

1	2	3	4	5
0313	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, AT&P.O. Gartibanali, Distt. Purnea-854301.	14	14	26
0314	Holy Family Convent, Tilka Manjhi Bhagalpur-812001	32	36	80
0315	DBMS Career Academy, DMBS Road, No. 7, B.H. Area, Jamshedpur-831005.	297	316	295
0316	St. John's High School, Purulia Road, Ranchi-834001.	151	264	324

[English]

**Loss of Revenue due to Closure of Taj Mahal**

3129. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR:  
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study to assess the loss of revenue as a result of closure of Taj Mahal for visitors on every Monday;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to open Taj Mahal for visitors on every Monday also;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Such a study is not considered necessary as the monument is being closed to visitors on Monday primarily as a measure of preservation and conservation.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

(f) Question does not arise.

**Profit in Super Bazar/NCCF**

3130. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3634 dated December 22, 1998 and state:

(a) the reasons for the net profit being less than the Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) the details of the overhead expenses of the NCCF and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bring them down; and

(c) the details of brand items that NCCF supplied to Government departments and the rates and the names of the suppliers that supply the items to the Government departments, their cost price to the NCCF during 1998 till date and how these compare with the Kendriya Bhandar and the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The NCCF has informed that the main reason for less profit of NCCF is its interest liability.

(b) The Establishment and administrative expenses are the main contributors of overhead expenses of NCCF. The details of the same are as under:—

(Fig. in lakhs of Rs.)

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Establishment Exps.	366.78	447.31	484.83
Administrative Exps.	129.42	152.26	161.21

NCCF have informed that they have taken various steps to reduce its expenses such as introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme, closure of uneconomic branches and other austerity measures.

(c) NCCF, Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar have different policies relating to the procurement and supply of brand items to different agencies. These policies are guided by the demand of a particular item, procurement and distribution cost, mode of payment and the receiving agencies. As such, any comparison between their rates of supply, cost of supply, suppliers and agencies to which supplied may not be meaningful and also possible due to practical difficulties involved in the collection of voluminous information.

#### Scavengers in Metropolitan Cities

3131. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scavengers still existed in the country particularly in metropolitan cities like Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Chennai;

(b) the ratio of male and female scavengers among them;

(c) whether the existence of scavengers ridicules the advancement of the cities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The task force constituted by the Planning Commission in July, 1989 had estimated State/UT-wise scavengers aggregating to 4,00,999 scavengers with male and female ratio of 65:35. Nevertheless, such estimates were not made for specific cities. The subsequent estimates based on information given by States/UTs indicates the number of scavengers as 5,77,228.

(c) and (d) The Government is committed to rehabilitate all existing scavengers and in this regard 2,90,308 scavengers have already been assisted for rehabilitation upto 1997-98 under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents. The National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) as well as National Safai Karmacharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) also provide soft loans for viable projects for their rehabilitation.

#### Increase in Intravenous Drug Users

3132. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the growing number of Intravenous Drug Users (IDUs) in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to eliminate this social evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Several reports and studies have indicated to the increasing incidence of Intravenous Drug Users (IDUs) amongst the vulnerable sections of Society, especially, in the North Eastern States of India, populous industrialised States and in metropolitan cities.

(b) The Ministry is implementing a scheme entitled 'Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention' wherein grant-in-aid is sanctioned to non-Governmental