Commission during 1985 ;

(b) the number of Officials against whom enquiries were conducted and if so, when and to whom the enquiry reports were submitted ; and

(c) the number of cases in which charges were found correct and action taken by Government against such officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) During the year 1985, complaints involving 2269 public servants were received in the Central Vigilance Commission. Out of these complaints, 407 involving 503 public servants, were sent to the concerned authori-

ties for investigation. Out of 407 cases sent for investigation, investigation reports on 122 cases were received of which 42 are still under the examination of the Central Vigilance Commission. Out of remaining 80 cases, Central Vigilance Commission recommended prosecution in one case; major/minor penalty proceedings in 14 cases ; administrative action in 2 cases and closure report was filed in 63 cases.

During 1985 the Central Bureau of Investigation received complaints against 1626 officials. Out of these 133 regular enquiry/cases were registered against 198 officials, action as deemed fit was recommended to the concerned authorities against 417 officials and no action was taken in respect of 815 officials as the complaints were anonymous/pseudonymous and complaints against 196 officials are pending verification with the Central Bureau of Investigation. Out of 133 cases taken up for enquiry/investigation by Central Bureau of Investigation, 9 were sent up for trial, 16 were recommended for regular departmental action, 6 were closed for want of sufficient evidences and 102 are pending enquiry/investigation.

Complaints of Corruption received from Members of Parliament

3490. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints of corruption and misuse of powers against Secretaries and High Officers during 1985 from Members of Parliament ;

(b) if so, the facts and contents thereof ?

(c) whether he has got them investigated through some independent agency ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) action taken or being taken in the matter so as to remove corruption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) Seventeen complaints were received during 1985 by Prime Minister's Office from the Members of Parliament against Secretaries, Heads of

the Departments and Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings. All these complaints were referred to concerned Ministries/Departments for necessary action. Out of these, Central Bureau of Investigation looked into one complaint on a reference from the concerned Department. In this case, Central Bureau of Investigation informed the Department that since the officer had already retired and no loss had been caused to the Government, an enquiry by the CBI would not serve any useful purpose.

Review of working of Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited

3491. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a review was recently made of the working of the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited ;

(b) whether the Minister of State for Defence Production, during his recent visit to the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited at Hyderabad, found that its performance was not upto the expectations and that the project had not been properly implemented; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures are proposed to be taken by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The performance of the Company is reviewed on a regular basis.

(b) It was observed that there was a scope for improvement in certain areas.

(c) Government is closely monitoring the Company's performance and remedial steps are initiated as and when necessary.

Recommendations of Indo-French working group on Electronics

3492. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major recommendations/points in the final report of the Indo-French Working Group on Electronics and Informatics ;

(b) the concrete steps proposed to be taken in pursuance thereof ;

(c) whether close ties with French companies are likely to hinder the transfer of technology on related field from Japan or other countries ; and

(d) if so, what safeguards are proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) : The Indo-French Working Group on Electronics and Informatics, set-up in the framework of the 1983 protocol for cooperation between India and France in Electronics and Informatics, held its third meeting in New Delhi, on 20-21 January, 1986. The two parties agreed that the Indo-French cooperation in Electronics and Informatics should focus on transfer of technology from France to India and joint effort for export of know-how, hardware, software and services to third countries. Both parties outlined that they were seeking cooperation on a long term basis, and that the concrete projects designed by the Working Group with short and medium term objectives should be understood in that framework.

(b) To implement the recommendation of the Working Group, specified project in the following areas have been worked out and Steering Committees consisting the concerned scientists from India and France have been constituted with reference to each project to monitor the progress of the project regularly :

1. Computer hardware, software and applications.
2. Instrumentation
3. Fibre-optics
4. Communication
5. Components.

(c) and (d) No Sir. No commitment with reference to the transfer of know-how is given in the recommendations. Each case for the transfer of technology from the different countries will be evaluated on the basis of merits and Government of India's policy at the time of evaluation,

Subdued Electronics Development by the policy of "Kit Import and Label Technology"

3493. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the policy of "Kit import and label technology" and the neglect of consumer electronics has strangled the development of electronics as a manufacturing industry in the country; as has been pointed out by the Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. in a recent seminar held in Bangalore ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to rectify this situation, particularly when the country's requirements of electronics by 2000 AD would be of the value of Rs. 56000 crores per annum according to a report of Association of Indian Engineering Industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government policy does not favour kit imports. This is clear from the fact that import of all consumer goods in SKD condition, and populated/loaded/stuffed printed circuit boards, are in Appendix 2, part B (List of Restricted Items) of the Import & Export Policy 1985-88. Further, only limited quantities of kits/sub-assemblies, are permitted for import under Appendix 3, Part 'A' (List of limited permissible items—raw materials, components, consumables, tools and spares) ; and this is essentially to facilitate initial understanding of the integration process, reverse engineering etc. This cannot be construed as kit assembly, based on screw driver technology.

Our major consumer electronics products include radios, tape recorders/two-in-ones and TV receiver sets. Almost all components required for the manufacture of radios, tape recorders and Black & White television sets are being manufactured in the country ; hence the question of import of kits in any form for the manufacture of these products does not arise. In regard to manufacture of CTV sets, the industrial

licensing policy clearly states that assembly of CTV sets based on kit imports would not be allowed. At present about 20% of the components going into the CTV sets are made indigenously. The percentage of imported components in CTV is expected to come down to about 60% by 1986-87, and become nominal from 1988 onwards. The major steps taken to indigenise components including those going into colour TV sets include :

delicensing of the components industry and allowing MRTP and FERA companies to manufacture components, so that the resources and the capabilities of such companies are available to establish large scale production of quality components, at reasonable prices.

As regards VCR/VCP manufacture, only such parties will be promoted as are prepared to commit sizable investments for suitable vertical integration, with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme ; and which have the requisite in-built capacity to keep pace with the changing technology. Thus, a definite indigenisation programme is built into the VCR/VCP manufacturing policy.

The other major steps taken to promote establishment of a genuinely indigenous consumer electronics industry include :—

(a) Issuing industrial approvals liberally, with viable production capacities, so that economies of scale are derived and healthy competition encouraged.

(b) broad-banding of industrial licences/ approvals.

(c) permitting liberal import of technology, where required to establish appropriate base, or strengthen/update existing base, with simultaneous emphasis on its absorption, adaptation and upgradation to avoid repetitive technology imports.

(d) reduction in duties on components so that these become available to the equipment industry at reasonable prices ; as well as reduction in customs duty on capital goods required for the manufacture of components and products.

Criteria for Apportioning Financial allocation to various Ministries

3494. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) what considerations weigh more while apportioning financial allocations to various Ministries by the Planning Commission ;

(b) whether there is any criteria fixed for such distribution of allocation of funds ; and

(c) what is the monitoring authority in the Planning Department which looks after the equitable distribution of financial allocation to various heads ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) Financial allocations are based on the objectives, priorities and sectoral thrusts etc. enunciated in a Five Year Plan document. These sectoral priorities and thrusts in turn are arrived at after detailed discussions and consultation with the Central Ministries. Annual Plan allocations are arrived at broadly within the framework of the Five Year Plan.

(c) Monitoring of implementation is done by the administrative Ministries concerned. As regards equitable distribution, this flows from the Plan allocations, which have been set out in considerable detail in the Plan document.

Measure to protect Indian Diplomats Abroad

3495. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating any special measures to protect the Indian diplomats abroad who are facing threat of being killed ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) (i) The security of our Missions and personnel abroad is basically the responsibility of the host government,

(ii) We share specific information regarding threats to the lives of our diplomats abroad with the local authorities and request for special protection which the host government usually provide. In some sensitive Missions where there is continuing threat, the host governments have provided their own guards on a regular basis.

(iii) We have also strengthened various security measures in Missions by providing additional security staff and equipment. The various security measures are constantly under review

Particulars of Wakf Properties Dedicated to upkeep of Jama Masjid

3496. SYED SHAHABUDDIN ; Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the Wakf properties attached or dedicated to the maintenance and upkeep of the Jama Masjid, Delhi ;

(b) the annual income therefrom during the last three years ;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Delhi Wakf Board on the maintenance and upkeep of the Jama Masjid and the payment of its staff during this year ; and

(d) whether there are any other wakf properties dedicated to the Jama Masjid which are under adverse occupation and whose income is not available for Jama Masjid ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) There are seven wakfs consisting of shops and residential units attached or dedicated to Jama Masjid, Delhi, the details of which are as follows :

1. Property Urdu Bazar Municipal Nos : 4152 to 4174.
2. Chah Rehat, Jama Masjid, Municipal Nos : 1194 to 1197, 1052 to 1054, 1213-1215.
3. Gali Naqqarchiyan, Turkman Gate Delhi Municipal No. 3136,
4. Ajmeri Gate, Delhi Municipal Nos : 5228 to 5243,

5. Jahan Numa Qadeem, Jama Masjid, Delhi Municipal Nos. 731 to 734.
6. Jahan Numa Jadedd Jama Masjid, Delhi Municipal Nos. 728 to 730
7. Dal Mandi, Paharganj Municipal No. 4522.

(b) The Year-wise break up of the income realised from these seven wakfs is as follows :

1982-83	Rs. 90,232.87p
1983-84	Rs. 75,689.52p
1984-85	Rs. 65,572.44p

(c) The expenditure incurred by the Delhi Wakf Board during the period from 1.4.85 to 28.2.86 is Rs. 36,697.20. The payment to staff has not been made owing to a dispute between the Imam Saheb of Jama Masjid and the Delhi Wakf Board.

(d) There is no such information.

Locations of Environmental Pollution Measurement Stations

3497. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of environmental pollution measurement stations in the country as on 1st January, 1986 ; and

(b) the location of additional stations envisaged under the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) There are 194 water monitoring stations in the country located on the following rivers ;

Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra, Subarnarekha Brahmani-Vaitarni, Mahi, Sabarmati, Narmada, Tapi, Godavari, Krishna. Pennar, Cauvery, Periyar, and Chaliyar.

29 air quality monitoring stations are in operation in 7 cities, namely, Anpara, Haldia, Agra, Delhi, Howrah, Kota and Surat.

(b) During the Seventh Five Year Plan the water quality monitoring stations are proposed to be increased to 329 and 17

more cities are proposed to be brought under air quality monitoring net-work.

Pak-China Agreement for Joint Inspection of dividing line between China and Pak occupied Kashmir

3498. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that China and Pakistan have reached for agreement on a plan for joint inspection of dividing line between China and Pak occupied Kashmir ;

(b) if so, the name of dividing line ; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The Xinhua News Agency announced on February 24 that the Notes of the First Session of the China-Pakistan Joint Boundary Inspection Commission were exchanged in Beijing on February 24, 1986.

(b) The dividing line referred to in these reports is the boundary between Pak occupied Kashmir and the PRC.

(c) The Government of India have protested to the Governments of the PRC and Pakistan. Government of India have stated clearly in their protest that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and China and Pakistan have no locus standi in the matter.

R & D Centre of Hindustan Lever at Andheri, Bombay

3499. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA ; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Lever Limited has obtained substantial concessions on account of its R&D Centre at Andheri, Bombay ;

(b) if so, the details of the concessions granted in this behalf ;

(c) whether the Company has given any details of the results of the research so far conducted at the said centre ;

(d) if so, the particulars thereof ;

(e) whether it is a fact that fruits of the research go to the parent Company 'Unilever' for utilisation at units of global company all over the world ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The in-house R&D unit of M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. at Andheri had been recognised by the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research and as such can avail of the concessions and facilities for such recognised units.

(b) All recognised research and development units could import their full requirement of technical and professional materials, raw materials, components spares or other items under Open General Licence. They can also import prototypes, samples and pilot plant items required for their scientific research.

(c) Yes Sir. The Company is required to submit returns to the Department periodically which *inter alia* include the status of the research programmes undertaken as well as the results of their research.

(d) The firm has reported that during the last three years they have developed over 25 products/processes/formula ; filed or obtained 17 patents in India or abroad ; 14 processes have been commercialised ; the R & D staff has published over 40 papers.

(e) and (f) The Government is aware of the fact that M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited and its parent company M/s. Unilever, on a reciprocal basis, share information relating to the research projects of mutual interest.

Damage caused to Railways in Punjab during January, February, 1986

3500. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Railway Stations were burnt by the agitators in Punjab during January and February, 1986 ;

(b) if so, the total damage caused to Railways in Punjab ;

(c) the protection which has been provided to the Railway Stations in Punjab to avoid such huge damage to the railways in the State ;

(d) whether any persons responsible for the burning of stations have been arrested ; and

(e) if so, the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (e) Two incidents of setting Railway Stations on fire by miscreants in Punjab occurred during January and February, 1986, resulting in a loss of about Rs. 1100/- to the Railways. Cases have been registered in connection with these incidents and efforts are afoot to apprehend the culprits.

Necessary security arrangements have been made by the State Government for the protection of Railway Stations in the State.

Setting up of more Birds Life Sanctuaries

3501. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposals under the consideration to set up more birds life sanctuaries in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of sanctuaries which are likely to be set up ;

(c) the sites selected for the purpose ; and

(d) the funds allocated for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Sanctuaries and national parks are established by the concerned states and union territories who are fully empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for this purpose. The Central Government may establish a national park or sanctuary when an area is leased or transferred to

the Central Government, for which there is no proposal at present.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise,

12.00 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST
SHRI S.B. CHAVAN, THE FORMER
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND
SHRI ARUN NEHRU, MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
INTERNAL SECURITY.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On 13th February, 1986, I had received identical notices of question of privilege given by Sarvashri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao and S.M. Bhattam against the then Minister of Home Affairs, Shri S.B. Chavan, for allegedly defaming some members of Parliament by insinuating that they had some association or links with the alleged spy Ram Swaroop, in the charge-sheet filed by the police in the Court under the Official Secrets Act. They had also stated that a wide publicity was given in the Press to the names of Members of Parliament mentioned in the charge-sheet as was evident from the news reports published in the *Times of India* dated 28th January, 1986, and other national dailies of 29th January, 1986. The Members further pointed out that according to the impugned news report, "Ram Swaroop mentioned to the police the names of some opposition leaders and Members of Parliament stating that they were 'sympathetic to him at one stage or the other'." It is well known that in public life Members of Parliament come in touch with many people on various occasions. To say that they were 'sympathetic' to Ram Swaroop, is, in members' words "a motivated and mischievous effort to malign them and to lower the dignity of Parliament".

Shri M. Raghuma Reddy gave an identical notice on 19th February, 1986.

I appreciated the strong feelings of the members whose names had figured in newspaper reports in connection with the espionage case and, therefore, when on 25th February, 1986, Shri V.S. Rao sought to

raise the matter in the House, I observed. "If the name of any Member from this House has been mentioned, I will allow him (to make personal explanations)".

On 5th March, S/Shri K.P. Singh Deo, D.P. Jadeja and Arvind Netam were afforded a special opportunity to make personal explanations in the House clarifying their position in the matter. They stated, *inter alia*, that their names had been mentioned in the charge-sheet neither as accused nor as witnesses. A similar statement was made by Shri Chandulal Chandrakar on 11th March, 1986,

On 13th March, 1986 Prof. Madhu Dandavate gave a notice of question of privilege against the Minister of State in the Department of Internal Security, Shri Arun Nehru, for allegedly mentioning the names of Sarvashri K.P. Singh Deo, D.P. Jadeja, Arvind Netam and Chandulal Chandrakar in the charge-sheet filed against Ram Swaroop for his alleged espionage activities. Prof. Dandavate contended that though the names of the said members were associated neither as witnesses nor as accused in the espionage case, "the manner in which their names were mentioned in the charge-sheethas sought to tarnish patriotic image of these members."

Another honourable member, Shri Jitendra Prasada, also wrote to me on 31st January, 1986, drawing my attention to a report appearing in the *Statesman* dated 29th January 1986 which falsely mentioned his name among those figuring in the charge-sheet filed by the Police in the Ram Swaroop case. The report claimed that the charge-sheet had mentioned his name as "the Chairman of the Indo-Federal Republic of Germany Parliamentary Body." His denial in this regard was published by the paper in its issue of 1st February, 1986. Shri Jitendra Prasada has again written to me on 9th March, 1986, saying that the *Illustrated Weekly* in its issue of 2nd March, 1986, had carried an interview with the said Ram Swaroop in which he was quoted as saying that he (Shri Jitendra Prasada) also was a Convenor of the Indo-German Parliamentary Group. Shri Jitendra Prasada has pointed out that it is impossible for any Member to keep track of all such news items and to issue contradictions in respect of each of them. Shri Jitendra

Prasada has, however, enclosed a copy of the letter which he has sent to the Editor of the *Illustrated Weekly* denying that he had ever been Convenor of the said Indo-German Parliamentary Group or that he had ever attended any of its meetings. I regret very much that such reports should keep on appearing in the press even after they have been contradicted. I hope the press will be more cautious in this respect in future so that the names of Members of Parliament are not unnecessarily dragged into controversial matters.

It is well established that in order to constitute a breach of privilege any libel or charge against a member of Parliament must concern his character or conduct in his capacity as a member of this House and must be "based on matters arising in the actual transaction of the business of the House". Moreover, I understand that the only accused persons in the case are Shri Ram Swaroop Sabharwal and Shri Javed Siddiqui and no charges have been laid against any other person. I am, therefore, of the opinion that the mere mention of names of members in the charge-sheet does not involve any breach of privilege or contempt of the House either on the part of the then Minister of Home Affairs or the Minister of State in the Department of Internal Security. Accordingly, I withhold my consent of the raising of the matter in the House under rule 222.

I must, however, add what I told the House on 5th March, 1986, and I reiterate that I am one with all the members of the House in upholding the honour, respect and dignity of the House and its members. As public men, Members of Parliament have got to meet a large number of people either individually or at public functions. It is obviously impossible for them to check the antecedents of every individual or organisation that they come into contact with. To impute motives or *mala fides* to any such casual meeting, without sufficient proof, is reprehensible. What is still more reprehensible is to give publicity to unfounded allegations. In the interest of clean public life, it is necessary that such tendencies are firmly curbed. As upholders of public causes, the Press are our best ally and we cherish their freedom as much as we are zealous of our own rights as Members of this august House. I have, there-

fore, every hope that the Press would function with caution and full sense of responsibility in such matters so that the prestige and dignity of this House and its Members as also of the Press itself are maintained.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : What about the author of these charges ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have given everything in it.

With these words of caution and in the context of the fact that the Members concerned have already fully clarified their position on the floor of the House by way of personal explanation statements, I feel the matter should be treated as closed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have nothing to do with this matter,

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I hope this ruling does not mean a charge-sheet against the Press.

MR. SPEAKER : No ; the Press is a part of us.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : Have you called for any explanation from them ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, I wish to draw your attention to a very important matter : Two Kuwaiti nationals.....

MR. SPEAKER : I am looking into the matter. I have already asked.....I am looking into the matter,

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : The same thing I want to repeat. It is a very serious matter.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda) : I have given notice for omitting the names.

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing can be said about it. But I have said everything. I wanted to say about the Members.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I gave a Calling Attention notice regarding the driving out of Nepalese from Meghalaya...

MR. SPEAKER : I have already got things moving. I will let you know. You come to me.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : We have got it. I do not know whether you have seen it.

MR. SPEAKER : We will see.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about the Maharashtra Governor ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am considering.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He will be dismissed otherwise. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : What about the Maharashtra Governor ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said it. We shall see to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is it now ?

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : The jute industry in West Bengal and Bihar is facing a crisis, because of synthetic granules. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : The Ministry of Agriculture is coming up for discussion.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : It does not concern Agriculture Ministry.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We shall see. If you are not satisfied, we shall see. There is no difficulty. I am not averse to their interests. We shall see what best can be done.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is a straight demand, Polyester is substituted for jute. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Whatever we want to raise, you never allow. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow one by one. We are taking up one subject after another. We shall come to that also. Now Papers Laid.

12.08 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1986-87.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of External Affairs for 1986-87.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2270/86]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for 1986-87.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for 1986-87.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2271/86]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of Rehabilitation Plantations Ltd., Punalur for 1984-85 and statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1984-85.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2272/86]

Notifications under Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excise Rules, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table.

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

(i) G. S. R. 483 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1986 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 136/86-Customs dated the 17th February, 1986 so as to explain the scope of the specific duty levy on Caustic Soda in lye form.

(ii) G.S.R. 485 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1986 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification Nos. 318 Customs dated the 2nd August, 1976, 197-Customs dated the 1st July, 1983, 86-Customs, 93-Customs and 136-Customs dated the 17th February 1986.

(iii) G.S.R. 486 (E) published in Gazette of India the 7th March, 1986 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 118 Customs dated the 17th February, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2273/86]

- (2) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 489 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 1986 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 53/86-CE dated the 10th February, 1986 so as to provide for complete exemption from excise duty on strips, wires, sheets plates and foils of gold used in the manufacture of articles of jewellery and parts thereof, issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2274/86]

Indian Forest Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Forest Service Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 204 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1986 under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2275/86]

12.09 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1986, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th March, 1986, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.10 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE : GROUP
PHOTOGRAPH OF MEMBERS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : As already intimated through Lok Sabha Bulletins of 6th and 11th instant, a group photograph of Members of Lok Sabha will be taken tomorrow, the 20th March, 1986 at 10.00 A.M. in Parliament House between Gate No. 1 and the Central Hall.

Hon'ble Ministers and Members are requested kindly to make it convenient to join the photograph and assemble at the place of the photograph by 9.45 A.M. sharp.

A chart showing the seating arrangements in the first row has been displayed on the notice boards in P.N.O. and the outer lobby for information of the Members.

If weather conditions are unfavourable between 9 A.M. and 10 A.M. on that day, the group photograph will automatically stand postponed to a later date.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Fourteenth Report

[English]

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri): I beg to present the Fourteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Twenty-Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Reports

[English]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee:—

- (i) Twenty-Sixth Report on paragraph 62 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1981-82, Union Government (Civil) relating to National Cooperative Development Corporation.
- (ii) Twenty-Seventh Report on action taken by Government on Two Hundred and Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Shortfall in the production of an Equipment and Inventories and Works-in-progress in Ordnance Factories.

12.12 hrs.

STATEMENTS UNDER DIRECTION 115

- (i) Re: Information given by Minister of State in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation on 10th March, 1986 during the discussion on Drought and Natural Calamities.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, on 10.3.1986 the Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, while replying to the discussion under rule 193 on "Situation arising out of drought and other Natural Calamities in various parts of the Country" in Lok Sabha made the following statement:—

"In the case of the Tamil Nadu cyclone, I myself and my officers were on telephone. I was on the telephone and wanted to speak to the Chief Minister, but I was told that he was sleeping, at 9 P.M. and his P.A. said "I am his P.A. You can talk to me. My Chief Minister cannot be disturbed". I told the P.A. to the Chief Minister. This is a question of cyclone and you must inform the lower formations, and therefore, I want to talk to your Chief Minister" Then I talked to my officers and asked them to tell the State Government that they should pass on instructions to the Collectors of the concerned districts so that they can take action. So this is the attitude of the Central Government".

The above statement of the Minister is not correct as he never contacted the Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu over phone and his P.A. never replied to him that he was sleeping at 9 P.M. The telephone connections of our Chief Minister's residence had been disconnected from 23.10.85 and restored on 7.1.86. Because of the Cyclone, Madras received heavy and torrential rains. Since Chief Minister's residence was fully inundated, our Chief Minister was forced to take shelter in Connemara Hotel from 13.11.85 to 18.11.85. At the time of cyclone our Chief Minister had taken every precautionary measures to restore normalcy and the relief measures were taken up on war footing. The Hon'ble Prime Minister and Union Minister for Agriculture have appreciated the Chief Minister and his Government for having taken the relief measures immediately.

In the circumstances, I beg to submit that references to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu in the proceedings of Lok Sabha dated 10th March, 1986 may kindly be expunged.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the course of discussion on drought and natural calamities under Rule 193 I had made the following statement:—

“On receipt of the forecast of cyclone in Andhra Pradesh I myself and my officers were on telephone.....”

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): What is this? (Interruptions)

This is absolutely wrong. (Interruptions)

SHRI M RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): Don't tell a * (Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: You must resign.

(Interruptions)

12.14 hrs.

- (ii) In reply to the points made by Shri P. Kolandaivelu, M. P. Re: Information given by the Minister of State in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation on 10th March, 1986 during the discussion on Drought and Natural Calamities.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the course of discussion on Drought and Natural Calamities under Rule 193 I had made the following statement:

“On receipt of the forecast of cyclone in Andhra Pradesh I myself and my officers were on telephone. I was on the telephone and wanted to speak to the Chief Minister, but I was told that he was sleeping, at 9 P. M. and his A. P. said, “I am his P.A. You can talk to me. My Chief Minister cannot be disturbed.” Obviously I told the P.A. to the Chief Minister that this is a question of cyclone you must inform

the lower formations, and therefore, I want to talk to your Chief Minister. Then I talked to my officers and asked them to tell the State Government that they should pass on instructions to the Collectors of the concerned districts, so that they can take action.”

This was my intention when I was making such statement in the august House. I certainly feel that my statement has wrongly been reported. I regret the inconvenience caused.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: It is most unfair on the part of the Minister,

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know; that is what he is saying.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: It is a false statement,

MR. SPEAKER: I did not ask him to say that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: You must resign.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Order in the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: The Minister is telling an untruth. Actually, it is on record. I have a record of the proceedings with me that the Minister did say this about Tamil Nadu cyclone. The whole context was about Tamil Nadu Cyclone.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Madhav Reddi, look here, please listen to me. Listen to me now, Look here.

I have to give a ruling. I have allowed Mr. Kolandaivelu and in the same way I can allow you. There is no difficulty before me. It is up to him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you also.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

You get if confirmed and then talk to me.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Please expunge the statement.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Please expunge the statement, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You do not stand in the aisles, Go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The word * is unparliamentary. It should not form part of the record.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : You must expunge the statement. It is a deliberate*

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot say that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : How can I expunge his statement ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You can repudiate it. You can come under 115. I will allow you also. I do not mind. I have allowed him. I will allow you also. That is what I can do.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : It is a *

MR. SPEAKER : What is a * ? How can I know ? He said it, I have allowed him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What you say, I will allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have got no thermometer. Mr. Kolandaivelu challenged his statement and I allowed him. If you challenge his statement, I will allow you also.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : He should resign.

MR. SPEAKER : Until and unless they go to their seats nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Put it before the House.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : You can counterblast. You can make a counter statement. I will allow you.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you under the rules, I would not stop you doing your job.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you also.

[Translation]

Who has stopped you.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : It will be improper for him if the Chief Minister, whether he belongs to Tamil Nadu *(Interruptions)*..... if he is woken up by telephoning at 11 or 12 O'clock at night, then such a thing.....
(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : Please give a notice under Rule 115.....

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This all up to him. I cannot say anything.

AN HON. MEMBER : I am on a point of order.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Arun Singh.

12.18 hrs

(At this stage Shri C. Madhav Reddi and some other Hon. Members left the House)

*Expunged as order by the Chair.

**Not recorded

12.18 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE**Central Advisory Committee for the
National Cadet Corps***[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of section 12 (1) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That in pursuance of section 12 (1) of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps for a term of one year from the date of election, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder.”

The motion was adopted.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*[Translation]*

- (i) Need to direct the State Government to stop deforestation in the district of Bastar in Madhya Pradesh and instead make arrangements to supply wood from Bodhghat submerged areas to the consumer stores of the district.

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under Rule 377 :

In Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh if we compare the conditions obtaining at

present with those prevailing there 10 years ago, you will find that if the speed at which forests are being denuded continues unabated then in the next 10 years the entire Bastar will turn into a desert. There are mainly three causes of felling the trees in the forests, which should not be overlooked, i.e., (1) the tendency to encroach on land ; (2) the land coming under some Government project ; and (3) the exploitation of forests by the administration with a view to earn revenue and the meeting of the demand of timber in the market. There is need to remedy all these three causes and these can be remedied if we are determined to do so. The requirements of firewood of the local people can be met and the facility available to the farmers can be sustained through a scheme. In order to maintain the income of the administration and to meet the market demand of timber, wood can be cut from the area submerged under Bodhghat Hydro Project. The result will be that there will not be any need to fell the trees anywhere and the existing trees will remain where they are. These trees will help in maintaining the ecological balance.

Therefore, in order to solve this problem, I request the Central Government to direct the State Government that in the next five years not a single timber tree should be felled in Bastar district and bamboos and other types of wood required for different purposes should be taken from the area submerged under the Bodhghat Project and should be supplied to the consumer wood stores of the entire district.

12.20 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

- (ii) Need to draw up a National programme to celebrate the 125th Birth Anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RAJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's 125th birth anniversary will be observed in May, 1986. Vishwabharti has already submitted a proposal of Rs. 10 lakhs for translation of works of Tagore into Hindi and other languages.

Government should draw up a national programme in this regard in every part of

India and abroad. A Tagore Academy with Post Graduate standard education on Indian Culture, Philosophy, music and science should be established in New Delhi or a regional centre on Tagore must be set up in south, north, west and east of India to introduce Tagore to all sections of the people.

Tagore's role on "National Integration, World Peace and Humanity" based on collection of his selected works must be a regular subject in every syllabus of higher education.

All India Radio's publication "Betar Jagat" in this regard should further be re-introduced with a Tagore special edition. Ministries of Human Resources and Information & Broadcasting should jointly draw up a programme immediately.

Tagore's art and music should find a place in Doordarshan in a befitting manner during the celebrations.

(iii) Maintenance, protection and renovation of Konark, Bhubaneswar, Puri and other temples of India's cultural heritage in Orissa.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Konark Temple, Bhubaneswar temple, Puri Temple are being protected and maintained by Archaeological Department of Government of India. They have a historical significance and are symbols of Orissa's enriched cultural heritage. Unfortunately, in spite of all efforts by the Archaeological Department, Konark Temple and its monuments and sculptures are deteriorating day by day. The developmental projects around the temple are not being taken up extensively. The Government of India should depute some top experts to suggest measures for protection of the temple, monuments and sculptures so that further deterioration is prevented.

Jagannath Temple's renovation work is going on. In some parts of the temple the plasters are being removed and the original architectural structure is being brought to open. Government should expedite the process of renovation.

In Puri temple, the garden of Lord Jagannath is not being properly maintained. Government should depute and activate its supervising agency to visit the temple and

check up both renovation work and the garden and take appropriate steps to improve the garden and to expedite the process of renovation.

At Bhubaneswar a number of temples are under the Archaeological Department of India. It needs adequate attention of the Archaeological Department.

There is one temple near Satpara in village Manikapatna in Krishna Prasad Block, Puri Distt. symbolising the legendary story that Lord Jagannath while going to Kanchi had taken curd in exchange for his rings. This temple is very much known for its archaeological significance. I request the Government of India to take over the temple for its maintenance and protection through its Archaeological Department.

(iv) Need for an Eastern India Development Council to ensure the balanced development of eastern India, particularly West Bengal during Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum): Sir, the development of towns and cities in West Bengal is not quite satisfactory and unfortunately fruits of development are not reaching to the common man although a huge sum of money is spent every year by the State Government of West Bengal, major portion of which flows from Central Government. The planned urban development in West Bengal has become a total failure due to lack of coordination of three developing agencies, namely, Town & Country Planning Department, Local Government, and Urban Development Department and Metropolitan Development Department, that is, CMDA.

The task of comprehensive development of towns and cities should be assigned to Eastern India Development Council constituted with West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Tripura and Assam. This High-power body has to be set up to reduce regional disparities of development in Eastern India and to ensure balanced growth of towns and cities. There is an urgent need of such development council to examine the development scheme of the State Governments and to approve the same, in order to expedite the development programme in the Seventh Plan period to ensure the balanced development of the Eastern India.

- (v) Need to improve the working of St. Thomas Mount-cum-Pallavaram Cantonment Board, Madras

SHRIMITI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI (Madras South) : Sir, St. Thomas Mount-cum-Pallavaram Cantonment Board in Madras is under the jurisdiction of Military Establishment and it has to look after the essential amenities like drinking water, health, light, road maintenance, etc. Civilians as well as military personnel are residing under the jurisdiction of this Cantonment Board. The working of this Board is very unsatisfactory.

A subsidy of Rs. 70 lakhs was given to this Board by Central Government for drinking water purposes but this subsidy was not spent properly.

Roads, street lights and drainage system are not maintained properly. In spite of adequate staff and other facilities provided to this Board for sanitation facility, the work is not attended properly to the satisfaction of the public and this may cause health hazard.

Medical facility is also unsatisfactory. There is only one ambulance and that also is not available to the public. Lot of malpractices in assessment of taxes are reported.

The Cantonment workers in collusion with the real estate agents are said to be helping the latter with survey of number of vacant sites belonging to Government and giving room for purchase of such vacant sites causing loss of revenue to the Central Government.

I, therefore, request the Government to look into the matter and improve the unsatisfactory condition of St. Thomas Mount-cum-Pallavaram Cantonment Board.

- (vi) Need to look into the seating arrangements made for handicapped candidates appearing in the Banking Service Recruitment Board Examination held in Bangalore.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The Banking Service Recruitment Board has conducted a competitive examination on Sunday, the 2nd March, 1986 at Bangalore City for recruitment to clerical posts in nationalised banks. The examination was also held at Jagadguru Renukacharya College, Bangalore. Two

handicapped girls had earlier requested while submitting their application forms to make arrangements for their seating on the ground floor. In spite of their request, the Banking Service Recruitment Board did not bother to make any special arrangements for them. This shows the attitude of the Authorities towards handicapped applicants. A photo appeared in almost all the newspapers from Bangalore City which shows how the handicapped girls were being brought down from an examination hall situated on the third floor of the building.

It is necessary to take action in the matter.

- (vii) Need to allocate adequate funds by Central Silk Board for improvement of Sericulture in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh

SHRI K RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Sir, Andhra Pradesh is the second largest grower of mulberry in the country. 80 per cent of the crop grown in Andhra is raised in Anantapur district alone. It is known that this is a chronic drought prone area and the mulberry crop is a boon for this area. Central Silk Board has not helped this district for the improvement of mulberry crop. The Central Silk Board has got enormous funds which are being spent on the development and improvement of mulberry crop. It is requested that the Central Silk Board may allot sufficient funds for this district to improve mulberry crop as follows :

1. Loan for farmers to deepen the wells or put in well bores.
2. Subsidy for supply of inputs for rearing cucoons.
3. Subsidy for construction of rooms for rearing cucoons.
4. Enough funds may be allotted for supply of quality layings.
5. Improvement of the seed area of layings.
6. Change of race of laying,
7. Introduction of BIVOLTAIN race of laying in this area and improvement of seed area.
8. Supply of M. S. variety of mulberry to the farmers by the Silk Board at 50 per cent subsidy.

I request that the Central Silk Board may be pleased to allot sufficient funds for the above improvement of sericulture.

[*Translation*]

- (viii) Need to start new trains from Kanpur to Bombay, and Delhi and Lucknow and also increase the reservation quota for Kanpur in Rajdhani Express;

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the following matter under Rule 377 :

Kanpur metropolis is a prominent industrial and trade centre of north India where thousands of passengers have to face several difficulties for going to Bombay, Delhi and Lucknow by rail. Therefore, one new train each should be started from Kanpur to Bombay and Delhi. It is also necessary to start a fast train for Lucknow in the morning. In 91 and 92 Prayagraj Express train going to Delhi, extra berths should be provided in air-conditioned, first class and second sleepers or an additional second class coach should be attached from Kanpur. The quota of seats in Rajdhani Express for Delhi and Howrah should be increased.

12.31 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (General),
1986-87--*Contd.*

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand No. 76 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for which 6 hours have been allotted. Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demand for Grant have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved. A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1987 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 76, relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas."

Demand for Grant (General) 1986-87 in respect of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 13th March, 1986	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House
1	2	3	4
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS			
76.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	21,38,000	1,26,30,79,000
		1,06,94,000	2,13,22,94,000

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO (Siddipet) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I rise to oppose the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Sir, in our country we have got a highly anomalous situation in the field of crude oil including petroleum, natural gas and other related products and hydrocarbons. The Ministry of Petroleum is responsible for exploration, production, import and export of oil, petroleum products, natural gas, refining, distribution and marketing of petroleum products and administration of petro-chemical industries in the country.

The oil companies like ONGC, Oil India Ltd. and others are trailing behind the exploratory work when compared to their counterparts in other countries. In the last 3 years we have spent nearly Rs. 1,000 crores on exploration. There has been a severe shortfall in reaching the targets by some of the Oil companies. For Oil India Ltd. the shortfall in crude oil is 90 per cent. There is 69 per cent shortfall for drilling meatrage. Presently 53 rigs are in operation for exploratory work. For the entire 7th Plan, there is a proposal for seismic work of about 29,000 line kilometres and also to drill 12 wells. But I doubt whether the Oil Companies will come up to the expectations of the public.

Sir, the ONGC has got its headquarters in Bombay and they are not in a position to monitor all the exploratory work throughout the country. So, I want to make a suggestion in this respect. I wish to suggest that ONGC has to be split up into 5 parts—one part south-east, one part south-west and one part north side and the remaining two parts, north-east and north-west so that continuously they can monitor the exploration of oil throughout the country.

Sir, in our country, the consumption of petroleum products is increasing day by day. In 1983-84 it was 3.4 per cent and in 1984-85 it was 7.4 per cent and in 1985-86 it is 6.5 per cent. Compared to 1983-84, it is almost doubled now—the demand is almost doubled, but the production of

crude oil and the production of other petroleum chemicals is not that much.

Here I would like to mention the yearwise production of crude oil. In 1982-83 the production of crude oil was 21.06 million tonnes, in 1984-85 it was 28.99 million tonnes and in 1985-86 it is 29.94 million tonnes. But the demand for crude oil is more. In 1982-83 it was 37.26 million tonnes, in 1983-84 it was 38.53 million tonnes and in 1984-85 it was 41.39 million tonnes. And there has been a big shortfall from the beginning. It is ranging from 16.2 million tonnes to 12.40 million tonnes from 1982-83 to 1984-85. So, in order to meet the shortfall every year we are importing the crude oil from other countries. In 1986-87 we are likely to import 15.6 million tonnes of crude oil. In 1985 the import was 13.8 million tonnes and in 1984 it was 15.9 million tonnes. So, to avoid this importation from other countries, to save foreign exchange, we have to improve our production of crude oil in our country.

Sir, the latest technology for exploration of oil is not there in our country. In other countries some advanced technology like transitional drilling is practised whereas in India it is not being practised. Like this, if you go on importing the crude oil from other countries, we will lose the money from our country. For that we have to make some alternative arrangement in respect of crude oil. In other countries those people are using 20 per cent ethyl alcohol and methyl alcohol in vehicles for transportation whereas it is not being used in our country, and the same issue was raised in both Houses several times. But the Ministry of Petroleum has not taken this point into account. Like that, the liquid petroleum which is also available from the natural gas also can be substituted for petroleum. So, the amount of light spirit, that is, petroleum, we get out of either indigenous crude oil or imported crude oil is nearly 10 million tonnes. Out of that 10 million tonnes, only 4.5 million tonnes of petroleum is being converted for public use and 6.5 million tonnes of petroleum is being diverted for making naphtha and other fertilisers at a lower cost. So, the high price of petrol lead to greater demand for diesel among the public. If you keep the prices of petrol at a lower level, there will

be better utilisation of all available petroleum products in the country and this would lead to lesser consumption of diesel. Like that, we can avoid import of diesel and we can save foreign exchange money which is flowing out from our country. Therefore, I do not know the reason why the Petroleum Ministry has increased the rates of petroleum products two months back.

There has been no sincere effort to mobilise resources like natural gas, liquid petroleum gas. We have got plenty of natural gas in our country. About Rs. 1.2 crores worth of natural gas is being flared up every day. This natural gas is not being taken out and properly used. This natural gas can be converted into liquid petroleum at low prices. This LPG can be substituted in a number of ways where we use petrol and diesel. We have got abundant resources of liquid petroleum gas in our country. But there is some inadequacy in bottling the liquid petroleum gas, in distributing the LPG. We have got abundant infrastructure for empty cylinder making. We have a number of people who are crying in the market for LPG connection. But we are not able to collect the natural gas and bottle the natural gas and distribute the natural gas to the needy persons.

The natural gas can also be used for transportation in the form of LPG. In other countries, LPG is being used for transportation and in automobiles. In India the Pallavan Transport Corporation and Thandai Periyer Transport Corporation people in Madras have already conducted extensive tests for use of LPG in automobiles and they succeeded. It requires only transitional kit and the shape or model of the engine need not be changed. Simply with the transitional kit, we can use LPG for vehicles and you can save money in crores of rupees. Therefore we can advocate use of LPG in all Transport Corporations. In this way we can save plenty of diesel and petrol. LPG can also be used as fuel in industries, for metal cutting, for furnaces, in place of diesel, and for running generators. LPG can be used in many other ways.

But there is some problem with the bottling of LPG. Ordinarily it takes three to five years to set up a bottling plant. We

do not have sufficient bottling plants with the oil companies. There are various advantages for starting many bottling plants. I would request the hon. Minister to start some more bottling units either from the Government side or from the private sector side so that, we can make use of LPG to the maximum.

The Liquid Petroleum Gas of 14.2 k.g. contents in a cylinder costs only Rs. 8 per cylinder. But you charge somewhere around Rs. 58. The rest of the amount is only for filling and transportation. Please see, how much cheap the Liquid Petroleum Gas is. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to have a separate, single corporation for all LPG operations which alone would ensure speedy development in this vital field. The existing LPG dealers and outlets in the country are confined only to urban areas. Most of the rural areas have been neglected. The rural areas and towns having a population of 20,000 or 50,000 are still waiting for LPG connection. The existing outlets are also not working up to the mark. If you substitute LPG for petrol and diesel, in a proper manner, we can save money and energy in both urban and rural areas. We can also save forest wealth. We can save other energy also.

With these words, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI P.C. SETHI (Indore) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving the floor of the House to me to speak on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Petroleum.

Sir, this particular subject has assumed great importance in view of the fact that the world prices of crude oil have come down sufficiently and secondly because the consumption of the petroleum products in the developed countries has come down in 1984-85 almost to the level of 1980. It is true that ours is a developing country and therefore, the demand for petroleum products, whether it is petrol or diesel or LPG or Naptha etc, is going to be more. And, therefore, this subject assume very great importance for us.

Last year alone, we imported petroleum products in the vicinity of about Rs. 4500 crores. In the Sixth Plan period, the crude

[Shri P.C. Sethi]

oil production has increased and the oil India, the ONGC and the Ministry of Petroleum have to be thanked for this increased production from 10.5 million tonnes in 1980-81 to 28.99 million tonnes in 1984-85. This oil production is likely to be 29.94 million tonnes in 1985-86 and in the 7th Plan period, it is projected to increase to 34.53 million tonnes (in 1989-90). This is based on the improved recoverable resources of oil. We understand that ONGC has plans to off-shore drilling in Bombay High and there is also discovery of oil in Gandhar oil fields. But apart from that, the actual production in 1989-90 could be even higher. ONGC and Oil India seem to have therefore done well and they need to be encouraged.

However, with the steep fall in the price of crude oil, the Government needs to examine to what extent, the imports could be stepped up and our crude oil kept in the ground provided, it is economical to do so. It is well-known that the deposits in our country are limited and we are draining out the oil. We have not been able to find new resources and in this context, particularly I would like to invite the attention of the Petroleum Minister to the exercise which is going on for allotting certain areas for finding out whether oil could be available and also for exploration as some attempts have been made in the past also. Some companies did come but they have gone back. So, this particular aspect assumes very great importance and we should again start negotiations with these foreign oil companies and they have to be brought here on international terms. Unless they are offered international terms, no oil company would be able to succeed and will be able to stay for long to do this work and this is very important for us.

The gas reserves have increased considerably and are almost equal to that of oil. We must make the best use of these results because gas cannot be exported. We, particularly in India, are not in a position to export it. Government should reconsider keeping gas only for the fertiliser plants and I would recommend that for a period of 30 years, it should be enough if gas reserves are earmarked for fertiliser plants

for the next two decades or three decades and whatever remaining part of gas remains, that has to be carefully used for power generation because the plants set up on gas are comparatively cheaper. They can be set up in a comparatively less period and, therefore, it would be much useful if we utilise this extra gas for the generation of power. Not only a gas power station costs much less than the coal-based power station but it is also very efficient and can be set up in half the time period as compared to a coal power based station. Moreover, we need not worry in this regard because, according to experts, there will be plenty of gas to be found in this country. I welcome the initiative of the Government to set up GAIL in this respect. Apart from concentrating on the construction of the HBJ pipeline which I feel should be expedited and the Government must make up its mind where it is to be given but it should be expedited. This is my earnest appeal.

So GAIL should also build up expertise in transportation and utilisation of gas. Unless advanced planning is done in this regard, we may be repeating the history. In not utilising gas for long periods after it has been discovered. Government may also consider importing LNG and LPG wherever it is very economical than importing oil products. With the changing world oil scenario, all options should be explored.

The demand for petroleum products has increased from 30.90 million tonnes in 1980-81 to 38.63 million tonnes in 1984-85. Consumption of petroleum products was kept under control during the Sixth Plan period achieving a growth-rate of slightly over 6% per annum as compared to the target of 9% per annum. However, the consumption is likely to be 40 million tonnes in 1985-86 a little more than what it has been targeted and according to the Seventh Plan, it is expected to go up to 52.67 million tonnes in 1989-90, the remaining year of the Seventh Plan. Our consumption of petroleum products is a fraction of what is consumed in the developed countries. It is therefore bound to increase. What is more important is that we should ensure that petroleum products are consumed efficiently and economically. Petroleum Conservation, Research Association has been doing a very

good job but much more needs to be done in this direction.

I strongly feel that Energy Audit should be introduced in all major oil consuming units. After Energy Audit, a scheme should be drawn up for producing oil consumption and the consumer should be provided with all facilities, technical and financial, to implement the recommendations. Unless unit-wise approach is adopted, we are not likely to make significant progress and, in fact, the oil intensity of the economy may increase. It is better to introduce appropriate energy saving measures right now rather than later when considerable expansion of our economy would have taken place.

There has been a considerable increase in the consumption of middle distillates i.e. kerosene and diesel. In so far as kerosene is concerned, it is used either for cooking or lighting. The use of kerosene can be considerably expanded for cooking provided we introduce improved kerosene stoves on a mass scale. If necessary, these should be subsidised. As regards use of kerosene for lighting, particularly in the rural areas, this will continue till we are able to electrify the households in rural areas. But simultaneously we should mount up research on improving kerosene lanterns so that the efficiency in the use of kerosene can be considerably increased.

In regard to diesel which is mainly used in irrigation pump sets and for transport, we have over 4 million irrigation pump sets in our country and with a small investment, conservation of diesel oil to the extent of 20 to 30 per cent is possible according to experts. Here again there is one point to be considered. The Petroleum Ministry has been considering it since long but they have not succeeded. The consumption of kerosene is increasing much more because kerosene is being mixed with diesel. Therefore, the consumption of kerosene is much more. There was an attempt to introduce a colour in kerosene but that attempt has not succeeded. Therefore, something should be done in this regard and the only point appears possible is that the price of diesel should be brought at parity with kerosene which may help in

preventing kerosene being mixed up with diesel. This mixing also produces a lot of smoke which is hazardous to our health. Therefore, this is another important aspect on which the Government should concentrate. While I am saying that it should be brought at parity, it will be difficult to lower the price of diesel. At the same time kerosene is used by the poorest of the poor and, therefore, a much higher increase in the price of kerosene would also not be possible. Therefore, this is an exercise which has to be done by scientific research in consultation with the experts.

Similarly, with improved driving and maintenance practices savings of 10 to 15 per cent is possible in transport trucks. As in the developed countries we should also look into the other aspects such as body of the truck, improved engine, improved battery and improved tyres which, if achieved, could result in substantial savings. I am aware that some of the countries use coal also for this purpose. We have got a lot of coal reserves in our country and whether this is possible and economical is another pertinent question which the Petroleum Ministry can examine. I do not think it would be asking too much if time-bound targets are fixed for achieving improvements in this regard.

There is a proposal to construct a refinery at Karnal and Mangalore. This should be pursued vigorously. With the fall in the price of crude oil I understand that the economics of refining has improved. Simultaneously Government should take measures to implement low cost refinery expansion projects.

All over the world considerable achievements have been made in the efficient working of the refineries. We should also study these practices and run our refineries as efficiently as possible, particularly from the energy angle because I am aware of the fact that a lot of money is wasted in the distillates.

11:00 hrs.

Therefore, if the working of the refineries is improved, we can make substantial progress in this connection. Ours is a vast country with low level of petroleum

[Shri P.C. Sethi]

consumption. As mentioned by me, this is bound to increase. It would, therefore, be necessary to review our marketing practices so that the expanded market can be serviced at minimum cost. I would specially mention, in this connection about marketing of LPG, a substitute for kerosene as a medium for cooking owing to the vastly improved availability of gas. I understand, the Petroleum Ministry has plans to step up significantly its enrolment plan for new consumers. In the next 5 years, it would be possible, I am told, to enroll as many as two million customers every year. These figures have to be checked up.

LPG being most hazardous product to be marketed, deserves special attention. Keeping in view the enormity of the problem and also the safety angle, I would like to suggest that the Government should now think of setting up as suggested by the previous speaker also a separate Corporation for marketing of LPG. Should that not be possible, a special division should be created in each of the oil companies to deal with the marketing of LPG.

Another important point that I should like to mention here, before I conclude, is regarding selection of petroleum product dealers, notably LPG dealers. On account of faulty terms and conditions and methods of selection, I have come to know that there has been a spurt in *benami* dealership. Government would do well to undertake urgently a review of the present system of appointment of dealers. Although now it is being done by a Committee where a judge presides over it, even then to give LPG dealership to persons, a minimum investment of Rs. two to three lakhs is necessary, either promised by Government or financial agencies. So, one is bound to have *benami* transaction. Therefore this aspect has to be looked into. Ministry of Finance should be approached so that certain weaker sections of the people have to be helped by giving LPG dealership. Also, proper financial arrangement for them should be made available so that *benami* transactions do not take place. I hope the Petroleum Minister would do well under the stewardship of hon. Minister Shri Chandra Shekhar Singh who has a

long experience in administration even as a Chief Minister and also Minister of various departments here. I wish him speedy progress in this Department.

[Translation]

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. While doing so, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister particularly about the arrangements for distribution of LPG. At present gas is available in our country in plenty. Although the installed capacity of the gas cylinder manufacturing units in our country is more than our requirements yet the waiting list for gas connections is quite long. We are not able to provide gas connections promptly to the people in the waiting list. There is only one reason for that and that is that the capacity of our existing bottling plants is far less than the availability of gas and production capacity of gas cylinders. Therefore, if you want that the people in the country may get gas connections on demand, then you will have to increase the present bottling plant capacity and set up new bottling plants. If we do this, we shall be able to reduce the waiting list to a large extent.

So far as LPG distribution system and marketing is concerned, the hon. Members who spoke before me have rightly said that you should constitute a separate corporation for marketing of LPG. Unless you do this, the lacunae in the present system cannot be removed. Our distribution system involves oil companies, distributors and consumers and the distributors work as a link between the oil companies and the consumers. So far as the distribution agencies are concerned, a survey about the present dealers should be conducted. I do not want to make allegations against any one but these agencies have mostly been given to the big people or to their relatives. *Benami* dealerships are in existence on a large scale at present. Shri Sethi has correctly said that if you keep in mind the investment to be made and the bank interest on it, then no wise man would like to come forward to have dealership but even then we find that a large number of people are coming forward to obtain dealership

agencies, For one agency, scores of applications are received. The reason is that there are 'benami' dealerships and malpractices are indulged in on a large scale in this business.

On the other hand, if you look at the commission given to the dealers you will find that there has been no increase in the commission since 1960. Even then scores of applications are received for dealership. Therefore, to improve the situation you will have to bring changes in the system and consider about the 'benami' dealerships or agencies.

Now I want to draw your attention towards distribution of kerosene in Maharashtra State. In Bombay City, kerosene is distributed exclusively through rationing. Earlier there used to be blackmarketing in its distribution but then we took a decision some time ago that by resorting to equalisation of bulk dealers we shall put ceiling of 250 kilo litres. At that time some employees of bulk dealers came and stated that if a ceiling of 250 kilo litres was fixed after resorting to equalisation of bulk dealers, then what would happen to them because our Government and the Ministry of Petroleum had promised to them that if the employees of the bulk dealers formed a cooperative society, they would be given kerosene distribution agency out-of-turn, without adhering to the fixed norms. But when those employees after forming a society came to you, they were asked to apply after the advertisement appeared in the papers and told that their case would be considered for the allotment of an agency as per the norms.

I want to say that—

[English]

—it was the commitment of the Government, it was the commitment of the Petroleum Ministry to give them dealership as they were losing their jobs after a number of years.

[Translation]

The people who had served for 40 to 50 years with the bulk dealers were losing their jobs and you had promised for such society but you did not fulfill your promise.

Therefore, I hope that the Petroleum Minister will consider this issue.

Along with this, I would like to say something about the increase in the administrative prices of the petroleum products and then conclude. You have increased the prices of petrol, LPG and diesel and to rationale that you have given for it is that by increasing these prices you want to reduce the consumption of these items. But my submission is that this step is not going to help in bringing down their consumption because the maximum consumption of petrol and diesel is done by the Government officers' vehicles. You should look into that. You should see how many vehicles are plying. If you really want to bring down the consumption of petrol, then you will have to decide that on a certain day—

[English]

—private cars will not be on the roads.

[Translation]

On a certain day—

[English]

—certain other vehicles will not be on the roads.

[Translation]

If you try to do this then only the consumption of the petroleum products will come down. Besides, you will have to fix a monthly quota of petrol and diesel for Government departments, corporations and public undertakings and they will have to be asked to consume only that much quantity. Only then there can be a possibility of reduction in the consumption of these products. Now-a-days you can see that the vehicles are being used for the families of the Government officials. If this is stopped, the Government expenditure will also come down and, at the same time, consumption will also be reduced. This is what I expect.

Sir, in the end I would like to reiterate that LPG marketing system has expanded very much and keeping this in view you will have to create a separate corporation for the purpose.

[English]

SHRI R.P. DAS (Krishnagar) : Sir, my good friend Shri P. C. Sethi was a Minister

[Shri R.P. Das]

of the Petroleum Department some years ago. He had much experience about the uses and abuses of kerosene. Therefore, he suggested that some sort of parity should be established between the prices of diesel and that of kerosene, although he himself refuted the same argument by saying that it could not be done because the prices of all commodities were going up and the diesel prices were also going up. Therefore, this suggestion should not be considered at all. It is not at all a good suggestion. It will only put the poorer people to much more sufferings.

But the other suggestion about having the crude oil imported should be given due weight. Because the price of crude oil in the international market is going down. Most probably it has gone down to the level of ten dollars per barrel or it might go to that level within a short time. Therefore, the suggestion of importing crude oil may be again thought of and the very precious fuel should be conserved for future use. Some thought should be given to this suggestion.

Yesterday our hon. Minister stated that the import of crude oil has been eliminated from the import list. Therefore, I don't know whether the import of crude oil will again be given priority over other things.

But, Sir, you know there is a gap between the supply and demand of the petroleum products. The demand of the products is about 40 million tonnes and the supply is not more than 30 million tonnes. So, there is a gap of 10 million tonnes. Even at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan this gap will remain the same. There is need of bridging the gap between the demand and the supply. There are two courses left for the Government to bridge this gap. One is to increase the crude import. The second is to explore other oil bearing areas for further production of crude in the country. As far as I understand Government has allocated nearly Rs. 12,000 crores for exploration. I am in favour of exploration of oil both off-shore and on-shore but I would like to know the exact amount that has been allocated for exploration of oil in different parts of the country including the North-Eastern and Eastern parts of the country. Hon'ble Minister may be

knowing that some places are being drilled for the last 10 years in West Bengal namely near Diamond Harbour and Canning. It is not surprising that drilling is going on there for the last 10 years. Nobody knows why it has been taking such a long time. Either it should have been abandoned or Government should have told the people something positive.

13.17 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

During 1980-85 drilling has been done at Andamans, Cauvery-Golavari basin, Rajasthan, Nagaland and other places but commercial production has not yet been ensured from those places. What are the reasons for this failure? Some more effort should be put for exploration of oil in those areas.

Sir, the consumption rate is very high and the consumption of petroleum and petroleum products will also be higher in the coming days. The gap between consumption and indigenous production of crude is such that the very idea of self-sufficiency in oil will not get fulfilled. Therefore, Government has to find out some means so that self-sufficiency in oil is maintained. The import of crude oil should be kept at a particular level and see that the rate of consumption does not go beyond a particular level.

Now, I would like to say a word about refineries. The refining capacity in the country has gone up to 45 million tonnes but we have only 30 million tonnes of crude oil indigenously produced. Therefore, a large part of refining capacity will remain unutilised in the country for a long time unless ONGC could find oil in different parts of the country. I would like to know why 10 percent cut in the Haldia refinery has been ordered.

Now, Sir, let me deal with a different problem of Haldia Refinery. There is a feeling among the workers that an order regarding ten percent cut in the total production has been issued to the Haldia Refinery. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether such an order was issued and if so, the reasons?

I would now like to mention about the LPG connections. About one crore connections have already been given to in

different parts of the country, I would also like to give a few figures about that. Orissa, Bihar, West Bengal and Assam all together have not been given more than 1.50 lakh connections during the year 1985-86. But on the other hand, both Gujarat and Maharashtra alone have got about 3.5 lakh connections during that period. This part of the country, is being neglected in this respect. I would, therefore, request the Minister to see that more LPG connections are allocated for this area; particularly Calcutta and the district towns should be given priority. Calcutta is one of the metropolitan cities and it should have been given more connections. On the other hand, Delhi got about sixty to seventy thousand connections last year. Greater Calcutta which comprises of 67 municipalities is longer than Delhi. I would therefore, impress upon the Government that more gas connections should be given to these areas.

13.22 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI
in the Chair]

Now, Sir, let me point out further, that ONGC and OIL do not have any competitors in this country. They enjoy monopoly in this business and that monopoly leads them to complacency and which is one of the causes of high prices of their end products. Why should not the companies follow the international oil companies in the matter of efficient functioning. Why should not they keep in mind the performance of their counterparts elsewhere. Therefore, the Minister may kindly look into this aspect of the problem so that the performance of these oil companies may improve in the coming years.

Before I conclude, Sir, I would like to mention that kerosene which has been allocated for West Bengal is much less than the requirements of the State. The requirement of this commodity for the State is about one lakh litres per month. To meet its requirements, more allocation of kerosene should be made to the State of West Bengal.

Before I conclude may I ask the hon'ble Minister the fate of one man committee which was set up under the charge of Shri B.C. Mathur to evolve some principles to be followed for allocation of kerosene to

the States and I would also like to know the recommendations of this one-man-committee and whether these recommendations have been considered by the Government? With these words, I thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. It is one of the greatest challenge before us as to how we can achieve self sufficiency in the matter of petroleum and gas. After going through the document of the Seventh Five Year Plan. I have come to know that we cannot achieve self-sufficiency in this field during the Seventh Five Year Plan. It is also clear that although we are increasing the production yet we have totally failed in curtailing the consumption of these items. The growth rate of consumption during the Sixth Five Year Plan was 5.3 per cent whereas growth rate of consumption during the Seventh Five Year Plan would be 6.4 per cent. The most important question before us is that how we should control our consumption. We have recently raised the prices of petrol and diesel and the particular plea given for that is that our aim is to curtail the consumption of these items. If this is the object of raising the prices then, though the people are not satisfied about the prices, yet we would try to satisfy them. But the steps or the measures which the Government are taking are not such as would curtail the consumption.

In this connection I would like to submit that thousands of diesel pumps are being operated for irrigation purposes and if stable supply of electricity is ensured then the consumption of diesel could be reduced. Similarly, captive power generation units are being operated in which diesel is consumed and if stable supply of electricity is ensured and if industrial units are operated with electricity, a lot of diesel could be saved.

Secondly, as Sethi Saheb has just now stated :

[English]

"Consumption can be kept under control and transport trucks, kerosene

[Shri Virldhi Chander Jain]

lanterns and stoves provide scope for increase in efficiency."

[Translation]

In addition to this, more steps are required to be taken to achieve self-sufficiency in the oil sector. Facility of loan is available to the people for purchase of scooters. This facility of loan should be restricted and LDCs, UDCs could be asked to use cycles. If the poor people can make extensive use of cycles, why should the use of cycles be not encouraged then? At present our industry is producing a large number of scooters. In its place our industry should produce more cycles. Also, some restrictions should be imposed on the Ministers and officers and a limit for consumption of petrol and diesel should be fixed for them.

A committee to check wasteful expenditure has been set up in each State. That committee is also not doing any work in this direction.

Similarly, we should make efforts to curtail the wasteful expenditure of the State Governments and the Central Government because there is a lot of misuse of oil. I would also like to submit that the use of Government vehicles for private purpose by the Government servants or Ministers should be considered crime. This crime should be treated as a cognisable and non-bailable offence. If a person uses public property for his personal ends, it should be considered a very serious crime. Then only such a tendency could be checked.

Then, I have also seen that the drivers working in the armed forces pilfer petrol and diesel of their vehicles and sell them to other people. Similarly, drivers in various Government offices and public undertakings also pilfer diesel and petrol. There is an urgent need to check this evil. If you take such stringent steps, only then you would be able to reduce the consumption of petroleum products.

Now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards certain problems of my area. ONGC and Oil India Ltd. are functioning in the desert areas of Rajasthan. 28,600 sq. kms. of area falls in the jurisdiction of Oil India Ltd. which

covers the areas of Jaisalmer, Ganga Nagar and Bikaner. In these areas, I have seen that very good work has been done regarding seismic survey in these areas. I have myself visited those areas. Now the situation is that I have come to know that their budget has been curtailed. The drilling work should have been started there at the earliest but now it has been postponed till August and September. This work has not been started so far. Rigs etc. are required for this purpose and the then hon. Minister had placed orders for them on a company in the U.S.A., but there has not been any progress so far in this direction. I fear that those orders might not have been cancelled. What I mean to say is that when Shri Bahuguna was Minister of Petroleum all the work relating to these machines was stopped and now this work has been resumed after 15 years. Recently rich deposits of petroleum have been located at Mari and Sui in Pakistan and there is possibility of further deposits being located there. Our Chairman, Shri Wahi has also said that there is possibility of deposits of 95 million tonnes of gas and Petroleum being found in this area. In the desert areas of Arab countries, when such a huge quantity of petroleum is being exploited, if petrol and gas is struck in this area then this area would make rapid progress. Therefore, there is an urgent need to work with full force in the backward areas in this regard. I am fully confident that if you make efforts and Oil India Ltd. works with full force in complete co-operation with ONGC, success can be achieved in this field. ONGC is using only one drilling machine for the last 4 or 5 years. There should be at least three or four machines so that work could be done at a faster pace. There is an urgent need to expedite the work there.

Thirdly, a large number of petrol pumps have already been opened in the country. Therefore, the petrol pumps should now be opened only where these pumps are absolutely necessary. Only then the consumption of petrol and diesel could be reduced. Oil Selection Board has also been set up and as Sethi Saheb was saying proper persons are unable to get the agency. As a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 3 lakhs is required for an agency, *benami* transactions are taking place. Provision has been made for allotment of agencies to the weaker sections,

scheduled castes and unemployed graduates, but other people take the advantage and *benami* transactions take place. This matter should be enquired into. Such *benami* transactions should be stopped and such agencies should be done away with. In spite of the establishment of Selection Board, the evil of bribery is still there and this should also be enquired into. Some people take bribe and defame our Government. This matter is required to be looked into.

You have released a large number of LPG connections during the period from 1981-82 to 1983-84. You will have to increase the number of agencies to release these LPG connections. It is necessary to release LPG connections in the desert areas like ours so that the use of wood as fire-wood may be avoided. We want the minimum use of wood for burning. You release LPG connections on the basis of twenty thousand population, but for our area you should make special arrangements. If you make arrangements for our areas, that would reduce the felling of trees to the minimum and it would be beneficial specially for the desert areas.

One thing I would like to say about the price increase. The increase in prices has caused a very bad impact. At first you fixed the prices and later on increased the prices of the petroleum products by an ordinance. This is causing a serious setback to our party. The opposition parties are taking undue advantage of it. Had you made such provisions in the budget there would not have been such a sharp reaction and opposition to it. You always adopt such a method which causes great setback to the future of our party. Therefore, I request you not to resort to such methods in future to increase the prices. When you could save Rs. 1000 crores by purchasing crude, what was the necessity to increase the prices? When the price of crude oil is coming down in the international market to our advantage, then what was necessity to increase the prices? There would have been no objection had you increased the price of petrol only, But with the increase of diesel and kerosene oil prices. our transport has become costlier and it is affecting the common man. It would be better if you consider this matter and impress upon the Finance Ministry. It should not be made

a prestige issue. This step should be taken keeping in view the sentiments of the people.

With these words, I support the demand for grants of the Petroleum Ministry.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants for the Petroleum Ministry. Assam produces crude, and there are also refineries which refine crude in three refineries in Assam.

For the last few years when prices of crude oil and petroleum products are going up, the State of Assam as well as Gujarat have been giving several memoranda to the Prime Minister and to the Petroleum Minister to increase the royalty for crude oil. We were assured when we called on the Prime Minister and the Petroleum Minister in the past, that the crude oil royalty would be increased in proportion to the crude oil prices which are prevailing in the national and international market. But unfortunately till today this has not been done. Even recently, the present Chief Minister of Assam in a memorandum to the Prime Minister has demanded that the royalty for the crude oil should be increased. The hon. Minister is here. I come from a State which is very much economically backward. Our source of income for the government is limited. So, crude which is a very vital product for the country's development and which is needed in the various fields is being produced in Assam. I hope our legitimate demand for the increase of the royalty will be met very soon.

In the recent Assam Accord, there was also an understanding, an understanding of memorandum that a new refinery will be set up in Assam. We have been hearing that it may be in collaboration with some private firm or with some international firm or it may be in the public sector undertaking. Whatever might be the pattern of this new refinery, I urge upon the Ministry to see that this new refinery comes into being in the very near future.

The refineries in Assam open good avenue for employment of unemployed youths in the area, But most unfortunately there is a tendency in the name of technical knowhow to bring people from outside the State, Well, the Government of India has got a particular

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

norm that under a particular type of job—I think below Rs. 1,200/- local youths will be given preference. Unfortunately, this is not being adhered to. In certain posts, I firmly believe, if the government really means business, the local youths can be taken as apprentices and can be trained in the present refinery so that they can suit the need of the future job requirements. On the plea that local youths are not available with the requisite qualifications, sometimes people are brought from outside the State. This practice should be stopped. I have written to the Petroleum Minister. He was very kind enough to acknowledge and state that he was examining it. Here, I would like to put one particular instance. There is Notification No. 111/3/85-Rectt. dated 3 5 85. by Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Cachar Project, Silchar, advertised for three types of jobs. In these three types of jobs, local youths—I can name—in Cachar—Kamalendu Baattacherjee, Ronobijoy Dey, Kamal Basu Roy and Krishna Das—they were working for the last 1 1/2 years for apprenticeship. But before their term is completed, people from other parts of the country have been brought and are absorbed in those jobs; and that creates dissatisfaction among the local unemployed youths. I do not want to make complaint against any particular officer or individual there but I would urge upon the Government to take special care to see that the guideline which is given by the central Petroleum Ministry to the respective officers is not violated thereby depriving the local youths of their employment opportunity. I have also written to the Petroleum and Chemicals Minister saying that in Cachar-Kargim Ganj District for the last 8-10 years drilling operation is being continued. But in reply to my question in the year 1982, it was assured that more rigs would be acquired for Silchar and Karimganj districts.

But unfortunately, no such rigs has arrived in spite of the definite assurance of the Minister given on the floor of Parliament and when we the Members of Parliament released those pictures published, about the assurance, we become a laughing stock before the general public. I fail to understand why the country is importing petroleum products when there are possibilities of getting crude oil in the country itself.

Is the Government so lethargic in their attitude, in developing the drilling in certain areas like Silchar and Karimganj districts. I would urge upon the Government to kindly look into the matter and take definite steps to see that the drilling procedures are being processed in those districts so that there is no shortage of crude oil in the country, and it can be distributed properly. This will not only help the Government to save the foreign exchange but it will also help us to create more employment.

The recent price hike has been made in order to see that the total consumption of the crude oil in the country and also of the petroleum products which has gone in an extensive way, is curtailed, to save foreign exchange on imported crude oil or the finished products from out of the country. I fully appreciate the idea of the Government.

How is it that you have raised the petroleum prices in order to stop the misuse of petrol and it is an indirect restriction on the consumers. But, as I feel, per cent of the petroleum consumption is by Government, semi-Government and public undertakings which means by raising these prices 60 per cent of the costs will be incurred by these Government semi-Government and public sector undertakings, that is from one head of the Government you are taking some money from one head and putting in another head. Your own departments of the Central and State Governments and the public sector undertakings are spending the same money. If you really save foreign exchange and if you are really spending it on petroleum products, you should realise that they are used in the Government departments, and public sector undertakings and various State organisations of the country.

Another thing I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, that there is a growing demand from all over the country to reconsider the price of kerosene and products of kerosene. This hike in the kerosene prices effected the poor people of the country and those who are below the poverty line. Some reduction in the rate has been made, but that is not enough. At least for the development of the backward areas, this should be done.

As regards the LPG, I might say, that in my area there are hardly three to four towns where there is a distributor, and as a result it is not reaching all the consumers to the extent it is being available in other parts of the country. I will, therefore request the hon. Minister to please see that in our area in Silchar more agents should be given outlets, and some more supplies should be given so that more consumers can get the benefit of LPG.

Another thing, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister that, in the speech of Shri P.C. Sethi, it was mentioned, when he was the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals, during a Calling Attention motion that Assam Oil Refineries which has not been taken over by the Government of India will be further rejuvenated. This particular oil refinery should immediately be modernised by installing some modern machinery. Recently I have seen in papers that the present General Manager of that refinery has said that some positive steps are going to be taken very shortly. I do not know how far it is correct. But this refinery, which is one of the oldest refineries of the world, needs total re-modelling, because the machinery which is being used there, has outlived its lifetime. At the same time, this being the oldest refinery of the world, it was catering to the needs of the country for ages. Why should its renovation be delayed? When you are making new refineries in other parts of the country, why should the mother refinery not be revitalised and renovated? It is long overdue. We have been agitating for the last several years for this. The people in that part of the country feel that nothing is done unless they agitate. We always hear from the Central Government that for the North-Eastern Region there is no dearth of funds for economic growth or for any other project. But when you go for the re-vitalisation of the refinery, setting up of a new refinery or development of roads or any other project or starting of new industries, you get a very shabby treatment from our Ministries. Only yesterday, we have met our Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum for various developmental projects of Barrack Valley including one Central University. We want to show to the public in reality that what the Government says, it does that. A new Government has come in Assam. Youth has taken over there,

The people have given their verdict to them. The economic backwardness was the main issue and the earlier Government, which was the Congress Government, was thrown out of power because it failed to meet the demand of the people there. But we must be able to prove that whatever we are saying, we are willing to implement that. Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Petroleum that a study team must go from the Petroleum Ministry to make an indepth study about the feasibility of setting up petro-chemical based industries in that area.

The other day, one hon. Member from the opposition raised a very important question about the mis-use of gas, which is blown off in Assam. You are utilising this gas in other parts of the country. Even our neighbouring country, Bangladesh, is utilising it. This gas, if it is utilised, can serve the purpose of many industries and can also be utilised for domestic purposes. Our tea industry is suffering for want of power. Why is the tea industry not given any power from gas? In certain small industries it is given. But why is it not given on a large scale in Assam?

Bongaigaon refinery was supposed to undertake certain industries based on petro-chemical. But unfortunately, till today, nothing has been done. We hear that the parties are not coming forward. When the parties are coming forward and they go to the Ministry, they run from pillar to post. This Ministry, for some reason or other, is discouraging entrepreneurs to take up new projects in Assam. When an entrepreneur goes to the Ministry, he should be encouraged. But this is not being done. This attitude of the Ministry must change.

Assam is producing curde oil for ages. But in relation to that, the petro-based industry in Assam has not developed. It has developed in Gujarat, Maharashtra and other States. We have been told that because of the non-availability of the infrastructure, this is not possible. I would like to ask: Whose duty is it to develop the infrastructure like communication power, etc? Is it the duty of the Assam Government or the Central Government or the Transport Ministry? If you think that raw materials of various types are available in Assam, then I do agree that to develop this

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

industry, you need power, you need communications, you need labour. We have got labour, we have got talent, but communications and power and other allied matters are for the Central Government to provide. So, I request the hon. Minister to look into these particular matters and see that some basic thrust is given in the North-Eastern region, especially in Assam, to develop petro-chemical based industries

In my constituency, in the Barakbally area, the officials who are working in ONGC drilling, always say that there is enough possibility of getting crude oil but they are unofficially saying that necessary infrastructure is not there. They say, if you have to tranship heavy machinery, you have to come via Meghalaya. There is a road from Meghalaya, that is, Shillong-Silchar Road but that road is full of bridges and difficult curves. So, heavy machinery cannot be taken easily by this road. It takes months to tranship anything from other parts of the country to this area. Therefore, Sir, the bridges have to be strengthened. I request the Petroleum Ministry to take up the matter with the concerned sister Ministries to eliminate these difficulties.

Before I conclude, I would like to say that the sensitive issue in our area is unemployment, especially in Baragbally and in other parts of Assam. I have given a specific example where the boys have already been working as Apprentices in ONGC in Cachhar but even after working there for 12 months, they are not offered the posts. The candidates are brought from other parts of the country or from other parts of Assam. If you bring people from outside, it is not desirable when local talent is available. If the local talent is not available, then you may bring from outside; I do not mind that. I am not parochial in that sense. I do not say that local people must be taken. But if local talent is available, why should it be brought from outside? Therefore, I request that this particular subject should be taken note of.

With these words, I support the Bill and the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Madam, Chairman, I would like to make a few remarks on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I do agree that there has been a tremendous progress in the exploration of oil and also in the production of natural gas in the recent years. I have just now glanced through the Report of the Petroleum Minister, for the year 1985-86. One thing which very much appealed to me was that the Petroleum Conservation Research Association has done a commendable job. It has saved in terms of foreign exchange during the Sixth Plan about Rs. 400 crores and in the Seventh Plan about Rs. 650 crores. Though I consider the Petroleum Ministry as one of the most important Ministries and though it has made good progress in the development of petroleum, but I fail to understand the recent action of the Government to enhance the administered prices of the petroleum products. I am glad that the two members of the ruling party who spoke just before me, also referred to it. The people of India have been taxed to the extent of nearly Rs. 1,000 crores by the hike in petroleum products. It is un-understandable, particularly on the eve of the Budget Session. As I have said earlier also, this is really an affront on the Parliament particularly at a time when the international prices of crude oil are declining, there is absolutely no justification for the hike in the petroleum products. I also join the other friends of the ruling party who have just now spoken, to demand that the Government should reconsider and bring down the prices.

14.00 hrs.

It affects the common man. Because of the increase in the petroleum price, the price of every other commodity goes up in this country. Korosene oil is used by the poor people of the country. The LPG gas is used by every housewife, particularly in the urban areas. The increased price has affected the middle class and lower income group families. I am sure the Minister would have realised the difficulties of these people by now. Even in the Budget discussion many Members from both sides of the House have demanded that oil prices should be reduced. I am sure the Minister would consult the Prime Minister and that he will announce in his reply reduction in

price—not just marginally as was done recently, but I do hope that he will reduce it quite substantially.

Madam, I rose to speak today because of the injustice that is being meted out to the Karnataka State even by this Ministry. We are well aware that during the last Budget Discussion the people of Karnataka were assured that Mangalore Oil Refinery will be set up soon. But I see from one of the pages of the Report of the Ministry that the Government of India is actively exploring the possibility of setting up two oil refineries, one in Karnal and another in Mangalore in the joint sector. The Government has approved the proposal to set up a new refinery of 6 million tonne capacity at Karnal at a cost of Rs. 1359 crores in the joint sector. I would like to ask the Minister why no mention is made about the Mangalore oil refinery in the Budget proposal of the Ministry. Last year this was assured. But not a single word is there in the Budget proposal of the Ministry or in the Demands for Grants. Karnataka State is thus being discriminated against. You know, Madam, what has happened to the Steel Plant at Vijayanagar, in your own constituency. We are being duped and cheated every year. Even in the matter of Railways Karnataka has got the lowest allocation of money. We thought that Petroleum Ministry at least would do some justice but it has not been done. I am stressing this because already an announcement has been made that this refinery will be set up in the Joint Sector. The Minister very well knows that Karnataka has got all the infrastructure that is needed for the setting up of industries in the public sector, Pandit Nehru saw the facilities available in Karnataka and he ordered the setting up of HMT, ITI, BEL and BEML there. All are in the public sector. The labour force in Karnataka (whether they belong to Congress or Janata or any other party) are dedicated workers; you don't find such people anywhere else in the country. That is why public sector industries in Karnataka are doing very well and every one is making a profit. So, I urge upon the hon. Minister to make a favourable statement in this regard while giving his reply.

I have got only 2 or 3 more points.

The Govt. of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to assure supply of diesel oil for setting up a 120 MW gas turbine/diesel set at Yelhanka. Only yesterday, to a question of mine, an answer has been given. I read it out. It says :—

“(a) and (b) The Karnataka State Electricity Board has proposed to set up a 120 MW gas Turbine/Diesel Set at Yelhanka. The Petroleum Fuels required for this project has been indicated to be as follows :

LSHS/FO—103,240 tonnes/year

HSD—6,664 tonnes/year

(c) The Government of Karnataka has been informed recently that in view of the foreign exchange implications of these products, a commitment for their supply cannot be made.”

Why 'cannot be made'. What does it mean? It means, you don't want the Karnataka Government to set up a plant there. If you do not give diesel how can they set up the power plant there? The Government knows fully well that Karnataka is passing through a very acute power shortage. So I demand—our hon. Chief Minister—also has written to the hon. Minister—that the diesel required for the gas turbine should be supplied to Karnataka for setting up of a 120 MW power project. If you cannot commit about it, then how can the plant come up? So, I demand that the Government of India should give clearance to this because by this you are helping the state to set up a gas Turbine plant.

I now come to one or two points about which many hon. Members have already said, i.e., with regard to adulteration of petrol. I think the hon. Minister must now be aware that in almost all cities wherever there is petrol this adulteration exists particularly mixing of kerosene and diesel with petrol. Even in my constituency, Bangalore mixing of kerosene on diesel with petrol is going on. This should be stopped. Stringent punishment including imprisonment must be given to those indulging in this adulteration. Then, what is the result of this adulteration? The person who has got a car or scooter, his engine will be spoiled due to this mixture. This also spoils the

[Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer¹

environment in the society. So, I urge upon the Minister to take it seriously.

About LPG, Madam, every Member has been demanding that his constituency should be given more connections. I know the number of LPG domestic users has crossed one crore. It shows the popularity of the LPG gas. Use of kerosene means it involves foreign exchange. So, it is very necessary that you should explore the possibility of producing more and more natural gas. You have got more than one crore of people in the waiting list. So, I request the Minister to see that more and more natural gas is produced and supplied. Not only in urban areas, but also in rural areas gas connections should be provided.

Another point which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that every day we have been seeing in the newspapers that cylinders burst. You should educate the people, particularly the housewives, on the use of gas. Recently one building collapsed in Delhi after the burst of the cylinder. So, you should give proper education to the people on the use of gas in cylinders, (*Interruptions*).

With regard to kerosene I find that the supply of kerosene has not been uniform or there is no rationale behind the allotment of kerosene to various States. Very recently the Bangalore city was passing through a very severe kerosene crisis, people are standing in long queues to get a bottle of kerosene. I know the Mathur Committee has been appointed to look into it, but I would request the hon. Minister to see that sufficient quota is given to all the States, particularly such of the States as are affected by the drought or famine. Karnataka is a drought affected area. So, to such States you should allot more quota because kerosene is the only fuel on which the people depend.

14.09 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Nowadays even in the rural areas you don't get fuel and in urban areas fuel is

almost equal to gold and it is very costly. So kerosene is the only poor man's energy. That is why I demand that more and more quota should be given to all the States, particularly of the States which are drought affected.

Mr. Sethi has also given very valuable suggestions.

Sir, I am sure that the hon. Minister will do justice. So far as Karnataka is concerned, only two points I have mentioned to you. I hope the Minister will help in setting up the gas-turbine plants and Mangalore Refinery which should be started along with the Karnal Refinery. It is because both the projects have been envisaged simultaneously. But when one has already been cleared, other project should have also been cleared, whether it is under the joint sector or public sector. The Minister has said that it is under the joint sector. Anyhow it does not matter, But you please see that the project is started immediately.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words and with the confidence that the hon. Minister will favourably respond to my requests, I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakonam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum for the year 1986-87, I wish to make a few suggestions for the hon. Minister of Petroleum.

Sir, it is no exaggeration to say that the activities of this ministry contribute to the industrial development and economic growth of the nation. The fuel is being supplied in the form of cooking gas and kerosene to the middle class sections of our society and to the rural people. In order to ensure that the forests and trees, which are national assets, are not destroyed by the rural people for fuel purposes, this Ministry ensures the supply of kerosene throughout the country. The people of our country are fully aware of the activities of this Ministry. A major portion of foreign exchange is spent in the import of crude oil by this Ministry. When the administered prices of petroleum products were hiked up recently by the Ministry, the people from all nooks and corners

¹The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

of the country expressed their dissatisfaction. Even the better-off of our Minister of Finance took him to task in a Television interview for having increased the price of gas. The Government in true democratic sense responded to the people by reducing to some extent the price of petroleum products.

Sir, the cooking gas is a bye-product and there is no cost of production for cooking gas. The oil companies take as deposit a sum of Rs. 500 from each consumer of LPG. A sum of Rs. 1000 crores is lying in deposit with the oil companies from 2 crores of consumers of LPG. The interest accrual on this massive money is not passed on to the consumer; all that is appropriated by the oil companies. When this is so, there is no plausible reason for raising frequently the price of LPG. This creates dissatisfaction among the people. This should be avoided.

During the Question hour yesterday our Minister of Petroleum admitted that there is black marketing in LPG distribution. The LPG dealers insist that unless the hot plate is purchased along with the cylinder the consumer will not get the gas connection. They make unreasonable profits on hot-plates. I demand that deterrent punishment should be given to the LPG dealers indulging in such malpractices. Here I would refer to another important issue also.

The oil companies should come forward to give LPG dealership to the freedom fighters and their wards. I demand that at least 20% of total dealership of LPG should be reserved for freedom fighters and their wards. I am myself a freedom fighter and I have actively participated in freedom struggle. I have undergone incarceration for two years along with our present Vice-President of India. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Petroleum to whom I have written a personal letter in this regard, besides a personal letter to our hon. Prime Minister also, that he should order the reservation of 20% LPG dealership to the freedom fighters and their wards.

Sir, I cannot accept the increase in the price of kerosene. It is the common man's fuel. The common people will be compelled to fell down trees and destroy the forests

for their fuel needs. We call ourselves as the Government of the people. Under no circumstances the price of kerosene should be increased. The recent hike in the price of kerosene should also be brought down.

Sir, the former Minister of Petroleum Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma had announced that commercial exploitation of the oil in Narimanam in Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu would soon start. Besides this, the Russian oil experts have confirmed beyond any doubt that Cauvery Basin is floating in oil. The oil exploration in Cauvery Basin should be intensified. Similarly, the ONGC experts have also announced substantial oil-find in Palk Straits. There also we should undertake oil exploration in Palk Straits also. In Madras we have the Madras Oil Refineries. I demand that a petrochemical industry should be started adjacent to Madras Oil Refineries.

In the international oil market the price of crude oil has declined by 15 dollars a barrel. We are importing crude oil even now at the old rates because of our contractual obligations. I know that the hon. Minister will advance arguments against spot purchase of crude oil. By resorting to spot purchase of crude oil, we will be able to save at least 40% of our foreign exchange in the import of crude oil. This is accepted by the oil experts of the country. There will also be no need for increasing the price of petroleum products.

I would refer to another point here, besides requesting the hon. Minister to explore the possibility of spot purchase of crude oil to meet our growing requirements. Sir, we are taking on hire the oil rigs for our exploration work. The hire charges are really exorbitant. I understand that a sum of Rs. 3600, i. e. 300 dollars are paid as hire charges per day. You can imagine the foreign exchange drain involved in this. Two days back I came across a news item that the ONGC is going to buy helicopters from a British company and a contract has been signed between the Helicopter Corporation of India and that British company. Instead of going in for Helicopters, if ONGC buys outright the oil rigs we will be able to save several hundreds of crores of rupees in foreign exchange. You will agree with me that priority should be given to oil rigs, rather than for helicopters. I

[Shri R. Jeevarathinam]

demand that the hon. Minister should look into this suggestion and do the needful to purchase oil rigs.

Before I conclude, I would like to point out that the agriculturists owning pumpsets and the fishermen owning small power-driven vessels are affected by the increase in the price of diesel oil. I suggest that diesel oil should be supplied at a subsidised rate to the agriculturists owning pumpsets and the fishermen having small power-driven boats.

If the Government is keen to curb the consumption of petroleum products, I would like to suggest that a quota of petrol and diesel should be fixed for the Central Government, for the Central Public Sector undertakings, for the State Governments and for the State Government undertakings. The Petroleum Ministry should set an example first for others to emulate if consumption of petrol is to be reduced substantially. With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI B. K. GADHVI (Banaskantha) : Mr. Chairman, we are discussing one of the very important sources of energy and, therefore, when we consider the demands for this Petroleum Ministry, we will have to examine the demands and also the policy not only from the point of view of the coming year but we will also have to take into account the importance of this source of energy in the human and national development. As the report goes, it has been predicted that within two decades perhaps this fossil mineral oil would not be available to the world and, therefore, the entire world is brooding over the problem as to how we can develop the renewable source of energy. The non-conventional source of energy, petroleum, is a very important source of energy. We are fortunate that in our country particularly after Assam, in Ankleswar, in Cambay, in Bombay High we struck good oil. I am very happy to note that thrust is being given for more exploration and exploitation of this mineral oil. But still there may be resource constraint—I admit.

But more efforts are needed because there are so many potential fields where even the survey which could have been done properly is yet to be done. In very many areas of the country seismic survey has been done, but, in my humble submission, that survey has not been done as accurately as it should have been done. Ultimately what is petroleum? It is the product from the fossils which are lying underground millions of years ago. It is a fossil formation. We know that sometimes there may be sea in some parts of the land. Particularly, I mention the Rann of Kutch. I think one or two wells were dug in the Rann of Kutch or in some parts of Kutch. In my district of Banaskantha also it is stated that many years ago there was sea. If proper survey is made, I am confident that some positive results would have emerged.

As far as the exploration of the Bombay High is concerned, we know that it is being followed on a scientific basis. At the same time we cannot exploit all the wells. That potentiality is there. Anyway towards the south of the present oil field in Bombay High more efforts are needed and more wells need to be drilled. It is criticised by the Opposition that when the prices in the international market are going down, we are increasing the prices of our petroleum products. It may be because of valid reason.

Ours is a two-pronged attack on petroleum. One is more production and second is consumption. On two fronts we are fighting. But so far as the production side is concerned apart from the exploration and refinement by establishing various refineries at various places of the country, the products themselves need to be made in such a way that chances of adulteration are less. I would like to ask the hon. Minister one question. When we think in terms of advanced technology and research, are we not in a position to make a colour kerosene. A lot of adulteration goes on with kerosene. When the question of price hike in kerosene comes, it is said that it hits the poor man. But, at the same time, kerosene is also being used for adulteration to a large extent. The petrol is adulterated. Sometimes even the diesel is adulterated. And what are the consequences? It affects the vehicles. It affects the

efficiency of the vehicles, the consumption of petrol, the consumption of fuel. In that case, if we look to this aspect from the angle of the national loss or from the angle of cost benefit ratio, then this adulteration causes a very great loss to all of us. Therefore, the time has come when the Ministry should seriously find out a way where one product cannot be adulterated with another and suitable colourisation or something of that sort is done.

I am surprised that our efforts with regard to non-conventional sources of energy and renewable sources of energy are very much less. Let us take gas. Apart from petrol, that is also an energy. I am putting this question only because here is a Ministry, the Petroleum Ministry where there could be developed a Research and Development Wing which may take into consideration not only research on petroleum products but also other products which could be substituted for petrol, diesel and kerosene.

I would submit that we always try to import the technology from abroad for drilling—it may be onshore or offshore. We are developing our own technology, no doubt about it. But we accept the world standards and methods. We say we cannot exploit oil from a particular well to the extent of 100 per cent. The world figure says it can be exploited to the extent of 60 per cent. Sometimes they say that it can be exploited to the extent of 40 per cent by the water injection system, by the French System and so many other systems. But on this front also, I think, we should have our own independent research machinery because we have seen Bombay High where tremendous efforts are being put in by these people who are on the high seas, exposed to all health hazards; away from their families and deserve our congratulations. Whether they are big or small, to a large extent, they have brought out this country from the woods. Presently those people who are working—whether they are small or big, whether they are Defence Forces—their contribution in petroleum production is also note-worthy. In that case—India being such a vast country, and the potentialities being great—I would urge that more efforts must be put in because of the history of this petroleum exploration is very curious.

Once upon a time, the Americans surveyed Indian shores—on-shore and off-shore—and they gave a report that there is no petrol available. Thereafter the Russians came and they said petrol is available. We put in efforts and found that petrol was available. You can take the history. You have given contracts in the past to the persons of the Western countries. In half-way, they have thrown away the contracts and went out by putting in over billions of dollars. Now, from the same fields, we are getting petrol also. My point is that our own research and development is a must because the diverse interests have also given divergent reports about the availability and potentialities of these petroleum products. Therefore, our objective is to look into this aspect. We should have our own decisions in future, which will have a great bearing on these aspects.

But apart from this exploration, I would like to ask you, have we been able to achieve the desired quantity of by-products of petrol? Still a lot of things need to be done because by-products of petrol are also very equally important and not only from the point of view of development of small scale industries and other industries, but also from the point of view of generating employment avenues. The more by-products, we produce, it is very good. But how many naphtha crackers have we got in the country? We have got land falls also from where we get gas, and many other commodities to help the fertilizer industry. But what is the position of our Gas? Are we in a position to utilise the entire gas produced in this country which comes out from the wells and other sources? If we cannot, then can we afford fritter away our national wealth? How much gas we are flaring up because we are not in a position to tap it. Everyday all the hon. Members say that there is an increased demand in the LPG Gas, we do not provide LPG cylinders to the people who are living in the villages. They still use the conventional fuels of dung, wood and the fire-logs. With a view to stop deforestation, and with a view to preserve this great organic manure in the villages, alternate fuel will have to be provided to them. But we are not in a position to give them gas cylinders also. On the other hand, what is our policy on it? We give licences, letters

[Shri B.K. Gadhvi]

of intents. Formally it was felt that we are not in a position to manufacture gas cylinders up to the standards then we give letters of intent to various persons and to various entrepreneurs for manufacturing the gas cylinders but still we import from abroad and those factories are not given orders. This should be looked into. Those small scale people, the poor people, have invested lakhs of rupees; they have borrowed money from banks; their factories are closed because there is no market for them. For gas cylinders, what could be the market? The only market is the Oil Corporation, and that source is closed to them. It has not expanded. I hope the Minister will look into this because we have to encourage those people also. Ultimately we have to be self-sufficient in this. They are not doing it for whatever may be the reasons; I know the reasons, but I do not want to spell them out. I would urge on the hon. Minister to examine this aspect.

Another aspect is this. I have seen the conditions of the people working in Bombay High. I have seen the conditions of the people who are working in on-shore and off-shore drilling wells. It is a very hazardous job they are doing. Recently there was a fire in Kadi Oilfield. Perhaps, in a natural way - I do not know - all of a sudden the fire got extinguished. The reports were that perhaps it might last for a longer time, but fortunately it did not. I As was saying, the people who are working there are doing a hazardous job. And what is the insurance cover given to them? To the pilots who fly aeroplanes insurance coverage is done in a big way; so is the case for the cabin crew. But to these people who are working in the oilfields, what is the insurance cover that you are giving? Do you think that it is adequate? I would suggest that the insurance cover, this social security measure for their families, must be enhanced and if need be, you must pay the premium for them.

Another point I want to make is concerning my State. So far as Class III and Class IV employees are concerned, in ONGC and other places, the local people should be employed. Would the hon Minister give me figures as to how many local

people have been employed at these places? It is your own direction that local people should be employed in Class III and Class IV posts. But this is not being followed by your own Department. There is a lot of resentment among the people that even for Class III and Class IV posts the local people are not employed and people are brought from outside. This leads to dissatisfaction and so many other repercussions.

So far as royalty is concerned, Gujarat and Assam have been demanding royalty. Gujarat has been demanding since very long. You are increasing the prices at the well-head level. Why is it that this royalty grant to Gujarat is not being cleared for such a long time? For development our share is there and we must get it. Every day we are told that it is on the verge of being cleared, it is being cleared, it is almost cleared and so on. But nothing has happened. I would, therefore, urge that, so far as royalty to Gujarat is concerned the problem should be cleared; I would demand that the royalty should be at least 20 per cent. The royalty they are giving is on such an artificial price that they do not take into consideration the real price they are getting for oil. I would say that it should be at least in consonance with the market price or selling price of this.

I would submit that particularly in the western parts of the country, in Rajasthan and Gujarat we have got a little strata from Pakistan side at the same level as Sui fields and others. Near Barmer and Jaisalmer we can do something more. Because they are the desert areas, the amenities are less, the facilities are less. There are sometimes drinking water problems. Therefore, your teams of survey and exploration do not prefer to stay there for a longer time, so that results could be achieved.

Therefore, I would urge that the western Rajasthan should be explored and the northern Gujarat areas where you have found beautiful oil fields in Mehsana and Kalol should be explored. They are the finest oil fields. In north Gujarat areas also brodering Pakistan, Vav, Tharad and Sanchor and other taluks, and tehails, a little more efforts have to be pu in.

You have to talk to the State Government. Sometimes we are drilling wells.

After drilling we don't find oil. Many times from these wells only water could be explored. Wherever such wells fail for oil then you don't take out the pipes. The pipes are always there, they are not extracted back. Such wells should be handed over for the purpose of drinking water, Substitution and better utilisation should be done. The Ministry, in consultation with the State Government should examine this point and if it is possible they should find out some solution, so that whatever investment you have made, whatever expenditure you have incurred could be utilised for a better purpose, if not for the purpose for which the wells were dug.

With these words I support the demand of this Ministry.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I come from an oil field area, Assam, where out of the total crude oil production of about 29 million tonnes following Bombay off-shore, it produces about 5 and odd million tonnes.

We have the reputation of having the first oil refinery on which a Member on the other side also spoke. Assam produced in 1984-85 4.893 million tonnes of crude oil in comparison to Gujarat's 3.9 million tonnes and 2.050 billion standard cubic metre of gas in comparison to 0.775 billion standard cubic metre of gas.

When this comparison is made, I am very sorry to state that things are still wide apart in so far as development and utilisation of the resources are concerned between these two States.

I come from Sibsagar where the ONGC has its Eastern Regional Headquarters. The Petroleum Ministry's annual report for this year is presented in a very attractive way which certain good aspects—there is no doubt about it—because beginning with just 0.03 million tonnes, ONGC is now producing 2.5 million tonnes and the target at the end of the 7th Plan would be about 4 million tonnes. Now, of this total production of oil, Assam is destined to get three refineries in number, which, however, has been allowed to refine only 2.12 million tonnes. That means the bulk of the oil that we produce is refined by refineries situated outside this State. There are seven refineries which produce

and refine more than what all the refineries in Assam are allowed to refine. There is Koyali refinery with 7.5 million tonnes capacity. There is Mathura refinery with 6 million tonnes capacity. There are five or six refineries outside Assam which produce more than the total refining capacity of all the refineries in Assam. This is a cruel proposition. This would not have happened in any other State except Assam. In the Ministry's report we find no plan to modernise and expand the Dighoi refinery which is the first refinery of India. Gauhati is proposed to be modernised by setting apart Rs. 8.7 crores. We thank the Minister for that but what harm has this refinery at Dighoi committed that nothing whatsoever has been planned to expand and modernise it. Don't we require in the country's interest to avail of 85 years of expertise in oil refining and marketing and other ancillary industries? There is a proposed under-current going on to even cut across what now remains at Assam Oil Division in the Indian Oil Corporation. We very much resent this proposal by which the Assam Oil Company division is to be totally submerged with the big IOC. In all our planning, socio-economic aspect has to be borne in mind. Therefore, we very fervently hope that the Petroleum Ministry will certainly not take into account any plan which will go to jeopardise the identity, tradition and expertise of the AOC refinery at Dighoi.

Sir, there are about eight to ten research centres for research on petroleum, natural gas and oil products in the whole of the country. You will be surprised to know that there has not been a single research centre—not even a sub-centre—in the whole of the North Eastern region which produces a good quantity of petroleum products. I feel that the Ministry should do something to establish a petroleum and gas research institute somewhere in the North Eastern region and more particularly in Assam.

Now a word about recruitment. In the ONGC's account of activities in the Eastern region it was shown that having by 80 per cent of local employees has it contributed to the regional development. It is a very good reading no doubt but as has been pointed out earlier I give certain figures which

[Shri Parag Chaliha]

speak for themselves. In the Eastern region of ONGC the number of Class I officers is 1843 of which only 227 are locals. In Class II the number is 805 and the locals are 597. It is not a bad ratio. In Class III the figure is 6536 out of which 5503 are shown as locals. In Class II, 2206 is the total figure and out of that 2031 are the local people.

I would also like to mention that there are many people, in hundreds, who belong to other places, places somewhere outside the State, but somehow they manage to get their names entered in the local exchanges. They are also taken and shown as local people having employment in the ONGC.

Then, there is a very interesting aspect. In class I cadre, the sanctioned strength in the eastern zone was 1281 and as against this number, 1893 officers were working, which means an excess of 612. Why? Same is the case in respect of Class II officers. Whereas the total sanctioned strength was 625, at the moment there exist 757 class II officers; an excess of 132. Why is it so? In Class III and Class IV, the position is reverse. In Class II, the total sanctioned strength was 6689, whereas the number of those employed is 6522, a shortfall of 167. Same is the case in Class IV. While the total sanctioned strength was 2536, the number of persons actually employed is 2218, a shortfall of 318. Why.

I stand here with all sense of responsibility and I say that even drivers and orderlies in my area, ONGC Shivsagar, have been taken from outside the State. Why this discrimination?

We have been given to understand that recruitment of Class III and Class IV personnel through local agencies has been stalled since Mid 1985 by the local Commission people. However, the other day the hon. Minister in a written reply to my query told me that recruitment through the local agencies has not been stopped. I have written to the hon. Minister of Petroleum also to look into this matter and see that we are not treated like this by the local officers. This has caused a great resentment and I am sure, the Petroleum Minister will very kindly look into this and favour me with his observations.

We demand that recruitment to Class III and Class IV personnel by interviews held locally by Regional Selection Board be ensured. The advertisement for such posts should be given in all the local papers of the State or region. We also demand that recruitment to Class I and Class II services, barring technical and specialised posts, should be reserved for people belonging to the particular area at least to the extent of forty per cent.

About royalty much has been said. This royalty of Rs. 41 per metric tonne was raised to Rs. 61 per metric tonne when the price of crude was only Rs. 305.40 per metric tonne. A revision was due in 1984. Now the crude oil has risen from Rs. 305 to Rs. 1382 per metric tonne, 400 per cent rise, but the royalty is still the same; Rs. 61 per metric tonne for both Assam and Gujarat. Why are these two States being deprived of a very valid, genuine and justifiable source of revenue? The Minister of Petroleum may kindly look into it and help us.

Now, about gas. ONGC and Oil India have been producing associated gas for the last two decades. In fact, Oil India flares up gas upto 30 per cent. Whereas the ONGC flares up more than 80 per cent. But the flaring up percentage in Oil India is just 30 per cent. Why is it so? And both ONGC and Oil India flare up about 800 million standard cubic metres of gas per year, which is more than the total gas produced in Gujarat, which is 755 million standard cubic metres. It means that we are burning 2 million standard cubic metres of gas daily in the oil fields of Assam, which is equivalent to losing or burning Rs. 40 lakhs daily, Rs. 12 crores monthly and as high a figure as Rs. 144 crores annually. All this money is burnt out.

In 1982, the Government of India constituted a Gas Task Force for laying 1700 KM of gas pipeline at a cost of Rs. 1750 crores to provide for six giant fertilizer factories in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. We welcome this and we are very glad that this big project is taken up. But no plan whatsoever exists for utilising the huge amount of gas in the Assam region. We therefore, demand that the Gas Authority of India should have plans for utilising the gas that is being

burnt in Assam area because an integrated gas project for Eastern Region is under contemplation as is evident from the report of the Ministry of Petroleum.

We are also told that the ONGC is planning a gas-based industry in Farakka. We wonder what harm the people of Assam have committed. Huge amounts of gas are being burnt in Assam and a part of it is being taken to outside Assam, leaving nothing whatsoever to be taken up as a project in Assam to utilise the gas that is being burnt there. We, therefore, demand that some plan to utilise the gas that is being burnt in Assam, should be taken up immediately.

I would like to draw your attention to another factor. Only the other day, the Minister gave us to understand that only 10,000 cubic metres of gas is to be sent to the Fertilizer Corporation of India in Namrup, ASB and some other tea gardens. It is really funny. The House would perhaps be surprised to know that the ONGC's colony in Sibsagar where some 5,000 people reside, has not been able to get a gasline, although the project was proposed to be undertaken six or seven years back. We do not have any gasline in Sibsagar, although Digboi and Duliajan people have some facilities. Therefore, I demand that immediate steps should be taken to provide gas for domestic purposes by laying the gasline in Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat and other oil bearing areas

A petro-chemical complex has already started in Gujarat. We are very glad to know that. But why not in Assam? We demand that something should be done to start a petro-chemical complex in Assam also. (*Interruptions*)

In the year 1984-85, the profit of the ONGC was Rs. 1627.41 crores, Out of that, Rs. 325 crores were paid as dividend to the Government. But nothing whatsoever has been done for developing the oil bearing areas of Assam, particularly in Sibsagar. In the name of regional development, a few electric lights have been installed in government residential areas along the Sibsagar Tank. We strongly feel that something has got to be done to physically develop the oil bearing town of Sibsagar and also other towns.

The erstwhile Minister and the connoisseur of the ONGC, Shir K.D. Malaviya spoke as early as in 1956 that the face of Sibsagar would change and that it would become an oil town. Almost 21 years are over and nothing has been done to improve Sibsagar. We know Sir, the present Petroleum Minister has got vast experience and particularly the Chief Minister of Bihar, which is also a backward State. And we have every reason to believe that the present Petroleum Minister will look into the state of affairs in Assam where we have very rich potentiality, but we are very poor. Therefore, we invite the hon. Minister to visit Shivsagar because one visit was already cancelled, I do not know for what reason and why. Therefore, he should go over there and see the things for himself, how backward they are how still they are deprived and how still they are denied the oil bearing areas of Assam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The following cut motions given notice of by Sarvashri K. Ramachandra Reddy and Parag Chalia are treated as moved:

By whom moved	Cut motion Nos,
Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy	1 to 18
Shri, Parag Chalia	25 to 36

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to locate the headquarters of ONGC in Andhra Pradesh instead of Madras.] (1)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to utilise fully the amount allotted for ONGC for the year 1985-86.] (2)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Slippage in capital acquisition programme of ONGC.] (3)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy]

[Reduction of target of crude oil production in 1985-86 from 30.14 million tons to 29.94 million tons.] (4)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Low target of 30.21 million tons of crude in 1986-87 inspite of increasing the B.S. and I.E.B.R. from 2996.68 crores to 3216 crores in the budget.] (5)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to avoid delay in constructing Hazaria-Bijapur-Jagdispur (HBJ) Gas Pipeline Project.] (6)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the import of crude oil and the cost on imports.] (7)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[The price hike in petroleum products and crude oil even though there is crash in their prices in international markets.] (8)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to expedite the exploration and exploitation of oil and natural gas reserves in Andhra Pradesh.] (9)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check the price hike in LPG cylinders for giving relief to the middle class people.] (10)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to control the flaring up of gases and oil in the exploratory oil wells in Bombay and other places.] (11)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check the pilferage of gas and oil] (12)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide jobs to family members of farmers whose lands have been acquired by ONGC.] (13)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to pay sufficient compensation to the farmers whose lands have been acquired by ONGC.] (14)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by 100."

[Need to take steps to check breakdown of oil refineries in the country.] (15)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to make proper utilisation of huge profits made by ONGC and OIL.] (16)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to expedite the exploration and exploitation of the oil struck in Godavari offshore.] (17)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up an oil refinery at or around Godavari offshore drilling in Andhra Pradesh.] (18)

PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to instal an oil refinery near the oil producing areas of Upper Assam.] (25)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to expand and modernise the country's first Oil Refinery at Digboi (A.O.C.)] (26)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to retain the identity of the erstwhile A.O.C.—now an I.O.C. Division—engaged in the projected re-organisation in I.O.C. Administration *vis-a-vis* Assam.] (27)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to utilise huge profits in ONGC in physical and environmental development of oil field town of Sibsagar in Assam.] (28)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to establish a petrochemical complex in oil producing areas of upper Assam.] (29)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to utilise fully the natural gas which has so far been wasted in flaring up in Assam by ONGC and OIL] (30)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to utilise natural gas of about 2 million standard cubic metres per day by O. N. G. C. and O. I. L.] (31)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide Gas line connections to O. N. G. C. residential areas and oil producing areas of Sibsagar, Dibrugarh and Jorhat districts in Assam.] (32)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide suitable employment to qualified local people in oil producing areas of upper Assam.] (33)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs 100."

[Need to raise royalty on crude oil to Rupees 336 per tonne as demanded by the State Government of Assam.] (34)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to establish a Research and Development Institute in Assam.] (35)

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to pay adequate compensation to agriculturists, whose lands have been damaged by constant and huge quantity of refinery effluent.] (36)

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the earlier opportunity to speak. I stand to support the Demands for Budget Grants of Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry.

So far as Petroleum and Natural Gas are concerned, I am sure, the hon. Minister is heaving a sigh of relief because for very number of days, he has been the focus of national agitation over price rise. As probably Shah Bano and now Sobhraj have come to his rescue and the attention of the nation has been diverted from the problem of price rise. We all realise that the price rise has been necessitated because of the reasons best known to the Government and of course, the hon. Minister. But, so far as the problems which the price rise has created, I through you, Mr. Chairman, wish to submit the difficulties which people are facing and the difficulties which the hon. Minister will have to not only face, but I am sure, solve in the coming years.

So far as kerosene oil is concerned, it has definitely turned a very dark corner, so far as the rural areas are concerned. I represent a purely rural constituency and kerosene oil is basically the energy giving object in villages. And the price rise of kerosene oil, although from the Ministry point of view has been minimal, but it has cut across very adversely in the budget of poor homes. So, far as the price rise of diesel is concerned it has definitely made

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

and created a very serious situation for the agriculturists. The hon. Minister is aware, he is one of the most learned Ministers and experienced Ministers, we have here in this House, that we are going towards the complete mechanisation so far as agriculture is concerned. So diesel is virtually the life line of improvement of agriculture.

So far as the price rise of diesel is concerned, it has definitely affected the cost and now in agriculture. Only the other day, Mr. Chairman, we were discussing the drought conditions, the product of agriculturists, either the quantity or quality affected by natural calamities and stating that the subsidies or the protective price given by the Government does not necessarily protect the interests to that extent to which it should and, on top of that, if we raise the cost of inputs like the basic input of diesel, it definitely affects, and it adversely affects, the motivation of agriculturists towards going for mechanised agriculture which is a must, which is the need of the day. Even for urban bus and local train commuters because of the cost of diesel going up, the cost of the DTC has gone up, the cost of the other buses is also going up.

15.00 hrs.

And even the plane fares are going up. These prices going up has created a situation, where people are worried. I would request the hon. Minister that a second look should be given—or, I should say a third look should be given. because a second look was given five days after the price rise, and a relief was given. But there is an urgent need to have a third look, and to reduce the prices of kerosene, diesel and petrol, in that order.

So far as petrol is concerned, the maximum users are either Government vehicles, Corporation vehicles or public sector undertakings' vehicles. By raising prices, all that you are doing is to transfer a bigger amount from one Ministry to the Petroleum Ministry. The answer would be to enforce strict discipline on expenditure on petrol and oil products on these vehicles. Today, you find that the maximum number of vehicles used during working hours and more so, during non-working

hours in the district headquarters throughout India, are the Government vehicles. If Government vehicles are stopped I am sure a very appreciable decrease in Government expenditure on petrol, oil and lubricants would result, thereby bringing about economy which the Government is trying to enforce.

The second problem which is affecting everybody is adulteration of petrol, and absence of Acts under which deterrent punishments could be given. We had the same situation when we were dealing with drug addiction. I am glad a Bill was brought in this House, and now the drug addiction or drug trafficking is on the decline. In the same manner, I would request the hon. Minister to give a thought to this, and see that a separate Bill is enacted, under which deterrent punishments will be given to adulterators. Simply cancelling the agency or cancelling the permit is not enough, because he can always operate in somebody else's name. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to give attention to this particular aspect.

So far as cooking gas is concerned, besides the price rise, the main problem faced by every household and every housewife is that the cylinders are either half-filled, or they are secondary, as it is called. Not only have you raised the price, but the number of half-filled cylinders is increasing. So, basically the problem has doubled. If you have increased the price, the least that you can do is that through the gas agencies, it must be ensured that cylinders are filled fully, and there is no black-marketing in them. There have been cases where honest people who are LPG agents have been harassed.

I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that in connivance with the IOC officials, their agents and the transporters, there is a vicious gang indulging in black-marketing in cooking gas. This must be busted, because wherever a person who has got the agency for LPG connections does not toe their line, his agency is adversely affected. There has been a case in Delhi where an ex-Serviceman who was given this agency for LPG, has been harassed. His agency has been suspended. He was told that his quota of cylinders would be increased. So, he bought some

more cylinders. But not only was the quota not increased, but his agency was also cancelled, only because he did not toe the line of the IOC officials and the transporters who used to indulge in gas black-marketing. I am sure the hon. Minister will look into this problem.

Another problem is about giving of LPG agency and petrol dealership to War widows, to War-disabled, ex-service men and to various ex-service men cooperative societies. There is a procedure laid down for these agencies and petrol dealership, or petrol pumps which are given to various people. I personally feel, when we are trying to help through this Ministry, war casualty, war disabled or war widows, we should basically support a person who has not got the means to give as much surety as possible as a normal desirous persons can give. Neither he nor she has the capacity to run from pillar to post, from office to office to fulfil various procedural requirements. I would, therefore, suggest that a committee should be formed in the Ministry where some people from the Defence Rehabilitation Directorate should be incorporated as members and they should monitor as to how many people are being given these agencies. There is a quota laid down for both these categories, but that quota is never completed because of procedural wrangles and people from these two categories, ex-service men and war widows, get discouraged while they are half way through the system of asking for the agencies. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to seriously consider it, and if you wish to give ex-service men a welfare benefit measure, then you must give it in a practical manner; simply giving it on paper is not enough; they must be protected from these various procedural wrangles.

I have been writing to various agencies and various officers in the Ministries. I get a reply, "Please ask the applicant to look for the advertisement in the papers and when he goes through the advertisement in the paper, he should apply accordingly". That is no measure of expression or actually doing welfare for a particular ex-service man.

I am very glad that the then Petroleum Minister, Shri G. S. Mishra, had got an

LPG bottling plant initiated in my district, Jabalpur; and that bottling plant is being constructed at a fairly slow pace. We are looking forward to that plant coming up, because that is going to help favourably our industrialisation of the district rural region. I will request the hon. Minister to ensure that it is expeditiously completed; and whatever ancillaries have to come up, they must also be encouraged. But it has been given in the Report of the Public Sector Enterprises; it has also been given in the aims and objects of the Seventh Five Year Plan and it has also been given in the Report of the Industry Ministry that the aim of having ancillaries is to create regional balances and to remove regional imbalances. Industrially speaking, this is prevalent in the country today. I request the hon. Minister that, whatever ancillaries connected with this LPG Plant coming up in Jabalpur District, they must be given to local entrepreneurs they must be encouraged to open ancillaries; and the parent ancillary, the parent industry must protect them, must guide them; whatever class, III, IV, II and even I. They all must be taken from the local people. There is a reason given when local people are not to be taken, that a particular area has not got enough people who have got the requisite qualifications. Now, qualification can always be suited for a particular man. In case a suitable person is not available, then the post must be kept vacant till they get a person who is qualified, but he must be a local person. In this way, not only the industrial imbalance of the region will be removed, but also if you wish that from the industrial point of view, places like Bihar and other of which the hon. Minister had been the Chief Minister, U.P. Madhya Pradesh, which are considered backward States—they must come up—then you must ensure that a certain amount of relaxation is given so that local people do come up in industries and not that we get people from outside every time on the pretext that enough qualified people are not available in the local places.

Sir, in the end I will only try to congratulate the hon. Minister that the production of oils and natural gases and the exploration work have been going on a very sound footing and the Minister and the Ministry deserves compliments

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

and congratulations. And I am very glad that we are all having the niceties of having our own gas, our own petroleum products and the whole nation is happy. But so far as the prices are concerned, in that area of administered prices, some re-thinking must be done and the hon. Minister can help the agriculturists and the other rural people if he can help them by reducing the prices.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I welcome the demands and express my views on them.

Petroleum products lead the country to the path of all round development and progress. But the recent hike in the petroleum products has affected many fields of activity in the country. The rise in the prices of diesel, kerosene and fertilizers has affected the farmers very adversely. The farmers want to adopt modern techniques in agriculture. Some of them use tractors for which diesel is essential. The rise in the prices of fertilizers has created problems to the farmers throughout the country. Kerosene is used by all the poor people. The hike in kerosene price has pinched these poor people. There is shortage of electricity in the country. Hence many people have set up their own generator sets for their industries. Captive generation scheme has become popular everywhere. For all these purposes diesel is a must. I request the hon. Minister to fix up quota to the farmers and to provide them diesel at a concessional rate.

Hon. Shri Krishna Iyer has already mentioned about the Mangalore refinery. Former Union Petroleum Minister had stated in this august House about setting up of Mangalore refinery. The present Minister has said that many proposals are coming forward to set up this refinery in joint sector. The hon. Minister also said that the non-resident Indians investments would also be utilised for this purpose and the first phase of the refinery would be completed in a few years. But I regret to state

that nothing has been mentioned about this refinery in Ministry's report. There is no allocation of money. Therefore, I expect that the hon. Minister would state the exact position about this refinery in his reply. I hope that he will not show step motherly attitude to the State of Karnataka so far as the refinery is concerned.

Due to scarcity of electricity many industries are at the verge of closure in my State. In the capital city of Bangalore the situation is very bad. Therefore the State Govt. wants to set up a 120 megawatt gas turbine plant. The State Govt. has also written to the Centre in this regard to supply adequate diesel. Hence I humbly plead with the hon. Minister to provide required quantity of diesel to Karnataka. On one side there is great demand for diesel by the farmers and on the other side transport system in the country is mainly depending upon diesel. The Government should take proper steps to meet the increased demand of diesel.

Adulteration is a serious malady that is prevailing throughout the country. Earlier some of the hon. Members have referred to this malady. Petrol, diesel and kerosene are adulterated. For example in some cases it has been found that if we take diesel from the tank and store it in the barrel we can see about 2 ft. of water at the bottom. Adulterated diesel and petrol spoil the machinery and diesel pumps. There is black market to a large extent in the sale of petrol. Some of the dealers openly say that they do not get any profit if they do not adulterate diesel and petrol. I want to ask the hon. Minister about the steps taken by the Govt. to curb this adulteration. This malady cannot be cured merely by cancelling the licences. But severe punishment has to be given to those involved in this unscrupulous activity of adulteration.

Regarding the sanction of gas connections there are some restrictions. The Govt. should be liberal in this regard it should provide more and more gas connections to the rural areas. Otherwise if the villagers continue to use wood as fuel the nation will be losing its forest wealth. If we have to protect our green forests each and every village in the country must get the facility of gas connections. Sometimes the cylinders

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

are filled fully and on many occasions the cylinders are not filled fully. On one hand the price of gas has increased and on the other the cylinders contained less gas. Who are responsible for this type of cheating? The Govt. should identify the persons involved in such activities and they should be punished,

The dealers of diesel and petrol especially on national highways many times say that neither petrol nor diesel is available in the petrol bank. Sometimes the customers have to wait for days together to get petrol. There are some dealers who indulge in hoarding of diesel and petrol. When there is scarcity they would sell these commodities at a higher price. The Govt. has to take stern action against such dealers. There are many complaints about the black marketing of petrol in the country.

Once again I would like to urge upon our hon. Minister to set up Mangalore refinery very soon. The Govt. has to encourage joint sectors and provide sufficient money for this purpose. Similarly, the gas turbine plant has to be set up in Bangalore immediately. The farmers should get the diesel at a concessional rate and special quota must be fixed for them. Then only the green revolution will be a great success and our country will march towards progress and prosperity,

With these words, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to express my views and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA (Hoshangabad) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, I rise to support the demands of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for 1986-87..... (Interruptions) We shall definitely support and your duty is merely to oppose without applying your mind. You do that because none can check you from opposing nor anybody can check us from supporting.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : You have taken a positive stand. Why are you supporting them?

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Thank you. At least you have applied your mind. I do not want to say much about

what those who are sitting opposite us say, I have not been in politics since long but ever since I entered politics, I have been observing that it has become a practice for them to oppose everything, whether it is good or otherwise people will not care for them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Leave all this and talk about dynamic leadership.

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Certainly I shall speak about that. You also will have to accept it and you are accepting it outside the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Don't follow their directions. Go on in your own way.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Mr. Chatterjee may or may not admit it but it is a fact that a few years back our country had to import all the petroleum products from other countries. Hon. Minister and all the officials, from top to bottom, of this department deserve appreciation for it that today 75 per cent of the petroleum products are being produced within our country and we are saving a large amount of foreign exchange of our country. They deserve congratulations for this.

I have personally seen in Bombay High the difficult conditions under which our officials are engaged in increasing the production of petroleum products of our country. It cannot be imagined while sitting here. Today there are more than one crore L.P.G. connections in our country and big network is there all over the country. Still shortage of gas is being felt. One of the reasons for it is that our natural gas is going waste at a fast speed. We should utilise that, so that the problem of shortage of gas in the country may be solved.....(Interruptions).....

We all should congratulate the department that now the crude oil production has reached 30 million tonnes per year against 10 million tonnes earlier.

Similarly, all the extracted crude oil is being refined. Mr. Chatterjee will agree to this also that from the workers to our Prime Minister, all deserve congratulations for this,

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : In spite of the Minister's inefficiency, that is increasing because of the technologists;

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : I would also like to say that the petroleum products being exploited from Bombay High are costly. From security point of view also that site is not safe. I would like to submit to the hon minister that rich deposits of crude oil and natural gas are likely to be found in Satpuda Basin. Besides, there is also a place named Anhoni in my area which has already been surveyed. Gas is likely to be found there also. That place has sediments from three to six kilometres and has various hot waters springs where there is every likelihood of oil and natural gas being found. If we undertake exploration work there, it is certain that most of the shortage of these products in the country can be met from this area

The cost of petroleum products being extracted from Bombay High goes up when they are transported to other parts of the country because Bombay High is located at so far off a place. I would request the hon. Minister to exploit the Satpuda Basin to the maximum. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Members who spoke before me have drawn the attention of the Government to the rising prices of petrol and L.P.G. It is a fact that the prices of all these products have increased, thereby hitting the consumers. Appreciating the fact, I would request the hon. Minister to effect reduction in the prices of these products. The Government have already reduced the prices by 40 per cent, but there is still need to effect more reduction. This will greatly benefit the farmer community which uses diesel oil. At the same time, it would also help those poor people who use kerosene oil. You deserve congratulations for giving subsidy of 71 paise per litre on kerosene.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : I rise on a point of

order. The Minister is not available in the House,

MR. CHAIRMAN : Some other Minister is present and taking notes. There is no point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA : Even today, the Government are giving a subsidy of Rs. 13 on a gas cylinder. Due to this high rate of subsidy, the Government have to spend Rs.600 crores on this account, thus bearing a heavy burden. It is, perhaps, due to this reason that the Government have raised the prices of petroleum products.

According to my information, many people manage to get *benami* allotment of L.P.G. and petrol outlets reserved for the Harijans, Adivasis and other unemployed youth because the relevant rules in this regard require some deposits to be made. Coupled with this, the rules also require it to be seen whether the applicant has a place for godown whether he has a place for an outlet or has a space for constructing a showroom. The Harijans and Adivasis are unable to fulfil all these prerequisites and, therefore, with a view to meeting these pre-conditions, the Harijans and Adivasis have to take the support of big men and, thus, though the agency runs in the name of a poor Harijan or Adivasi but, in practice it is managed by some other big gun. Therefore, through you, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister to make some provision in this regard under which the unemployed Harijan-Adivasi youths could get loan so as to enable them to get L.P.G. agency or a petrol outlet. This would help liquidate *benami* business automatically.

There is another point to which I want to draw the attention of the Government. Last time, when I went to see the Bombay High, I found that the entire helicopter fleet with them had been taken on hire. We can raise a helicopter fleet of our own from the hire charges that we would be paying for two or three years. Therefore, why should we not raise our own fleet? Similarly, the oil rigs have been taken on hire from the multi-national companies. If we could have our own rigs, more oil can be extracted and safety measures can also be

strengthened. As of now, the rigs are owned by the multi-national companies and they are not extracting oil as much as they should, besides charging very high amounts of money. Attention is required to be paid to this also.

With these words, I again support the Demand for Grant.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Honourable Chairman, Sir, while taking part in the discussion, I want to lodge a strong protest.....

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARI (Katwa) ; To get supply of diesel ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Sir, they are not serious, they should not be allowed to speak.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Why ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : We are serious.

Sir, I want to lodge a protest because time and again I have taken up the issue that supply of diesel to Sangrur is not there. Especially during the reaping period of rabi and sowing period, the same period, of the khariff, the supply of diesel is not given or is stopped with the result the hard working peasantry and kisans instead of working in the field, are compelled to stand in long queues at the petrol stations resulting heavy loss of man hours. Sir, I humbly request.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You keep the request until the Minister comes.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Mr. Ansari is there. Sir, on a previous occasion I raised the issue and requested the Minister. But the Minister did not give an ear to me on that day. I again put a question, he did not even listen to me. My problem is not only that of a State. The supply of diesel to Punjab, Haryana and all other areas of Rajasthan and U.P.—the agricultural belt—is a

national problem and a national need. So, I hope, there will be a regular supply of diesel to the agriculturists of Punjab and Haryana. With the mechanised agricultural approach throughout Punjab the consumption of diesel has increased. Wherever agriculture has been mechanised, the consumption of fertiliser and diesel is bound to increase. With the hike in prices, the hope of the farming community to have remunerative price seems to have a finally died. They are disappointed and this disappointment can lead to bitterness and frustration. The Government should think of subsidising the petroleum products which are required for agricultural sector.

There is another important factor. In Punjab I have this experience. The Minister should seriously consider this view of mine. In one village, there are 40 or 50 tractors. There are many villages in Punjab which have 80 or 100 tractors in one village. But all these 100 tractors are to go to the city in the morning to get their tanks filled with diesel. They go in the morning, at least 50 km s. to the city and come back again 50 kms. losing half of the working day and also losing petrol or diesel or fuel which is burnt away while running. Therefore, I urge upon the Minister to kindly make arrangements to put at least one diesel outlet in every village of Punjab and Haryana and other areas. I will also request the hon. Minister to make provision of extra storage of diesel and other fuel commodities in all the States which are primarily agricultural States.

Regarding LPG and cooking gas agency, every Member of the House, whoever spoke either from this side or that side, has complained about the behaviour of the dealers or gas agencies. I have also some experience in my constituency at Sangrur. There are only two gas agencies, though it is a big town. One agency, namely Bharat Gas agency is behaving very roughly to every customer, and the complaint of underweight cylinder is common in that town. This cannot be controlled with the present structure. I would therefore humbly urge upon the Minister to give some powers to State Governments to punish such persons.

Chandigarh is the capital of Punjab and Haryana God knows what is wrong and where is wrong. After every six months,

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

the supply of LPG is disturbed. The Minister should ensure that supply of LPG to Chandigarh and Punjab should also be regularised. I also urge upon the Government to open a new oil dump at Sangrur. The adulteration is spoiling the whole structure and economy of the agriculturists. I belong to the agricultural family. The menace of adulteration has become so serious, suppose a farmer purchases a new diesel pump just today and the diesel is adulterated, within five hours of its working, the new diesel engine which was purchased at a cost of Rs. 8,000/- is spoiled if the diesel is adulterated, the pistons and plungers are spoiled and the farmer has to take back the same engine to the repairing shop costing Rs. 3,000/- This adulteration is destroying and spoiling the engines of tractors and tubewells and diesel pumps used for bringing out water. Some effective steps with serious punishment should be taken to regularise and to stop the adulteration in the petroleum products.

The prices of fertilisers have further added to the gloom of the peasantry.

With these few words, that supply of diesel to Punjab should be regularised, that more subsidy should be given to agriculturists in the use of inputs, that some power should be given to the States to control the functioning of oil pumps and the cooking gas agencies so that they can be of better utilisation to the people and public in common, that regular supply of cooking gas should be made to Chandigarh and Punjab and that an oil pump is put up at Sangrur, I conclude my speech with many thanks to you and to my hon. colleagues.

[Translation]

SHRI G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards two or three important points only. Last week, I had gone to Dehradun and I tried to find out why oil was not being struck in spite of the fact that the work of oil exploration was going on at many places. I discussed this issue with a number of officers there and the conclusion at which I reached is quite disconcerting. They told me that whenever they came to know about the presence of oil somewhere, they started drilling, but in between these two stages there came a gap

of about three or four years. They further told me that the level of oil under the earth in our country was such that it continued travelling and did not stay at one place. They went on to say that if today we came to know that oil reserves were there at a particular place and if you went on considering whether to do exploration there or not and took three to four years to reach a conclusion, then the oil in the meantime would move from that place to another. Therefore, this is a matter of great concern which should be given a serious consideration.

When oil exploration work was started in Champaran after a great deal of efforts, the people of Bihar were very hopeful that oil would be struck there. but that was not to be. It came as a great disappointment to one and all. Now, exploration work is in progress in Madhubani. In this connection I would like to say that oil exploration work in Madhubani is not being taken that seriously. I have come to know that there are a number of impediments in it and many people do not want to give their lands on which exploration work is to be carried out and experiments are to be conducted. Besides, there are a host of local problems too. The hon. Minister had also gone there recently. What I mean to say is that oil exploration is not being taken as seriously as it should have been taken, as a result of which crores of rupees go waste every year. Moreover, when oil or gas is not struck after exploration, it causes a great disappointment to all. All these problems should be taken very seriously.

In the end, I would like to say that ours is a Welfare State. I agree that you give subsidy on LPG cylinder. I would say that you give subsidy even in the railways and other services. But the way LPG price has been raised, it has hit the common man very hard, because, the middle class and the urban people of this country have no cooking medium other than this. It has happened a number of times in this country that when the goods started becoming abundantly available, the prices of those goods were reduced I would say that one of the major contributory factor to the rise in prices is the hike in the prices of diesel, petrol and other petroleum products. I understand your compul-

sion, still I would submit that we should explore other sources of earning foreign exchange and should not increase the prices of petroleum products to such an extent that it might have a spiralling effect on the prices of other commodities.

Today, you go to the market and you will find people saying openly that the prices have gone up steeply. Very humbly I would request that the Government should give a serious thought to reducing the prices of petroleum products. In lieu thereof, they may levy additional taxes on the rich. There are other ways to plug the loopholes in your foreign exchange, but do not increase prices of petroleum products to such an extent. I had been to my constituency and there is great resentment among the people over the hike in the prices of diesel and kerosene. The people look to us with great hopes and if we cannot lessen their sufferings then who else will do it? Therefore, this point must be given a serious consideration since it affects the poor.

For many years we have been hearing that a petro-chemical complex would be set up at Barauni Refinery. Whosoever becomes the Minister, gives this assurance repeatedly, but in spite of all these assurances, the petro-chemical complex in Bihar has not come up. I would request that this matter should be considered seriously and efforts should be made to set up a petro-chemical complex in Bihar.

Another point that I want to raise is that you go to the countryside and you will not come across a single diesel or petrol pump even at quite long distances. All the Members must have had this experience that when they go to their constituencies, they are stranded on the way because of absence of any petrol or diesel pump. The people who get agencies in the names of the freedom fighters, warwidows, unemployed, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are fake because some other people run those agencies in their names. Therefore, I say that the agencies should be given to the genuine people and these should be located at short distances so that the people may not feel inconvenience.

You might be knowing about it that people mix kerosene with diesel, but I

know it from personal experience that people even mix water with diesel and still they are running their agencies. I have myself seen people mixing water with diesel. So, I would say that it is a very serious matter which should be given a serious thought.

Gas exploitation involves heavy expenditure. Have you ever thought of reducing it? I went to Dehradun where I was told that if they were provided with super-computers they would be able to locate oil and gas easily. I do not know where the matter stands with the USA but I request that if non-availability of super-computers hampers our work, then we should try to obtain them soon.

The problem of oil and gas is very serious which has shaken our entire economy. It is time to think over it coolly and explore more and more oil and gas. If we find them, then we should reduce their prices, as it will improve our economy and the poor people will also get relief.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the demands of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The achievements of O. N. G. C. should be appreciated wholeheartedly, but they have not been able to work as quickly as they should and it is not due to any fault on the part of ONGC. We have been watching their working since 1975. The fault lies with our planning. We lack proper planning since the very beginning and I feel that even now this Ministry lacks proper planning. The fact is that we are able to find gas but we do not make advance planning for the pipelines to carry that gas. We think over it only after we have found gas. For this purpose, we invite tenders from the market which takes years together and the gas worth crores of rupees has to be burnt, which is our national loss. Today also we require oil and gas in large quantity, but the ONGC cannot work with the desired speed because of the fear that they would not be having pipe lines for the new found gas. Therefore, more attention is required to be paid to this problem. There should be advance planning for this purpose. The economy of our country depends on it so, how can we afford to ignore it? I, there-

[Shri Banwari Lal Prohit]

fore, request the Government to pay special attention to it.

Another important point that I want to make is that if a well is dug in somebody's field and he is prohibited from using its water then what would be his feeling. Today huge quantity of oil and gas is being exploited from Bombay High in Maharashtra. In such a situation will it be justified not to set up a fertilizer petro-complex in Vidarbha which is a backward area of Maharashtra? This matter needs reconsideration. I had a talk with the officials of O. N. G. C.

13.52 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

They told me that they did not have any objection to that. What are we doing now-a-days? We do things under political pressure, which is not proper. When there is the genuine demand of Vidarbha, we should consider that. If we set up a fertilizer unit in the backward area of Vidarbha, it will benefit the farmers of Chhattisgarh, Mahakaushal and Vidarbha. Hon. Minister should pay special attention to it.

There is acute shortage of gas. Take for example the Nagpur city where about one lakh gas connections have been given but still 40 thousand applicants are in the queue. They all belong to the middle class and they have not been given gas connections. So, you should see how the maximum number of people can be given gas connections. I asked the hon. Minister about it and I was told that there was shortage of bottling plants. Then, why do you not instal bottling plants on war footing? You do have gas which has to be burnt but cannot reach the people. All this is due to the defective planning. You should instal more and more bottling plants on war footing and meet the requirements of fuel of the lower and medium class people.

Just now the hon. Member who spoke before me referred to kerosene. You will have to remove the evil of mixing kerosene with diesel. Government cannot remain a helpless spectator in this matter. You also must be seeing to what a large extent

kerosene is being mixed with diesel. It spoils the engine. Government receives complaints about it but they do not take any steps. It also needs serious consideration by the Government. You may mix colour or adopt any technology or fix the prices in such a manner, but it should be ensured that kerosene is not mixed with diesel. The kerosene is not available in the villages, although you supply it in huge quantities. There is the public distribution system for it but even then quarrels take place. It is sold in black market. When the hawker is caught, he stops selling kerosene. The poor people do not get kerosene at fair price throughout the country. Therefore, you will have to take steps in this regard.

O. N. G. C. has made tremendous progress. Previously 30 or 35 rigs were in operation and now 60 rigs are in operation and we think that by 1990 our country will achieve self-sufficiency, but to achieve that target you will have to work skilfully. You should provide the required infrastructures for that, so that no hindrance is caused in this work in future. Your planning is to operate 200 rigs at Bombay High by 1990. For this purpose, you should tap all the resources. If you look at the Bay of Bengal you will find that oil reserves are available there also in abundance. Like Bombay High, you will get oil in the Bay of Bengal also. You should look to that source also. As per our experience, oil can definitely be found at those place where hot water springs are found. Vidarbha has Chikaldera hill station. There also you find such hot water springs. Likewise there are hot water springs at Akola also. If you try there, you can find sufficient oil.

With these words I conclude. I hope that you will give special attention to the suggestions given by me.

MR. VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of great surprise that during the last session of Lok Sabha, the Government had announced a new economic policy in which it was stated that they would try to reduce the burden of taxes on the common man, but hardly a few months had elapsed that the Government hiked the prices of the petroleum products and thus violated their own declared policy. Earlier, whenever

there was a hike in the prices of oil and diesel, the Government used to take the plea that the prices were rising in the international market. That was how they used to justify the price-hike. They used to say that it was a compulsion for them. But at present, the price of these commodities are declining in the international market.

The prices of oil, diesel, kerosene and gas have been raised steeply. All our hon. Members have opposed this price-hike. Some people even expressed the fear that the Opposition would take advantage of it. I would like to tell you that the opposition parties had given a call for Bharat-Bandh earlier, but this time it was a historical Bharat-Bandh. There is no doubt that the opposition parties got credit for it, but it is also a fact that this time they did not have to make much efforts as they had been making previously. This time the people themselves rose against the policy of the Government. This shows that the price-hike by the Government, specially in respect of those items which are of use for the common people, be they farmers or labourers, has an adverse effect on the people of India.

15.58 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The people have strongly opposed the Government for this hike and they have risen against this step. I take it as a challenge and the Government should also take it in the same spirit, otherwise the people will rise to oppose it with greater vigour in the coming days and when the people would suffer, we shall have to support them.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you to continue still?

[Translation]

Have you finished your speech or not?

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: The bell has been rung, so I have resumed my seat. So far I have only given introduction.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You can continue tomorrow.

16.01 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE : ESCAPE OF PRISONERS FROM TIHAR JAIL ON 16TH MARCH, 1986

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we shall take up discussion under Rule 193. Prof. Madhu Dandavate to initiate the discussion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker Sir, on 17th March I sought your consent to move an adjournment motion on the question of escape of six prisoners including Charles Sobhraj from Tihar Jail. It was not just a frivolous move, to move the adjournment motion. But I felt that the entire security arrangement and the entire jail administration in Tihar Jail had collapsed and it is a major failure on the part of the Government.

I also pointed out to you Sir, that my valued colleague late barrister Nath Pai, who incidentally got elected from the same constituency which I represent, on 19th November 1983 had sought the permission of the Speaker to move an adjournment motion on the failure of the Government to prevent the escape of Daniel Walcott who was a known smuggler. The adjournment motion was admitted. The beauty of that adjournment motion was that none from the Treasury Benches objected to the adjournment motion being admitted. (Interruptions) As a result of that, there was a thorough discussion on the adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to have a much more thorough discussion now Sir. Because you will have much more facts at your command.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I was just on the point. The entire House is grateful to you Sir, though you did not feel that the adjournment motion could be admitted, you directed the Minister to make a statement at 2 o'clock. When I gave the notice for a discussion on that, you immediately admitted the motion only the next day; but it was my failure to remain present yesterday because of Patna Kranti March. I had to go there. (Interruptions) Don't be so much panicky when we utter the name revolution. If by the utterance of the name revolution you become so much panicky, what will happen if the revolution takes place!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur) : They will not be there.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am glad that you promptly admitted a discussion under Rule 193 because you too were convinced that it was a matter of urgent public importance and, therefore, a discussion should immediately be commenced under Rule 193.

A Statement has been made by the Minister of State for Home Affairs. The first responsibility after he resumed the new portfolio was to talk about the escape of the prisoners. In a very brief statement—Our Home Minister of State is known for his brevity—he had made a factual statement that at 2.50 on that day the Superintendent of Jail was informed that such and such a thing had happened, so many people had escaped. Then, he said that so many persons were drugged and as a result of that they were in a semi-conscious state. Then he stated that the jail officials are under suspension. A case is registered by the police and as usual, as any bureaucrat would do, the Minister has acted. He stated that the Lt. Governor has already ordered an inquiry into the matter by a senior officer of the administration.

I will say how the things coincide. I am told, of course it might be wrong also only two days prior to the escape, Shri Arun Nehru and the Lt. Governor of Delhi had visited that jail. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : I do not want to contradict the hon. Member but I went there over a month ago. I hope I would not have to correct the hon. Member again.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Shri Arun Nehru is a perfect gentleman. When he goes to the jail he neither goes as a satyagrahi nor does he go there in order to give final touches to the escape operations. He must have gone there in connection with his usual routine work. I am not suggesting he had gone to finalise the plans for escape.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : To make it easier,

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Afterwards, Sir, we have come to know that one of the accomplices has already surrendered.

MR. SPEAKER : Two.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : After that there is one more. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether as a result of this surrender have they been able to get any specific clues regarding the entire conspiracy that was hatched ?

Sir, at the outset I would like to say something about the background of this particular case and the background of this international criminal Sobhraj. He is an international criminal who is wanted by the Interpol. He is not only famous with the Indian police but is also international in character. His crime is of that nature. He is wanted by the Interpol. The most interesting thing is that already in Thailand, Sobhraj faces the prospect of death and since he was in India the extradition of Sobhraj was already ordered by Chief Magistrate, Delhi and confirmed by the High Court. So, really speaking in these days of imports and exports he ought to have been exported but unfortunately in our anxiety to move towards 21st century we are giving more stress on imports than on exports. As a result of that I find that some bureaucrat in the Government of India—I do not know who that great person is—has kept this file for one year and as a result of that this person was never exported to Thailand otherwise you could have saved lot of trouble in Tihar jail and possibly these officers would not have been suspended.

I would like to know while already the extradition orders were passed by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi and confirmed by the High Court what is the reason that for one full year this order was not implemented at all ? It is a very serious lapse and in fact, the High Court must have felt that Government indulges into contempt of the High Court.

Sir, I do not know why this particular order was not implemented. I would also like to place before the House another interesting information. This person is of a dubious character and in escaping from the jails he has variety of interests. This was the same international criminal Sobhraj

who was actually lodged in a hospital in 1972 and he escaped from the hospital. At that time via Nepal he was able to go to Europe. This is the past background of Sobhraj. I would like to know from the hon. Minister one more fact. I have already given two important Call Attention notices in the past but sometimes because you have lot of pressure of work or sometimes when we come up with such issues—I do not blame you because there are so many matters of urgent public importance and so many failures of the Government that how could you make the choice. Therefore, when I had given two Call Attention notices on very importance issues one issue was concerning the same Sobhraj. He had threatened the authorities in jail that if they did not give him adequate latitude in jail and restrict his freedom and control his facilities then in that case he will not hesitate to expose their corrupt practices in jail. I think blackmailing is the most powerful instrument of all the instruments, and he wielded it with cleverness and threatened the jail authorities. It is an open secret. Everybody in jail knows and even those people who go inside the jail as a result of the political movement are able to see that as far as Sobhraj is concerned, he stays in that particular jail as if he is a resident of a five-star hotel. All facilities are available. Even the type of menu which we do not get he is able to get. Only, Sir, on the occasions when you invite us for dinner for dignitaries, we are able to get five-star hotel menu, otherwise we do not get, but he is able to monopolise the five-star hotel menu coming from some of the poshest hotels and restaurants in this particular city. He has been able to manage that and live with all the comforts and all the luxuries because he blackmails the officers in the jail and he tells them that if they do not give him the facilities, he would expose them. That is the reason why in Defence and other important services, only men of character are kept, because if they are men lacking in character and they are indulging in corruption, even a spy can blackmail them and tell them : "If you do not submit to us, in that case, we will expose your corruption". I am glad that our Defence Minister is very careful about choosing the personnel in the Defence Ministry. They see to it that such people are not put in

sensitive posts; such men who lack character and who are likely to be vulnerable as far as the espionage activities are concerned. Unfortunately, the officials of the Tihar Jail have remained victims of this particular blackmail.

I would also like the Minister to confirm or deny what has appeared in the *Indian Express* today. Today in the *Indian Express* on the front page, a box item has come under the heading "Sobhraj had a meeting with Jail Top Brass". They have given the details. Might be it is a figment of imagination. The easiest thing to do for a politician is to say that it is misreporting in the press and the matter is over. But I would like to know whether on the basis of what has appeared in the press today in box, it is a fact that Sobhraj had a meeting with two senior officers of Tihar Jail two hours before the escape. It is a fact that the meeting was in number 1 section of the Jail and Sobhraj was called there from number 3 section of the Jail at 11.00 a.m. ? Is it also a fact that the meeting with the top officers of the Jail lasted for one hour, from 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon ? I would also like to know whether it is a fact that during that valuable one hour, when Sobhraj was having negotiations and consultation with the top brass of the jail authorities, he utilised the telephone in that particular section on a number of occasions. That is the only section, where telephone is there. After every few minutes, he was going to the telephone and giving some message. Is it a fact or not ? Is it a fact that when he returned from that one hour of negotiations or talks with the top officers of the Jail, then the parcel of fruits and the sweets came and he took delivery and started distributing them ? Unfortunately, the first victim of this was a compounder. The compounder is supposed to give drugs to others and improve their health. He was a compounder with vengeance.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Otherwise it would have not happened but in this case compounder himself was affected.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Our complaint is that wrong things are happening in this country.

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

[English]

Kranti was the name of that compounder.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : At least you should get his name changed.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Even if they hear the name Kranti as the name of a person, they feel perturbed. That compounder was the first to be drugged and went into a state of semi-consciousness. I would like to know, whether all these aspects which have been mentioned in the 'Indian Express', very prominently displayed in a box, are correct or not.

I would also like to say something about the modus operandi and it is extremely important. When we discuss this proposition, the modus operandi followed by Sobhraj and his colleagues is extremely important. It was Sunday, when this crime took place. When I read the entire story of escape of Sobhraj and his colleagues, I was reminded of so many films. One was "The Great Escape", where the prisoners of war escape. But they were thousands and thousands of them and then it was probably easier because of a big acreage of compound. There are so many films and thrillers where we find that murders are committed and people run away and all that. When we see such films, we say, "What a director ! He has no sense of reality. Can you ever have such a phenomenon in reality ? It is only an artistic fiction !"

MR. SPEAKER : But here it is !

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But what appears to a person like me as fiction while I see those films, when I see reality now, I find that there is more reality in that fiction !

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You can produce a film.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Home Minister must direct that film. Again

look at this. Sunday was the day on which one Mr. Robert carried all those fruits and drugs in a car and went into the jail. At Gate No. 3 he stopped the car. But nobody asked him as to why he brought the car in. Nobody told him that it was a Sunday and nobody could be allowed. Sir, Sunday proverbially is supposed to be a day of confession. But this man did not give any confession. All that he did was to stop the car and took the drugs and fruits out. He told that those were to be distributed and as if it were an order from the jail headquarters, the jailers implemented it thoroughly well.

Mr. Robert, again it has been reported in the press, was not stopped because he was not a newcomer to visit the jail for the first time. It has been reported that Mr. Robert frequently visited this jail. Intimacy sometimes breeds contempt. But here intimacy seems to have bred love. Therefore, he was allowed to take out all those packages and they were handed over and then they were distributed. Since they were supposed to be filled with certain intoxicating drugs, those who were administered with that food went into a state of semi-consciousness.

Many of us stayed in jails, not as criminals, but as political prisoners. Even as political prisoners, our visitors and relatives were not allowed to see us on Sundays. There were no exceptions. Is it not a fact, Mr. Minister, that in all the jails, no outsiders are allowed on Sundays ? I am not referring to what happened during the Emergency. It is so, all the time. We have seen the British jails, we have seen the Indian jails and we have seen the Portuguese jails. Nowhere could we find that on Sundays visitors and relatives are allowed to enter the jails.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I also have personal experience.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is right ! Sir, your experience should be taken as a directive in this House. Therefore, as far as that aspect is concerned, really speaking, when you also experienced that on Sundays no relative of yours was allowed to enter in, what you could not enjoy,

Sobhraj cannot enjoy ; and therefore, this is again a failure on the part of the authorities !

I would like to know whether the jail authorities were involved in a conspiracy in this entire episode. There are two possibilities. One possibility is that genuinely, all these jail staff warders superintendents etc. were drugged and as a result of that they went into a state of semi-consciousness. The second possibility might be that they were only pretending that they were in a state of semi-consciousness, but they were more than conscious of what they were doing. And this could only be a camouflage. This is not a suspicion of my mind. I give that much credit to the intelligence of the Government that they also suspected that this state of semi-consciousness seemed to be a camouflage and therefore they have charged some of them guilty of entering into a conspiracy with those prisoners to see that they would be able to escape. That gave me a clue that probably this might be a camouflage. The Minister should give a categorical statement as to what exactly is the fact.

Did the half-white ambassador car, by which Sobhraj escaped met with an accident on the Ring Road in Delhi ? That also happened to be near about 11.15. I was not present to quote the exact time. I am quoting only from what I have read in the newspapers. Again, they may involve me that I am able to give all these details So, I must be very careful.

MR. SPEAKER : Even after my ruling Sir ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is the only solace and protection for us.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He will not be involved. He will be merely cited in the chargesheet,

SHRI ARUN NEHRU : Any information is most welcome. It will help us in the investigations.

MR. SPEAKER : You can use that.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): A.M. or P.M. ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That accident took place at the Ring Road ; and

many people suspected that this was the same car by which they left the Tihar jail ; but by the time the Police had arrived on the scene, the car had already left. I would like to know whether the police arrived late due to genuine difficulties, or they also arrived on the spot late by conspiracy. I am not saying that this is a firm opinion of mine. I am just expressing a doubt ; an hon. Member's doubt should always be clarified by the Rt. Hon. Minister.

I would like to introduce one more element : Knowing this entire background of Sobhraj, how was he able to bully the people with power of his purse ? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Mr. Sobhraj had already spent a lot of money on the jail authorities, lured them with the power of his purse and told them : "All right ; take Rs. 1 lakh, or Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs 3 lakhs. Let me go out. Even if you are sentenced, you might go for a few months. If you are dismissed from this Government, don't worry. It is not worthwhile serving this Government." As a result of that, they might have made up their minds : "Does not matter. We may lose our jobs. We may go to jail for six months. But after all, if we are able to get Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 1 lakh, probably our entire future life will be ensured "

When all these things happened like a dramatic scene if our Doordarshan which shows so many interesting films, had shown a part of this entire *modus operandi*, that would have been the best thriller ; but far from showing a thriller, even the news was not given on time on the television. It is not an ordinary lapse on the part of the Television. (*Interruptions*) If they were able to show their faces in time, it they were able to give the descriptions, maybe a number of responsible citizens would have been able to assist the governmental machinery, and they would have been able to trap them.

Don't forget that in the famous murder case of Geeta and Sanjay in the city of Delhi, it was the details that were revealed by the police party which made some people catch hold of Ranga and Billa in the train; and as a result of that, the culprits were arrested. They are already hanged. Let

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

their souls rest in peace. But that had happened.

MR. SPEAKER : They should not.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I said : 'souls'. I am against them. But soul is the most cosmopolitan thing.

Therefore, as far as that aspect is concerned the lapse at that time, viz. not showing the news on the television on time, was a greater lapse.

Now I would like to go into details about what is happening in Tihar. I had some discussion with Mr. H. M. Patel who had the experience and the facility to work in various capacities in the Government's administration. He tried to tell me that even in those old days what precautions were taken when he used to visit jails, what precautions were to be taken ; and whenever any administration was found guilty of a major lapse, how deterrent punishments were given, and how the entire set-up was changed. In the context of that, I will now give you some picture which will be a horrible one. There is some part of this picture—Mr. Speaker, Sir : if the tears in your eyes are yet not dried up, you can wait to drop them when I am some report about the events in Tihar jail. As far as Tihar jail is concerned, you will be surprised to know that apart from the bullying tactics and activities of Sobhraj, there was a time when tunnels were dug inside the jail, to escape from the jail. Tunnels were dug. This is an accepted practice for all the revolutionaries during War time, for all the partisans and all freedom fighters, viz. that when we are in the enemy's camp, it is our inherent right to dig tunnels and try to escape, because it is an escape from slavery to freedom. But here, hardened criminals dug up tunnels inside the Tihar jails. And in a small jail like this if tunnels are dug, and if some people escape, I don't think it can be done without the connivance of the authorities. This what was happening in Tihar. I am saying all this because this is relevant to generalize the problem.

I would like to know what actions have been taken in regard to those who were found to be responsible for digging such tunnels because they built up a certain atmosphere inside the jail, and if it became

possible for men like Sobhraj to bribe the authorities, because in the past also a lot of bribing had taken place to the extent that even tunnels could be dug and even prisoners could go out.

Now, I come to the most pathetic part of the entire episode in the Tihar Jail, the juveniles whom are kept there as under-trials, the way they are treated ; their story of agony is a story of sorrow, a story of torture.

When Justice Bhagwati was on the Bench, in one of the cases, he ordered that he would like to probe into what was happening with the prisoners inside the Tihar Jail ; and he appointed Mr. M. K. Chawla and told him to go to the Jail without police authority without jail authority, meet the juveniles, meet under-trials and try to find out whether the story that had leaked out from the Jail was correct. He prepared a report. On 19th October, 1983, this report by the Session Judge, Mr. M. K. Chawla, was submitted to the Supreme Court. What does this report say ? I do not want to go into the details. It gives a graphical picture of sexual assault forced labour and sexually transmitted diseases among the juveniles, under-trials who were rotting there for years together. What type of under-trials are there ? They are accused of certain crimes. If they are produced before the court and ultimately a sentence is pronounced and if they are to be sentenced for six months or eight months or ten months but for years together, they are remained under-trials ; they have already completed the sentence that was to be awarded. Probably, they had mentally committed crimes and faced severe punishment. That is what is happening. Mr. Chawla went from barrack to barrack, he went from cell to cell, he went to the convicts, he went to the under-trials and they told the manner in which they were sexually assaulted and the manner in which they were asked to work as forced labour. All that story had been prepared in the form of a report. It is actually a 20-page report ; it is worth reading. It was submitted to the Supreme Court on 19th October, 1983. Just taking a clue from this particular episode, what have you done to implement this report : submitted to the Supreme Court on the 19th October, 1983 ? Is the strategy going

to continue and the flowers before they are bloomed going to be destroyed? They might have committed crimes, but they are human beings, just juveniles, young boys, misguided boys, some of them probably orphans, some of them illegitimate children. But it is wrong to say illegitimate children. Rabindra Nath Tagore said, the relation between father and mother might be illegitimate, but no child is illegitimate; child is like a flower. Such blooming flowers before they are bloomed have been destroyed in the cell of the jail. What have you done to protect the blooming flowers so that they may blossom and their future gardens will be protected.

Under-trials for more than ten years are remaining there. I do not want to refer what is happening in jails-Bhagalpur and all that blinding of persons and all that. Forget all that. This is what is happening in jails. Against the background of what is happening in Tihar Jail, he will tell us on the occasion of the Home Ministry's demands as to what steps have been taken on various committees' recommendations. So many committees have been formed right from the British days up to the present age for jail reforms, improving jail administration; so many concrete proposals have been made. On this occasion, step by step, tell us what are the jail reforms that they have already introduced? The have not been able to introduce many jail reforms. The very fact that the Tihar Jail has become a den of criminals, a den of corrupt officials and the den of all that evils that exist in this country, if that is happening in the Tihar Jail, why is it that they have not been able to implement various jail reforms that were submitted by various committees appointed by various legislatures, some at the State level and some at the central level?

I would like to know what has happened about that. Only one minute, and I am concluding.

And, Sir, having stated this case, on which hardly the House will be divided in a way it is good that instead of an adjournment motion the discussion is under Rule 193, because when I move an adjournment motion, even when their hearts and souls are with us, because Madhu Dandavate has moved an adjournment motion, it will be defeated. But when there is a discussion

under rule 193, our bodies might be divided, but hearts and soul can remain inviolate. Therefore, I am sure that some of the tragic stories that I have quoted here, may show—I am sure that this House will not be divided on party ranks and people will rise above party lines and try to have certain procedures and reforms by which such crime can be avoided in the future.

And, therefore, coming to the constructive part. Mr. Minister, I would plead with the Government to concede certain demands, which are the demands of all humanitarians, they are neither the demands of the ruling party, they are the demands of the Opposition parties nor the demands of all those who stand for the dignity of man and which went to destroy the crime in this country, that will be the demand of all here.

Number one: Tell us what are the reforms, in administration, jail administration, suggested by the various reform committees and tell us what has been done in the matter.

Number two: Will you scrap, as a deterrent step, the existing entire jail set up, and machinery in the Tihar Jail? Some might be innocent, but as a deterrent you should scrap the entire set-up in order to instil some sort of confidence in the minds of the administration and also among the people, will you scrap the entire set up just now, telling them that some might be innocent, but by way of abundant caution—to use that legal term—change the entire administrative set up and replace it by another one.

Number three: And this is a very positive suggestion, Sir, for the last so many years, various social organisations have been writing about the crimes committed in the jails and particularly the Tihar Jail. Various investigating journalists have brought out the facts. Several research students have brought out the facts. Students working for theories have provided the these. And persons like Mrs. Sheila Barse have recently submitted a thesis on the atrocities on the juveniles in various jails and for that she had been given the award of the People's Union of Civil Liberties. Enough material is available, go through it,

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

and please tell us through your own machinery, whether you will be prepared to bring out White Paper on the happenings in Tihar Jail for the last ten years. We demand such a White Paper. We have been given all sorts of white papers, Add ons, more to them. But that should be a white paper with a difference. It should not be a Paper with a white cover and a dark background. I think that that White Paper will be coming.

Next, I would demand, we are not satisfied with this administration putting up some bureaucrat and he trying to go into this matter. I would like, and since the House is totally agreed on the events that are taking place irrespective of whose responsibility it is, and I would demand the setting up of a Committee of the House Sir, by you, the Hon. Speaker of the House, subject it to a Committee and let the Committee of the House go into the affairs that have happened in Tihar Jail for the last so many years.

And, lastly, as far as this particular incident is concerned, none will be satisfied with the report of the bureaucrat, whom you have appointed. I have nothing against him in person. In fact, I am one among those people who believe in what Gandhiji said; "Hate the sin and not the sinner". I am not concerned with what 'X' has done and 'Y' has done. I am worried about the sin that has been committed.

I would, therefore, suggest to you, to have interest of an inquiry by an administrator who has been appointed by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, and I would suggest that a judicial inquiry into this entire episode should be gone through and if that is done,—it is not whether the ruling party wins or the Opposition wins, but it is the dignity of man that wins and, in the name of the dignity of man and sanity in the country.

I appeal to the Minister and to the Government and to the conscience of the Government—in case it is still not nationalised—that please try to respond to the unanimous demand of this House and see that the things in Tihar Jail and elsewhere are set right so that civilization and culture in the country are safe.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : Prof. Dandavate in his speech, dwelt upon the mal-administration in the Tihar Jail. Everybody agrees that this is a very serious matter, that a person of the notoriety of Charles Sobhraj, who had almost developed an expertise in jail breaking, was allowed to move about freely and was able to escape from the jail. Prof. Dandavate told the House how he was treated, how the officials there used to discuss with him and how he was able to establish contacts with the outside world. The newspapers also report that one Mr. Ronald Hall, an international narcotic smuggler, who had been lodged in the Tihar Jail for two months had become very friendly with Charles Sobhraj. He was released on bail. I understand from the newspaper reports that a large number of international gangsters, who had come to Delhi and were staying in a posh guest house in Anand Niketan, were able to establish contacts with Charles Sobhraj. And it is possible that they might have, in collusion with Charles Sobhraj, master-minded the whole thing.

This is not an isolated incident. Prof. Dandavate has already stated that some time ago, prisoners were able to dig up a tunnel and made their escape from the jail which is a very serious matter. I would like to know whether any inquiry committee was set up to look into this case. If so, what were the findings of that inquiry committee? Had that inquiry committee made any recommendations, if so, what were the action taken thereon?

Prof. Dandavate also spoke of several committees. But I know that Mr. Justice Tej Narain Mullah Committee had submitted a report in 1983. I would like to know whether the Government has considered that report. If so, has any action been taken by the Government thereon? The House should be informed about that.

It is well known that there are two books written about Charles Sobhraj in which Charles Sobhraj is reported to have said that he just needed only a car to make good his escape from the jail. At another place, he said that he would drug the jail staff and escape from the jail. I would like to know whether any notice of these statement of Charles Sobhraj was taken by the jail

authorities or the Government. If so, what was the reaction of the administration and what steps were taken to ensure that this prisoner, who is an international criminal, and wanted in several countries, and was a maximum security prisoner, did not escape from the jail? I think, the authorities have signally failed in taking such precautions. With the result this shameful episode has taken place.

It is also reported that Sobhraj used to write articles in the weekly 'Sun' and one Mr. A.B. Shukla, Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons, also used to contribute articles to that magazine. Many a time, it is said, Sobhraj wrote for him. Why was this sort of liaison allowed to establish between the DIG of Prisons and Sobhraj, an international criminal? Was the Government's attention drawn to this? If so, what was the reaction of the Government? The whole episode shows that there was a complete understanding between jail authorities and this criminal, with the result, no precautions were taken at all.

Sobhraj was allowed to operate from the jail in the manner in which he did it. Prof. Dandavate has said that during his long session in the jail with the top brass in the jail administration, he was able to establish contacts with friends outside; he was able to plan the whole thing, about the timing of his escape and all that. He used to be interviewed by certain journalists. I want to know whether these journalists have been interrogated by Government or whether the Government has got any intention of interrogating these journalists. We have seen press reports about the misdeeds in the Tihar jail. I don't want to quote what Mr. M.K. Chawla has reported to the Chief Justice of India and so on. We have seen many things published in the press about the misdeeds in the Tihar jail. There has been laxity in security. No effective step was taken by the jail authorities. We have been told that he has a girl friend who used to visit him in the jail quite often and many times she used to stay in the jail itself. What action was taken about it? Why no jail authorities ever thought of taking any action about it? Is it not a very serious thing? Sir, Government should take a very serious view of the whole thing and take immediate action about it. I enclose the

suggestion made by Prof. Dandavate that a high power judicial enquiry should be ordered to go into the whole matter. A time limit should be prescribed for submitting their report. An enquiry has been ordered by the Lieut. Governor of Delhi. Let us commend him for the promptitude with which he has acted. But this enquiry by this enquiry officer will not satisfy us. There should be a high power judicial enquiry. There should be a time limit within which this enquiry should be completed. The entire jail administration should be gone into. Tihar is the biggest jail in this country and it should act as a pace setter in the matter of jail administration. If there is laxity in security it is a matter of great concern to all of us. As I said, let that judicial enquiry make its recommendations within a prescribed time limit. Those recommendations should be discussed in this House and prompt action should be taken by the Government on the recommendations. Sir, many committees have been appointed and they have made reports; but we do not know whether any action has been taken on the recommendations made by them. If a Committee has been appointed to go into the question as to how the tunnel was dug to facilitate the escape, I would like to know whether the Committee made any recommendation about it and what action was taken by the Government. If proper steps were taken on the basis of the recommendations made earlier, this shameful episode would not have taken place. I would like to know from the Minister whether his girl friend used to visit him in the jail and if so what action is proposed to be taken. There have been drug peddling going on in the jail for a long time. I want to know what steps will be taken to put an end to all these things. Sir, we know about all these widespread evils prevalent in Tihar jail. Prof. Dandavate has spoken about the indignities to which the juvenile offenders are subjected. So, all these things should be gone into and a high level judicial enquiry should go into the whole matter. Government should look at this incident with the gravest of concern and appoint this high level judicial enquiry which should be required to submit its report within a prescribed time limit and this report should be placed on the Table of the House and discussed in the House. With these words I conclude.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement we are discussing is brief both in length and in breadth. I wish it had the length of the hon. Minister for Home Affairs...

MR. SPEAKER : Horizontally and vertically.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : ... and the breadth of the Minister for Internal Security or of me.

AN. HON. MEMAER : Like you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I said that, I included myself.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Long and short both ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Long and wide, Sir.

But what is worrying us is that the statement with which the hon. Minister came before this House shows an inadequate prepaat on of the seriousness of the situation and unfortunately on the basis of the newspaper reports that we have been able to get, the statement conceals more than it reveals.

Sir, one should have thought that the Government should take up this matter very seriously and an attempt should not be made to project it as an ordinary event of minor administrative lapse. It is not so. It shows utter inefficiency and almost criminal negligence on the part of the administration, which is nothing but an inept administration.

Sir, the Ministry of Home Affairs which is directly in charge of this cannot just absolve its responsibility by arresting some of these conspirators. It is only a proper inquiry that will reveal. But a matter of serious consideration is that this country seems to have become a happy hunting ground for all sorts of anti-national spies, drug traffickers, smugglers and what not. Every day these reports are coming and even foreign agencies are having a field day in this country and even in the Capital. The jail seems to be the most easy place, a comfortable place to stay even for criminals,

and stay in Tihar jail seems to be only a few sweetmeats away from escape. This is something amazing. Prof. Madhu Dandavate is very fond of Hindi films it seems, but, Sir, one or two James Bond's films I had seen. Even then...

MR. SPEAKER : They must have a variety of programmes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : But Sir, even James Bond would completely fade into insignificance because he had to use some force to extricate himself, but here no force is used. With sweetmeats and grapes one comes out walking from Tihar jail.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Have you not heard a *Shtoka* in Sanskrit "*Budhi yasya Balam Tasya*".

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, it seems to be a high security prison. It seems to me, it is highly secure for the notorious criminals. They are safest there. Whenever they want to come out they can come out and whenever they want to go in, they go in. One very interesting thing is—I do not know about the No. 2 person who has been arrested today—arrested or surrendered I do not know. The first person, No 1, Dinesh or somebody, presented himself at the gate of Tihar Jail, he was roaming about in Delhi or on the railway platform, the Government police could not arrest him for hours ! What sort of 'man-hunt' is going on, we do not know. And this Dinesh has to present himself saying 'Please arrest me'. And we have two Ministers sitting here, I do not know what their role is, whether it is complementary or conformationist.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He must be missing the pleasure of such nice place.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : May I clarify that the second person has been arrested in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It seems the Madhya Pradesh Police is better than Delhi police.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DADAVATE; Sir; the word "Dinesh" should be clarified. Otherwise, there will be misunderstanding of the hon. Member. (Interruptions.)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE ; After Mr. Ajay Mushran has left Madhya Pradesh and come here, the situation is better now.

MR. SPEAKER : Now you have to clarify which "Dinesh".

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Madhya Pradesh has full-time Home Minister while we have only in-charge Home Minister.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Only yesterday it has come out in the national Press a serious report about the law and order situation in this city. I am sure, he will not just minimise it for the sake of discussion. In 1985, there has been one murder in every 18 hours in the capital and 3121 murders have taken place. There were 80 cases of rape, some of them ending in murder. That shows what is the position of police Administration here. There were 10 bank robberies. (Interruptions) The relevancy is that it is has percolated the entire Delhi Administration into inefficiency.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : How it is relevant to Tihar Jail ?

MR. SPEAKER : You talk about the jail.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : So far as Tihar Jail is concerned, you want to know more about jail, Sir.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : If he raised question about the Administration of Delhi then I will speak about West Bengal and Tripura.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I was fondly waiting for it.

MR. SPEAKER : You concentrate on Tihar only.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There is an arrangement to see each other.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU : No aspersion should be cast on the police because police is not concerned with the jail administration.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : There are reports in the newspapers that there were more than half a dozen cases of jail break reported from the high security Tihar jail in the last three years alone. I do not know whether this is correct or not. Mr. Dandavate has referred to digging of tunnels.

MR. SPEAKER : I thought you were going to say, he knows better.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Now, Sir, in July, 1985, Hansraj, who had been arrested in connection with the cases of rape and criminal assault had escaped from the construction site on the jail premises in a truck. Three months earlier, Suraj Prakash, escaped from a farm in the jail. One month before that, Laxmi Narain, who managed to escape along with Sobhraj, made an attempt to flee after tearing up more than 51 warrants against him.

Sir, these particulars have been given. In December, 1984, 9 persons tried to escape and one of the persons was hurt. Incidents of October, 1984 and May, 1984 have been given. Since my time is limited, I do not want to elaborate. This is *Times of India*, Monday the 17th March, 1986. It is not my newspaper. If they do not like the *Times of India*, I have got the *Hindustan Times*.

MR. SPEAKER : "Times" reminds the time !

(Interruptions.)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It has very elaborately and very pertinently referred to the lapses of security provision in Tihar jail. The first one was mentioned by Mr. Dandavate. On Sundays, no visitors are allowed inside the jail compound. Then, how these men could come? Two—It seems the jail does not maintain any register keeping the record of number of cars and their registration numbers which come and go at the boundary of the jail compound.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

Nor is there anyone on Sunday out to stop the cars. How do they allow cars to go on Sunday? Three—It is about the man on the tower. Of course, the Lt. Governor has exonerated him completely. The man on the tower does not have any binoculars and only keeps a watch if any attempt is made to scale the walls. If anybody tries to escape by scaling the wall, then the man on the tower will jump. It is a wonderful arrangement.

“Four—Assistant Superintendent of Jail and Charles Shobraj, the most internationally known criminal, famous for his jail breaks were found minutes before Charles escaped “together” in a room which was next to the main gates of Gate No. 3.

Should not Charles be in a cell? The Lt. Governor replied “Well, he is an undertrial...”. But undertrials should not surely be “hobnobbing” with the Assistant Superintendent of Jail.

Five—Gate No. 3 is supposed to be always closed and no one is allowed inside unless he is identified by just one man the “Deodhi Munshi”, Mr. Kapur said. Is it not necessary to take permission from proper authority or papers to be shown to enter the jail? Usually the Jail Superintendent gives written permission.

Six—Even if one accepts that Charles Shobraj was having some official talks with the Assistant Jail Superintendent, is there no rule that the senior official avoid eating anything...”

Cash and kind both are supposed to be operating there,

“Seven—Are not the doors of the jail to be closed once a person has made his entry...”

These are the lapses which are pointed out. Does it require an inquiry to find out whether these are lapses or not? These lapses have been there throughout. A person who is a hardened criminal, wanted by the International Police in so many countries, who is waiting for extradition where he would meet with death sentence, he seems to be loitering over the Tihar jail and all the big officers are dancing to his

tune, trying to keep him happy! That appears to be so!

One thing Mr. Dandavate did not mention but I do not know it is relevant or not but it strikes me, after these jail officials were entertained with pedas, grapes and custards and what not, they became semi-unconscious or unconscious or three-quarter conscious, or I do not know but their mouths were sealed with adhesives...

MR. SPEAKER : There seems to be one question. How could they do it, all at the same time unconscious?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They were fed by computers, I might say!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Perhaps, like the Government, drugs also work faster. Did they have the adhesive ready there? Their mouths were sealed with adhesives and they are tied with ropes, everything is available in Tihar for the escape to be arranged! Food is being taken. But...

MR. SPEAKER : It was just a rendezvous.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : There was a birth-day party. Whose birthday? Now, anybody coming and saying I have brought some food and pedas and sweetmeats and what not, for the purpose of celebrating the birthday of somebody and lo and behold, the gates are being opened, they come in a procession, supply the thing, there is a party going on inside the jail from Deputy Superintendent upto Sentry, before the party comes up, they go to sleep and they walk out and this mighty Government is running after them! The very important fact is, this is not a question of lapse. This is a criminal negligence, a deliberate...

MR. SPEAKER : At least, we must beware now that no *mithai* should be taken like that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It should not have been taken. At least, it should have been taken outside, not inside.

MR. SPEAKER : Only one hour left more.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

The persons who came—either he is Robert or David—their names do not appear in the log book at all. Nowhere their names were recorded. They would have visited. They have got not only inmates but visitors also. They totally have a free access there.

17.00 hrs.

I endorse Mr. Dandavate's complaint that this should have been given the earliest publicity over the TV and Radio. May I come to my very important suggestions, Sir? I think uptill now only relevant things I have said...

MR. SPEAKER : Please make additions, if you have.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am trying to eliminate the common points...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) All these things have come in the papers.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Let us have no discussion in the House if things come out in the newspapers. Is this the attitude of the Government? Why a young and energetic Minister should say all these things?

I support—since you are in a hurry and we are in a hurry, it seems so—this demand for a judicial inquiry and most deterrent punishment and don't stop at the Deputy Superintendent level, go up to the Ministry, if necessary.

(Translation)

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that in case this discussion is concluded by 6.00 P. M., then it is all right, otherwise my Half-an-Hour Discussion may be postponed till tomorrow.

(English)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : It is to be seen at 6 o'clock.

(Translation)

MR. SPEAKER : If you wish, let it be taken up tomorrow. If both of us agree then there is no problem.

(English)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : This particular incident and this particular escape in Tihar jail has shaken the entire nation because such things had happened right in the capital of the country and the lapses on the part of the jail authorities and others are also exposed by the media and truly so.

I do not like to go into the details. I will come out with very specific and practical suggestions. One thing we must very clearly understand to-day which unfortunately a large section of the people do not understand is how the jail authorities function and how the Police authorities function. The task of the jail authorities is to obey the mandates of the High Courts and the lower courts considering the order of remand so far as undertrial prisoners are concerned and to take care of the convicts. The moment they come out of the jail, it becomes a headache for the law and order authorities and the police. So long as they are inside the jail, it is the headache of the jail authorities. The moment they come out of the jail, it is the headache of the Police authorities. Unfortunately this seems to be the jail system which is regulated by the State administration everywhere in the country except the Union Territory and there too I think Tihar jail follows the Punjab manual. Unless the Police—whether it is good or bad, that is altogether a different issue—and the intelligence have a say or a regular spot-checking right inside the jail, I am afraid nothing can happen in future whatever reforms you may bring—because, inside the jail there is already a kingdom by the jail inmates which is dominated on its own and the Jail Superintendent and the Jailor are simply, what should I say, tools and nothing more than that because the gang inside the jail, the warden and others form unions, societies and associations and it is they who dictate the things and not the Jailor or the Jail Superintendent. It is they who dictate the distribution of work among the undertrials. I have seen it in my own experience in the Alipur jail—the distribution of the task of the undertrials, as to who should do the kitchen work, who should the jamadar work, etc. That is being done by the groups, associations and unions and vested interests as to who will

[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Muns]

do what. That is the inside story of the jail. Then what can Police do from outside. I do not know. On the undertrials and specially those criminals who are supposed to be exposed by the court of law till evidence and other things are over, there must be a system called the jail intelligence service from outside who will do regular spot-checking inside the jail about the conditions and activities of the under-trials. If you do not incorporate it, it is just impossible. You cannot manage it, whatever reform you may make. I refer to a few things. In 1980, on June 11, the late Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu, Member of the Opposition, raised a very important Question—Unstarred Question No. 422—about the malpractices prevailing in Tihar Jail. At that time, the Government's reply was very categorical that to stop over-crowding in jails some more jails were to be created inside Delhi and I think only one jail was completed. I do not know whether the other one was completed. In 1979, it was unfortunately the Janata Regime—I do not want to say unfortunate—and if we accept the responsibility today for what happened in Tihar today, similarly the other party has to accept the responsibility for what had happened in 1979 also. At that time, 72 undertrials and two jail officials were involved. I accuse the employees also for the entire malpractices and gangster operation inside the jail. It was answered by the Minister in reply to the question by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu. In 1979 again much more bigger things had happened which, I think, Madhuji is aware of. In the House the answer was given by Shri Makwanaji on 16th December, 1981 in reply to a question by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, that forged Court documents were taken away and managed by them, and based on the forged documents, 8 people were supposed to be released from Tihar. In this affair, 5 people could not be successful and 2 were successful and later on one was apprehended. I am surprised to know how such things could happen. It had happened in 1979. This Tihar incident of the professional expertise, operating there, is not a matter of today. It is an organised conspiracy. I think, they should have a well-built-in infrastructure and they could also have the cooperation of the international experts as to how

to do it. I take this very seriously. Therefore, I suggest to the hon. Minister and I entirely agree with Madhuji in one sentence today no question of inquiry later on. We feel that the Tihar incident is so grave. The entire administration, right from the Jail Superintendent down to the lowest warden should be disbanded and totally rooted out. Further I would suggest, to find out if your Revenue Intelligence system is in the hands of State Governments you apply your own Revenue Intelligence. You take the data from the former Jail Superintendent, who has since retired from Tihar Jail, and find out the people—Wardens, Havildars, etc.—who are all amassing wealth throughout Delhi. They have built up houses in Defence Colony within their limited salary. This is an organised set up. Otherwise Charles Sobhraj could not have managed to escape and the whole thing could not have happened. You may even say, you will appoint a Committee of the House to go into the details and submit a report, I do not know But this is not a matter of Justice M.C. Chagla's inquiry where he made details about the juvenile delinquents and other convicts. Everybody know it, because it will affect many people We cannot afford to make Delhi a Hong-Kong or Bangkok. We cannot afford to make it a Beirut. Booby-traps were laid by extremists only last year. Shri Lalit Makhan was killed and till today you could not even come forward to establish it and no Minister could say how it had happened. Charles Sobhraj went one hour after the permission was granted to the visitors, to see him. The other gentleman who surrendered yesterday was one of the chaps who escaped on Sunday. He was roaming in Chandni Chowk. I strongly feel, that it is not a simple question of accusing and abusing the jail authorities. There is something very wrong happening inside the jail, and we have to find out the real position. Even the Delhi Police and Delhi Administration are out and out to malign the Government, who are out and out in conspiracy to let down the Government in every matter. That we should find out with iron hand. If you fail to do it, I am sorry to say that our conscience will not be excused by this House. History shows that how the Delhi Administration and the jail authorities allowed Charles Sobhraj to meet anybody. Who is he? Is he a Constitutional maker

of India. Who is he ? He will meet everybody and give stories—the man who escaped from Greece, the man who was supposed to be hanged. Why have you shifted him from Jail-1 to Jail-3 ? What prompted this action ? These are matters to be explained in detail.

I am glad for the first time in India you have arrested the jail authorities. I thank the Government for that ; Government has shown courage in this. I wish all the State Government follow it. I am not bringing politics into it. In most of the States such things are happening in jails, but because they are not situated in Delhi, things are not being discussed. It is happening in almost every jail. These criminals, smugglers, all these people have formed themselves into a gang, and inside the jail you cannot do anything. The poor Jailor and the Jail Superintendent have either to share the booty or to keep mum. They cannot do anything. An organized Mafia gang is operating among the jail employees. This is what is happening.

I will make three suggestions. Suggestion one is in regard to the Tihar Jail. For the others, I am not making any suggestion now ; the State Governments have to be consulted as to what are the problems they are faced with. In Tihar, if within a week you do not change the whole lot, you can not root out the chain of corruption. Number two is, you introduce jail intelligence service system. You accuse the Commissioner of Police of Delhi when an undertrial goes out. But have you given any authority to the Commissioner of Police to visit the jail once in a week and see whether in the jail where the undertrials are staying arrangements are safe and proper so that they cannot escape ? You have not given him that authority, But when an undertrial goes out, you blame the Police. When the undertrial is in, to see whether the arrangement is safe or not, you never allow the police to visit the jail. Then I come to the jail gate duty authorities. The main corruption lies always with the man who gives permission to enter, that is, the jail gate duty authorities. I request the Minister to check up from the log book. There are some people in the country who want duty in check-posts with heavy bribes, some people want duty in specified Police Stations with heavy bribes. That is

the case in jails, especially in Tihar. I say this with authority. Let him check up the log book. There are a few persons, four or five, who always want duty on a particular day in particular hours and they do not allow any other person to be on duty at that time. Why is it so ? It is all organized, and this thing goes on. Nobody goes deep into what is happening.

My third suggestion is about training. In Parliament you have introduced the system of having a Refresher Course or Orientation Course for the new Members of Parliament. Everybody is getting training to meet new kinds of situation. But the people who manage the jail are not being trained ; they do not know the latest mechanism or the latest devices, the various kinds of devices, used for escaping. They know only this much : 'I am to stand on the tower and if I find somebody scaling the wall, then I will have to ring the bell ; that is all'. There is no training given. Films are not shown to them. I do not think the jail authorities bother to see what films are there, what devices are used in the modern world. Their only interest is whether booty will come or not.

Now I come to sweetmeats and other things. This is my charge against the jail authorities. Please enquire. So far as I know, the Jail Manual clearly states that no food or no gift from outside, not even a piece of cloth, can be entertained for any undertrial or convict unless it is specially certified and sanctioned by the jail authorities. I want to know, on what day when sweets and fruits were distributed, who was the duty officer in charge of the jail and whether he gave permission or not. Please also enquire on how many occasions such things have happened in the past. All these things should be gone into.

I have referred to what happened in 1979. I have referred to what happened in 1975 ; I have referred to digging of tunnels. Every time the matter is raised, but there is no follow-up. From today at least you try to create confidence in the minds of the people, at least in Delhi, that Government is not only determined but the Government coming forward with some proposals is which will help us.

One word in the end Sir, Mr. Madhu Dandavate with his usual satire and humour

[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi]

tried to say that in these days, in the name of 21st century we are believing in more import and Charles Sobhraj is another import. This has not been started from today. Right from Galadharis it had started. I am only sorry, we are not able to get out of it.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Today the discussion is with regard to the escape of Sobhraj and seven others. Actually this is a dramatic escape and the best thriller of the 20th century. I will go to the extent of saying that even in '007' films or in 'Great Escape' we have not seen such a thriller as Sobhraj has done in Tihar Jail.

We know that jails are only there for the purpose of giving training to the thieves, scoundrals and murderers in order to make them good people. But now the jails are becoming training grounds for the escapees. This sort of thing has to be stopped once and for all.

We know fully well that Sobhraj is an international criminal and his character is dubious in nature. His dramatic escape has been possible only with the collusion of the officers there. It is also a pre-planned one. I want to say one or two points with regard to this. Without collusion and pre-planning it ought not have taken place in the day light,

Actually I am ashamed to say before this House that even political leaders are being shot dead in the day light. It is not happening from yesterday or today. It has been happening for the last two years. Indiraji was shot dead in the day light by her own security men. Afterwards we saw Shri Lalit Maken, one of our Members, was shot dead in day light and then Shri Longowal was shot dead in the day light. Such is the crime.

Sobhraj who is an international criminal has escaped from the clutches of the officers from Tihar jail. It is actually a failure in enforcing the jail rules. If the jail rules had been enforced strictly, it ought not have happened. Because of the failure of enforcing the jail rules, Sobhraj has escaped.

The Hon. Minister has come forward to make a statement saying that an inquiry

through an officer of the Food and Civil Supplies Corporation has been ordered. I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that certainly the whole truth will not come out, if an order for inquiry through an officer is made. Judicial enquiry must be immediately ordered. This is my request.

I don't know why the TV and the Radio had not given a flash item with regard to this news. We don't know why they had delayed it. The Minister and the Members of the Treasury Benches may better be knowing the reasons.

It is apparent that Sobhraj had a considerable amount of influence among the prisoners and also the inmates. That itself shows how Sobhraj escaped from Tihar jail. Even the police sources say that the prisoners who were questioned referred to him as Charles saab. What does it mean? He was just like a king inside the Tihar jail. These sources say that the prisoner friends even visited the jail to celebrate parties. We have to make Tihar jail into a five star hotel ! That is all we can do.

I request the Hon. Minister to probe into the matter by a judge, that too by a Supreme Court judge so that the truth comes out.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, basically there are three reasons why prisoners escape. The first is the nature and the structure of buildings. The second is the rampant corruption which is going on, which helps them to go out. And the third is perhaps we don't make it a beautiful place to stay.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have got report of Justice Anand Narain Mulla made in 1980-83 where in his opening remarks he has said :

*Oonchi Diwaron ke peechhe
Lohe ki sulaakhon ke andar
Rehte hain mukafil kuchh insaan
Insaan jo nahin, ek ginti hain
Voh din akhir kab ayega
Jab badlega yeh mausam dhaam
Kuchh bekas ruhen das lagaye
Umra ki gharian ginti hain.*

Perhaps this does not apply to Sobhraj. He was not believing in all these things. He was a captain of his own soul and he managed to escape in his own way. Now, we have to think something for the future.

As has already been pointed out I wonder why Doordarshan did not cooperate in this regard. If they had flashed the photographs urgently perhaps in some locality some persons could have been apprehended. Further even when this first escapee, Dinesh Kumar, surrendered the news was given with fourth or fifth title. Even a minor news on Bulgaria was given more importance than this news. When people in the whole country were anxious to know—if someone was caught or surrendered, this should have been made known to the people immediately. So, this is the response which media gives. It is very unfortunate.

Sir, it has been said that some committee should be appointed. I want to say even if a committee is appointed, it should deal only with the limited aspect of security because this whole report of Justice Mulla deals exhaustively with all the aspects of prison reforms. There is no need for another committee to go into all these matters.

Another aspect that has to be considered is the legislation aspect. It is after all the structure of the prisons that counts. At present the prisons are regulated by old legislations, viz., Prison Act, 1894; Prison Act, 1900; Transfer of Prisoners Act, 1950 and Civil Jails Act, 1874. These are the legislations under which we govern our prisons. We speak of jail manuals. I do not know what force the jail manuals have got. If tomorrow we would like to charge officers responsible for the escape then they may contend that there were guidelines which are not enforceable by law. Therefore, we should have a consolidated legislation for the country on prisons which is enforceable and not merely recommendatory.

Now a word about the prison buildings, namely, the structure of the prisons. This committee has widely commented that according to the statistics collected by the committee 23 prison buildings in the country are more than 125 years old whereas 183 are about 100 years old. It appears that financial constraints have always restricted the work of renovation of existing prisons and setting up of new buildings. Consequently the prisons almost in every State suffer from periodic and functional over-crowding. These are the

observations in respect of the whole structure of buildings. That has to be reviewed. Maybe there are other reasons also. I would like to quote another aspect. This Committee has also given recommendations of kinds of prisons that should be set up in this country. They have said about four kinds of prisons, viz. special security prisons, maximum security prisons, medium security prisons and minimum security prisons. Henceforth when we structure our prisons for the purpose of reforming the entire structure then these things should be considered as reformable prisoners have to be segregated from those who cannot be reformed so that a different treatment can be given.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, much has been said about the escape of Sobhraj and the jolt which the country has felt out of that.

At the outset I would urge upon the Government that the jail reforms are much overdue. No facilities are available to the common prisoners, or undertrials in the jails, but every concession and every privilege is available and enjoyed by the hard core criminals in the Tihar and other jails.

Sobhraj's action in making the jail staff unconscious or semi-conscious has at least made the country conscious and cautious to look in to the day-to-day happenings in Tihar and other jails in the country. This connivance of the jail authorities with the hard core and notorious criminals has given an opportunity to the hon. Minister of Internal Security to take effective steps in order to implement the improvements in the jail structure.

Much has been said about how Sobhraj was enjoying in the jail; girl friends were coming to his cell; food and other facilities were provided to him; there was no bar on the meetings, coming and going of his friends, relatives and men of his gang in the jail. This has, in fact, given us an opportunity to doubt the functioning of the intelligence agencies in the country. When such occurrences were taking place in the jail, where had the intelligence people gone? They could not report about this matter to the mighty Minister for Internal Security,

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

who can claim—I have all the appreciation for him—that he minutely studies all the incidents, all the occurrences throughout the country even in Punjab...(*Interruptions*). Yes, he is helpful in our problem; he think the Punjab problem as a national problem; he has sympathy for Punjab and Punjab at the moment needs sympathy and support and that he is giving.

The incident occurred only at a distance of about 4 kms from the North Block. This fact has further given a jolt that if such a thing can happen in the capital, more bigger things can happen outside the capital.

There are four or five things which need to be considered by the hon. Minister. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had been in the jail during freedom struggle, or some other times during some morchas or agitations, I have also remained in this jail for one and a half months in 1971. I do not know what is the state of affairs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : Any information that he can give is welcome.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, from his personal knowledge.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I am giving you this information based on my personal experience and on the spot study at that time.

A factory is manufacturing certain articles in the jail. They are being sold to their favourite people by the jail authorities. The foodgrains produced on the farm are also being sold at cheap rates and the money is grafted.

Sir, people who come to meet their next of kin or friends who are in the jail or who may be undertrials, they are compelled to pay money. The Deputy Superintendent-in-charge, in those days, used to collect at least Rs. 500/- per day, from the people who come to meet the inmates.

Fourthly, there is a market of foodgrains, wood, mustard oil, gram, vegetables, etc. They are supplied to all the undertrials in Tihar jail and a fixed scale is prescribed,

But, not a single undertrial or a prisoner is given the same quantity that has been prescribed. Bulk of these foodgrains, wood, etc. are sold outside.

Fifthly, crime is being nourished in Tihar Jail, especially in the case of boys who are below the age of 18 or 17. The jail authorities have established their own kingdom in the jail.

While concluding, I will request the hon Minister to look into the implementation of further reforms under the prevailing situation and also to conduct a study of the problems of the jail inmates. Secondly, a judicial inquiry should be ordered to have a check in future, so as to prevent such occurrences in future. I would also like to suggest that a Committee of this House must be sent to the jail to study the total functioning of the jail.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But, they should be allowed to come out !

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Some of them may as well be kept there !

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : With these few words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr, Speaker, Sir, the jail department is the most neglected one under the Central as well as the State Governments. Whereas new scientific methods have been adopted in the police department and other departments for detecting crimes and apprehending criminals the jails are still devoid of such facilities. Even now the jails are being maintained in an obsolete manner and no scientific method has been adopted to know the goings on of all the cells at one place. If T.V. channels are installed in jails, the report of all the cells would be compiled at one place through visual facility. This will facilitate the maintenance of jails.

Sir, outside jails, both the poor and the rich live as equal citizens of the society, but in the jails, where it is expected that the prisoners, whether they are rich or poor, will be treated alike according to the law, such thing is non-existent. In the jails, the rich and the poor prisoners live in different

ways. On the one hand, there is a large number of poor prisoners who live in quite miserable conditions and on the other hand there are prisoners like Charles Sobhraj the smugglers, members of notorious gangs and dacoits who are enjoying, as Shri Dandavateji has said, facilities of a Five Star Hotel. There are a number of such prisoners who do not escape from jails only because they have no desire to do so. If they want to escape from jails, most of them can do so at any time. There may be a number of reasons for which they do not want to escape from jails. Jail-breaking is not a new thing in India. In big countries of the world, where jails are being maintained in a scientific manner, incidents of jail-breaking do take place. There the prisoners are also quite advanced. Their planning and methods are also advanced. The prisoners escape from jails even in the USA, Germany and Britain. But in our country, old methods are being followed for keeping the prisoners in jails and that is why it is not very difficult for them to escape. If they do not escape.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Should it be made more easy.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : You know how they are kept in the jails and how they remain in collusion with the officials of the jails. The hon. Minister Shri Arun Nehru is very efficient. What to speak of the Tihar Jail, he can go to any jail and see for himself how the hardened criminals live there and what facilities they are enjoying unhindered. If they want to escape from jails, they can do so. If they are not escaping from jails, they are doing so at their will. I have, therefore, to say that there is much scope for streamlining the functioning of jails. Scientific methods should be adopted in improving the condition of jails. Like airports and other places, television circuits should be installed in the jails to watch the inside activities from one place. I would like to suggest that the administration of the jails should be entrusted to the ex-servicemen. No attention is paid towards the administration of jails which is being run on obsolete lines. The ex-servicemen and ex-officials should be entrusted with the work of the administration of

jails for their efficient functioning, because they are experienced people and their dedication, integrity and dutifulness have already been proved. In this way, employment could be provided to ex-servicemen and such incidents will also not recur. With this suggestion, I conclude.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the incident of the Tihar Jail. I do not agree to it that a very serious incident has taken place. You must have read in the newspapers some days back that this man was trying to escape and he would do so by feigning illness. In spite of all this having appeared in the newspapers, the Government machinery remained inactive and the man escaped. Just now it has been said that scientific techniques should be adopted. But it is not a question of adopting scientific techniques. The question is of low salaries that are paid for the staff of the jails. If some prisoner offers them four times the amount that they receive from the Government then whom will they obey ? I was also sent to jail ten or twelve times by the Bihar Government and I had seen that the rich people who had committed crimes like murder or rape were given ample facilities during their stay in the jails. That shows that there is rampant corruption in the jails with the backing of money and whoever is offered money, he provides them with all the facilities. And even if such facts are published in the newspapers, neither the Central Government nor the State Governments pay any attention to them. The jail is supposed to be a place where the people feel that the prisoners live a life that is worse than that of animals, but I can say honestly that some notorious criminals lead a life of pleasure in the jails. Leading a life of pleasure means that they enjoy all sorts of comforts. I have seen it with my own eyes. Even their wives are allowed to meet them and they spend hours together in privacy. It is a matter of disgrace for our Government that they have not been able to improve the condition of jails.

As regards Charles Sobhraj, he used to offer money to the jail staff and they acted as his servants. The jail staff only did their duty. It has also appeared in today's newspapers that he was shifted from the cell allotted to him to a different cell. Hence,

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

everything was well-planned and the officials of the jail must have received a lot of money for this work. I have seen some jail officials who had constructed buildings worth five lakhs of rupees at Gaya, within two years of their being posted there. I would like to ask how could they get so much of money? And if they get so much of money why should they obey your orders? So, the question is who protects such notorious criminals and smugglers? Obviously, it is the officials who protect them. All the politicians are in collusion with them. Telephone calls are made from here that such and such criminals should be well attended because they would be a source of great help to them on their release. So, all these things must be looked into. If judicial inquiry is held only then the truth will come out and it would be known who are the people involved in this incident, whether it is some cabinet Minister or somebody else.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prof. Madhu Dandavate and other hon. members have thrown much light on the turn of events in the Tihar Jail during the last few days and on how Charles Sobharj and his accomplices escaped from there. In fact, Tihar jail has become the centre of undesirable happenings and irregularities during the past some time and the way in which inhuman and disgraceful activities have been going on there, serious consideration should be given to it. If such things can happen in Delhi then we can easily imagine the situation in other States.

A few days back it had appeared in the newspapers that some extremists had escaped from the jail at Gurdaspur in Punjab. Those extremists were accused of spreading violence. There was another news report regarding Punjab that some extremists had looted an armoury there. These events cannot be viewed in isolation. They have to be seen as links in the same chain.

The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Minister of State in the Department of Internal Security are present here. I would like to submit unto them that Charles Sobhraj had connections with an international criminal gang and had committed horrible crimes in other countries also. It is possible that some

international gangs may be active in our country because the way in which the narcotic drugs and arms are being smuggled into this country and are being supplied to the extremists, we cannot deny that some other international gangs are also active here. They want to create chaos and thus weaken the country. They must have helped Charles Sobhraj to escape. We must think on these lines and I think in the situation that we are facing at present this event must not be considered in isolation but has to be linked with other events and the entire issue must be seriously looked into. You have suspended the superintendent of the Tihar Jail on the suspicion that he was in collusion with them. From this we can hope that you will be able to get some definite information after cross-examining him.

I never had any regard for the Delhi police, but after this event, after the escape of these criminals, the way in which the Delhi police had sent information, the way they spread their net all around and the promptness with which they acted and sealed off some areas, has created a lot of regard for them in my mind. Now it seems that Charles Sobhraj will not be able to escape from this country and will surely be caught and punished.

Sir, I would like to give two or three suggestions, through you. My first suggestion is that the police and the intelligence agencies should get an opportunity once in a month or once in two months to verify the prisoners' conduct in those jails where international criminals are kept. In those jails where such notorious criminals are kept, there is every likelihood that they may hatch conspiracies in collusion with other criminals and may also train the other criminals. Therefore, my suggestion is that the right to verify their conduct should be included in the Police Manual. My second suggestion is that the entire country should have a uniform jail manual so that the police and the intelligence agencies may be able to look into the working of the jails from time to time. My third suggestion is that the staff working inside a jail should not be allowed to remain in the same jail for a long time, because it has been observed that wherever the prisoners remain for a long time, they develop amity and

brotherhood with the staff of that jail. This fact we have seen in the jails of Uttar Pradesh. Wherever the criminals remain for a long time, there they develop amity and brotherhood with the jail staff and because of this reason the people in those villages to which the jail staff belong are afraid of them as notorious criminals are imprisoned there. Therefore, I would like to suggest that no staff should be allowed to remain in one jail for a long time. The police and jail employees should be mutually transferred. From time to time the jail staff should be transferred to the police force and the police staff should be transferred to jails so that they may not able to establish harmony with the criminals.

Sir, I also share the concern that has been expressed by other hon. Members in this august House and I hope that the criminals who have escaped would be caught soon.

[English]

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIŠINAN (Badagara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. The Tihar Jailbreak by Charles Sobhraj and his accomplices, the criminals, is not an ordinary event. It is one of the most disgraceful episodes with its national fame and infamy.

Ten years ago, Sir, when one Deputy Superintendent of Police, one Mr. Tuli, nabbed him in the Vikram Hotel of Delhi, it made international headlines and the entire world heaved a sigh of relief, the Interpol, World Press, investigating agencies all praised the Delhi Police.

Sir, above all, this is an indication. That was the year of crowning glory when Mrs. Indira Gandhi was our Prime Minister we had a stable regime, but now, Sir, that has been turned into an hour of monumental failure. Sir, we have indeed travelled a great deal since 1975. And then we did not have a pompous department called 'the Department of Internal Security'. We were called by little or smaller names, Ministry of Home Affairs and more mundane names—what have you. But now you have a Department of Internal Security, but you see it is proportional to the galloping deterioration in the efficiency of our Police,

the systems, the jail authorities and security agencies. That is why when faced with a very dangerous, deadly but brilliant—give the devil its due—international criminal with an inflexible will, this Government has been pulverised.

Sir, he took away six criminals ! I shudder to imagine this thing : He spared Satwant Singh there ! What would have happened if this birthday party had ended in the disappearance of late Prime Minister's assassin ? Can you imagine that ?

Charles Sobhraj was no ordinary criminal. It is a well known fact that he was wanted in Thailand for murder, drug ever traffic in Nepal, for murder in Turkey, Greece, France, Germany and so on, for numerous crimes. This high valued but dangerous prisoner of Tihar required special security. Was that security provided commensurate with the ramifications of this prisoner and his gangs ? That is the question we have to address ourselves.

Others have narrated many tales on the question of primary jail administration and so on. But here I want to point out something more important. He had numerous contacts in India. He had established a business in Bombay with the son of the Chairman of a construction company, who is a friend of many Ministers. I do not want to name them now. What has happened to this business, I would like to know? Not only was he a specially treated VIP prisoner, but he had many links which were extended to people involved in espionage cases. I specifically quote a case. One Swaran Rathore, wife of Capt. Rathore involved in the Samba espionage case, has gone on record saying in an interview :

"Now Charles Sobhraj is taking care of my daughter's education..."

This is in the year of grace 1986.

"He is giving Rs 300/- per month to her."

Why Charles picked up daughter of an Army officer involved in an espionage case for this bounty? It needs some explanation. I want a specific reply to this point. Where did he get money from ? He has been an under-trial prisoner for 10 years in Tihar Jail. How was it transferred every month, for a lady to come forward and say publi-

[Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan]

cly that her daughter was being educated by him ?

Not only Charles Sobhraj, but there are many other top ranking officers, businessmen and highly connected individuals who formed his contact ring in the country. Let us not just reduce it to a failure of some petty jail officials who were tempted by some sweets are petty amounts of money. It is totally a failure of our security set up. I am not trying to blame Mr. Arun Nehru or my great friend, Mr. Mridha or anybody. It is a failure of the entire system, the security set up. It is not only confined to this case. I want to invite the attention of the House to a thing which has happened the other day in Kerala. It is again a criminal failure on the part of the Government in a related matter.

Six weeks ago, a strange thing happened. On 29th January, 1986 two leading personalities of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia—Sheikh Al Sayeed Yusuf Syed Hashim Al Rifal, Chairman of World Muslim Minority Brotherhood...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Names of human beings !

SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN : And Anwar Yakub Rifal—landed in Trivandrum by an Abu Dhabi flight. The entry of these very persons had been banned by the Home Ministry vide Circular No. 44/85 and 45/85 dated 12.7.85.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
Which Ministry ?

SHRI K.P. UNNIKISHNAN : By Home Ministry. The Order said that even if they had valid documents, detain them ; they are not to proceed. Now, they have been identified by his Ministry as well as by the Ministry of External Affairs as belonging to a group carrying on vicious anti-national propaganda against India. against the former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, against Indian politicians by name, the opposition parties, everybody. He was put on the category of Alert-Prior Reference category.

When these Rifals landed, they had no Indian Visas but the Immigration Officer of

Trivandrum Airport was compelled by the staff belonging to a Minister, to issue a Landing Permit for 48 hours. They were received with garlands by two ruling front MLAs belonging to the Muslim League and provided State cars with National Tri-colour.

Accompanied by MLAs of the ruling front and entertained by Ministers of Kerala Government in State Government Guest Houses at Cochin, Calicut, Cannanore, with impunity they carried out anti-national activities. First, the Superintendent of Police of Ma'appuram was compelled again by Ministers to extend their stay and stamp their passports. In none of these places were they registered as a foreigner under the Foreigners Registration Act. Then the Collectors of Malappuram district and Calicut district were compelled again. So, they went staying in Government Guest Houses in Cochin, Calicut and Cannanore.....
(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
Where are they now ? In Delhi ?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKISHNAN : They have gone back now. With impunity, these anti-national traducers made a mockery of our security. If people can walk in and get out like this anywhere and they get treated like this, the question that I want to ask is whether it is Charles Subharj who walks out of the jail or Rifal brothers who land here, what are our security agencies doing ? What were they doing during these fifteen days when they were here ? Who is in charge ? As I said, we have acquired a new name, a very pompous name of Internal Security, but what is the security that we have ? Whether it is Charles or Rifals or so many others, whoever is violating our frontiers or violating our laws, is posing a great threat to security.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not make a long speech but what has happened at Tihar Jail is something sickening because this incident has brought a bad name to the country. Whichever Department is concerned, I do not know—Mr. Unnikrishnan has raised a question whether it is the Union Home Ministry as a whole or it is the Department of Internal Security—but I would plead for a very deterrent action against the people who have brought bad name to the country

particularly when the atmosphere is charged in the country and there is a sense of insecurity. I am happy that the Government has straightaway registered a case of conspiracy against the jail officials. I feel it was a conspiracy because I do not subscribe to the view that the officials were drunk and they fell unconscious. They must have fallen unconscious but they must have been a part of the conspiracy.....
(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : According to plan,

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Shobhraj is a character like that. I do not know how the jail authorities at Tihar were negligent of their duty. I heard Mr. Madhu Dandavate's speech. He has explained in detail how the officials at Tihar jail have exhibited dereliction of duty. And Mr. Unnikrishnan has added a dimension. Now, the Government says they know it was a conspiracy but they are going to look into it through an official. Here I support Mr. Madhu Dandavate that there should be a first rate judicial inquiry. When I explain "first rate", with the permission of the hon. Speaker, I raise the question that this case must be looked into by a Judge who is known widely for his integrity. I do not cast any aspersions on Judges as a class.

18.00 hrs

But whenever you appoint some time a judge in whom people do not repose trust, eyebrows are raised. There are some judges who are known for their pliability. Therefore it must be a judge who is widely respected in the country for his integrity and it must be a judge who loves India better than anything else, more than anything else.

MR. SPEAKER : It is okay,

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Now, Sir, as I said, I will not have to make a longish speech. I have some questions in my mind which I will briefly narrate.

One question is this :

Why is it that our international airports received message of the mishap after great delay, particularly Bombay ? Bombay

received the message by 8-30 P M and Bombay did not receive the message directly ; it received the message through Jaipur. What is the reason ? Because, Bombay of all the cities in India was very much important, because, it was at Bombay in 1971 and in 1976 that Sobhraj was apprehended.

Then the second question is this : The incident occurred at 2-30 P M. The Central Police Control Room in Delhi got the message at 3-40 P M. Why this delay ?

The third thing is this: Sobhraj was booked for petty crimes, although he belonged to and he was working, for international Mafia dealing in drugs. He was not an ordinary criminal or an ordinary smuggler.

Sir, I am finishing within a minute.

Fourthly, Sobhraj has been a **

I should not have used this term in this august House. But this fact was known to authorities. the Tihar jail His girlfriends used to come to that jail.

MR. SPEAKER : It will not form part of the record.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Is there any record about that ? Fifthly, there is an Ajay Kumar, an under-trial. He walks out of the jail with Sobhraj although he had to suffer the jail term for another two months or more.

MR. SPEAKER : It is expunged.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Why does he move out ? Then ASP Shri Yadav says that the jail break occurred at 10-30 A M. What is the version of Mohd. Atiq who has cooperated with the jail authorities and refused to move out ? The Government should have made a statement on this. So far as timing is concerned, now ASP says it is 10-30 A.M. Your first information report says, it is 2-30 P.M.

MR. SPEAKER : It is okay.

PROF SAIFUDDIN SOZ : And now what is the version of Mr. Mohd Ariq ?

[Prfo. Saifuddin Soz]

Sobhraj was moved to low security area. What is the reason ?

MR. SPEAKER : All those points have been covered.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Finally, Mr. Dinesh Kumar comes and surrenders before the jail authorities. I feel that it is a part of the conspiracy probably Sobhraj wants to distract our attention to Dinesh Kumar and this may be a part of the conspiracy. So, finally, Sir, everything will come out if the Government comes forward within a day and announces a first-rate judicial enquiry, as I have explained.

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjhar-pur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, after hearing my friends from the Opposition, I was thinking that had I come across Sobhraj somewhere, I would have told him that our friends were missing him badly; that it did not behove him to escape like a thief; that he ran away two days earlier otherwise these friends would have taken him out in a procession; they would have taken him to Bihar from Tihar Jail and made him the leader of the revolutionary march...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Vere bad.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : What does he mean by that ? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS: I would say only one thing. You all were surprised when Sobhraj had escaped from the Tihar Jail but the newspapermen were not at all surprised. Many people know that Sobhraj used to entertain many people and provide financial support to many others. It is openly said that he used to bear the entire household expenses of the people who were apprehended in the Samba Spy Case.

Due to lack of time I would like to make only one or two suggestions. First, the guest houses functioning in the residential areas should be closed down. In Delhi, narcotic drug trade is carried on on a large

scale and all the criminals who are involved in this trade live in these guest houses and operate from there.

I have visited many jails. The inspectors of the jails say that what guarantee is there for their own lives. They say that is the criminals escape or are granted bail they destroy the members of their families and, therefore, what is the guarantee for their families ? Therefore, some arrangements must be made for the security of the members of the families of the jail inspectors.

What I am going to say next is a very serious matter. You have just now said that when the news readers of All India Radio and T. V. were reading their news bulletins, at that time some outsider intruded into their cabin. If tomorrow some outsider intrudes in to the newsreader's cabin while he is reading the news bulletin on Radio or T. V., and after pushing him aside, begins broadcasting himself then what will happen to the country ? I will say that this is a matter of grave concern and must be given a serious thought.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, I have heard very carefully and with great attention what Prof. Dandevate and other hon. Members have said on this incident, the most regrettable incident of jail break that took place right here in Delhi. The concern expressed by the hon. Members is very much justifiable and I fully share it and I can very well understand and appreciate all the feelings, all the thoughts and all the reactions of the hon. Members on a subject which is of the highest importance so far as security in this particular case, as also the wider aspect of security are concerned. It is all the more serious because it involves a person of international notoriety like Sobhraj. The incident of this nature would, in any case, have been a serious one, but since a person like Sobhraj is involved, it takes on a much added significance and much added ramifications which have and

through you, the House that the Government does not take the incident lightly. On the other hand, we take it very seriously and we can assure you, Sir, that we will do all on our part to see that this thing does not recur and we take lessons from this incident.

The incident took place on 16th. The Delhi Police control room was alerted, they informed all the State Governments, and the Airports, the Interpol informed the foreign governments and very expeditious action was taken. As I just mentioned, Dinesh Kumar was arrested on the 17th and...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Surrendered.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : He came to the jail.

AN HON. MEMBER : And then surrendered.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He felt ashamed that he was not arrested.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : He was arrested by the police.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He was not arrested, he just came and embraced you.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : He must have felt that he has done a wrong thing and was just got arrested...

(Interruptions).

Sir, about Bhola Ram...

[Translation]

MR, SPEAKER : He was Simpleton by name.

[English]

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : ...the Delhi Police pursued him, they had some information as to where he can be in Delhi and ultimately they went to Gwalior where he was arrested early morning today.

Prof. Dandavate raised a very important point as to why Sobhraj was not extradited in spite of the fact that his extradition proceedings were over. It is true that the extradition proceedings were over but a Special Leave Petition by the U. P.

Government was before the Supreme Court and therefore, we could not extradite him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Was there any stay order ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Well, Sir, I have the Extradition Act before me which says that if there are any such proceedings pending, we cannot extradite him. This is a legal matter and we could not have extradited him while the proceedings are going on in the Supreme Court.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I want one information. Did the U. P. Government intervene and urge that this should not be implemented ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There are a large number of cases pending against him. He has been acquitted on some of them. The U.P. Government has gone to the Supreme Court and a Special Leave Petition is filed. They do not want him go scot-free.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He is required to be sent to Thailand. If he is hanged in Thailand, no other punishment would have been required in Uttar Pradesh at all.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There are legal provisions. This is the reason why we could not physically send him to Thailand because proceedings against him were pending in the Supreme Court as long as they are there, we could not take any action otherwise.

Now the question arises as to what action the Government has taken. A lot has been said that it cannot be a mere question of escape but a much wider collusion is there and there can be a conspiracy of big shots which can reach a large number of officials in the jail and outside. It is exactly from that point of view the Government has not only suspended but filed criminal cases and arrested 8 officers, which is unprecedented as far as I remember. The hon. Members might know better that in an administrative case of this nature, we have arrested those people and arraigned them for 4 offences. Section 120 B is also added to the various offences saying that they are part of the bigger conspiracy and we are seriously pursuing this

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

investigation. This is a measure of seriousness with which the Government is looking at this stage. We are not leaving anything to chance. This is one reason why we will not be able to have judicial inquiry or any other type of inquiry because what will the inquiry say. They will say a lot of people have been implicated. We ourselves say that they have been implicated. It is not only we say, but we have registered a case and investigation is on. Evidence will be taken and everyone involved in whatever way would be brought to book. We can assure this to the House. Therefore, we have taken a very serious step and the House should feel assured that it is with a measure of seriousness this case has been taken up.

The other point was that it is a routine administrative inquiry and it would not be a sort of substitute for a bigger inquiry of the nature suggested. It is an administrative inquiry which would take its own course. But the seriousness of the situation is reflected from the fact that, we have registered a case against these people, in the conspiracy case and we will pursue it from that point of view. It is exactly from that point of view, a number of points have been raised, a number of reports have come in the newspaper. I feel that though I have some facts which I can lay before the House, I think, this would prejudice the investigation and enquiry which is going on. Therefore, I will not mention the various incidents about which the hon. Members wanted to know.

As regards the wider issues of what we propose to do in the future, about the Chawla Commission, and somebody mentioned about the Mulla Commission, I would like to say something. First of all, what we propose to do is, to appoint a full-time Inspector General of Police (Prisons) for Tihar. We have appointed today right away a senior IPS officer Up till now DC was ex-officio Inspector General of Police (Prisons). We think, that this is not a proper situation, A full-time senior officer should be in-charge of it and we appointed him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I.G. of Prisons will be under him ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : He would be the I.G. (Prisons). Now, the DC is ex-officio I.G. (P). Now there would be

a full-time officer and he is from the IPS and he would be the Inspector General of Police in charge of Tihar Jail. We have decided to strengthen the jail administration. We are undertaking a study of the security aspects of the whole thing. We have introduced photo identity cards for the staff. We are streamlining the procedure for visitors. I agree with the hon. Members that on Sundays there can be no visitors. There are rules prohibiting taking food from outside. All that have been contravened. They have been contravened. Otherwise these things would not have happened. We are trying to plug all the loopholes that have come before us in this way. And we are trying to see what we can do.

Well, Tihar is a very overcrowded Jail. It is under-staffed and we have been trying to improve things. We would build a new one also, as I just mentioned. We have acquired land in Shahdara, more than 75 acres of land. We have put Rs. 2.5 crores in the plan to build a new jail. We are conscious of the fact that this is a very over-crowded jail and we will try to shift there as soon as possible.

A number of things were mentioned about jail reform. Naturally, a debate of this nature leads us to a much wider aspect of jail reforms which are in themselves highly complicated but, at the same time, a very important aspect for consideration.

For the upgradation of the jail administration and special establishment of new jail buildings, the 8th Finance Commission provided Rs. 137 crores to the various States. We presume they must have used it for the purpose they have given. In this Plan also, Home Ministry itself has made a provision for Rs. 50 crores which is available to us in the next four years for giving to the State Governments on a matching basis so that they can also improve their jail administration and jail buildings etc.

On jail reforms, Chawla report was mentioned. A number of recommendations have been made there. Some of them have been in active form. Juvenile offenders have been segregated. Women prisoners have already been segregated. They suggested some trades etc. to be taught to them. We have also done that. We have taken in hand a number of small but important reforms that they suggested.

I agree with the hon. Members that the question of jail reforms should be gone into in a much thorough way, whatever reports that are available to us, not only for Tihar but the jail administration as a whole in the country. We go to them and gather ideas about jail intelligence, about the training of personnel, the recruitment of new men, the ex-servicemen, we keep all these things in view.

I can assure you once again and through you the whole House that we have taken up this matter very seriously and we will do everything in our power to set things right not only in Tihar but in other jails also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : By the time of our discussion, is that criminal arrested ?

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara:) What about the points I raised ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
Keralawala.

MR. SPEAKER : That will take care of that also.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I also asked about people who were visiting him and who were getting money regularly from Shobraj.

SHRI ARUN NEHRU : About Kerala

matter, if I may be permitted to answer I think what the hon. Member mentioned is quite right in terms of the facts regarding entry. We had sent the orders out. We are investigating it. We will revert in that matter.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Very good.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : I have to mention about two things. Number one, about Half-an-Hour Discussion which was to follow. We would like to take up this tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, if the House so desires.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : There was supposed to be a discussion on terrorist activities.

PROF. MADHU DANDVATE : Take up the Maharashtra Governor issue tomorrow.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Since we have already discussed and the Opposition has also wanted that it should be taken up latter on, I think we can take it up latter on.

MR. SPEAKER: If the House so desires, I have no objection. Okay we shall take it up sometime later on.

18.18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 20, 1986/ Phalguna 29, 1907 (Saka)