

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHAN-

TARAM POTDUKHE) (a) and (b) : A
statement is given below :—

STATEMENT

Statement showing department-wise amount of Plan funds not utilised and surrendered by the Government of Meghalaya in 1990-91 and the reasons therefor as reported by the State Government.

S. No.	Department	Amount not utilised and surrendered	Reasons for surrender non-utilisation
		(Rs. in lakhs)	
1.	Agriculture	Nil	
2.	Education	Nil	
3.	Rural Development		
	(a) Strengthening of administration	2.70	Due to the fact that some vacant posts could not be filled up.
	(b) JRY Schemes	2.82	Due to less requirement of State's share under the programme during the year.
	(c) Housing	1.21	Due to non-accordance of sanction for the scheme.
4.	(a) Animal Husbandry	7.96	Due to non-accordance of sanction for purchase of vehicles etc.
	(b) Dairy.	3.56	Due to non-accordance of sanction for purchase of vehicles.
5.	Tourism	0.69	Surrendered due to non-availability of land etc.
	(Meant for Yatri Niwas at Shillong)		

AFTER-SALE SERVICE TO CONSUMERS

1427. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
Will the MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has held in the recent past that not providing after sale service to consumers is an act of unfair trade practice;

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have come to the notice of the Government during the last twelve months and the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of cases pending investigation with the Director General of Investigation;

(d) since when these cases are pending and steps taken to expedite their investigation;

(e) the number of cases pending finalisation in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission and since when; and

(f) the reasons for the delay in the finalisation thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) :

(a) After taking into consideration the evidence produced, in two recent cases, the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices

Commission has come to a conclusion that failure to render satisfactory after-sales service by the respondents amounted to an unfair trade practice within the meaning of Section 36A(1) of the MRTP Act, 1969.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) As on 30-6-1991, there were 47 investigation cases pending, relating to unfair trade practices referred to the Director General of Investigation & Registration.

(d) Out of the above 47 cases, 13 relate to year 1990 and 34 relate to year 1991. Director General of Investigation and Registration is pursuing with the parties involved in the investigation to expedite submission of the relevant information.

(e) As on 30-6-1991 there were 545 cases relating to unfair trade practices pending enquiry with the MRTP Commission and the age-wise analysis is as follows :—

1984	5
1985	13
1986	57
1987	108
1988	93
1989	76
1990	92
1991	101
	Total 545

(f) The MRTP Commission is a quasi-judicial body and is required to follow the procedure laid down in the MRTP Act, 1969; MRTPC Regulations, 1991 and Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. The time involved in disposing of the enquiries depends upon the nature of the issues, conduct of the parties etc.

[Translation]

BOOTH CAPTURING AND RIGGING INCIDENTS DURING TENTH LOK SABHA ELECTIONS

1429. SHRI DILIP SINGH BHURIA :
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of booth capturing and rigging which took place during the Tenth Lok Sabha elections. constituency-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) :

(a) Statements No. I and II showing the constituency-wise number of polling stations where repoll had to be ordered due to incidents of booth capturing and such like malpractices and parliamentary constituencies where elections were countermanded due to large scale booth capturing and violence are given below.

(b) Election Commission takes all possible steps to prevent electoral malpractices and irregularities. It is, however, for the concerned State Government to make arrangements for Law and order and to ensure that incidents of booth capturing etc. do not take place. The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1990 introduced in Rajya Sabha in May, 1990 by the previous government seeks to make the offence of booth capturing a cognizable one and to enhance the punishment for the offence where such offence is committed by a person in the service of Government. The Bill also provides for strengthening of Section 58A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 so that Election Commission could take a decision to countermand the poll on a report from the Returning Officer or otherwise. However, in view of the incidents in the last General Elections, the Government being committed to bringing in electoral reforms, feel that the matter requires further in-depth study before any concrete steps are proposed.