

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourth Session
(Twelfth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. VIII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 17, 1999/Phalguna 26, 1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

11.00 hrs.

....(Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri Ramdas Athole and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance immediately after the Question Hour. Please go to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

....(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, it will go on record if you speak after the Question Hour. Please go to your seats..

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call you conveniently after the Question Hour. You will be allowed after the Question Hour and it will go on record. Please go to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I will allow you after the Question Hour is over. There is no question of suspending the Question Hour. Please go to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will give you a chance to speak after the Question Hour is over and it will then go on record. What is the use of doing this?

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Prime Minister will make a statement. Please go to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Shinde, the hon. Prime Minister himself voluntarily offered that he will make a statement. Please go to your seat now.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Kawade, the hon. Prime Minister wants to make a statement now. Please go to your seat.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do not interrupt like this. The hon. Prime Minister wants to make a statement now.

11.05 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Shalendra Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you please go to your seats? Shri Kawade, please go to your seat.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is going to make a statement. Please go to your seats. You hear him.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. Let the Prime Minister make a statement. He is going to make a statement.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is going to make a Statement. Shri Shalendra Kumar, please go to your seat.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (SOLAPUR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir this is the first time in the history of Parliament that the entire Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Members of Parliament have come together and demanded that they should withdraw the circulars, the GRs which had been issued against reservations in services for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The Prime Minister should tell us that at least he will withdraw all the circulars which had been issued against the interests of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes(Interruptions)

11.06 hrs.

At this stage Shri Shalendra Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : We do not want any Question Hour today.

11.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, will you please allow me to speak in the House?

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (SOLAPUR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are eager to listen to the Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, let him make a statement. Will you please sit down? I am on my legs.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Virendra Singh, I am on my legs. Will you please sit down? I am warning you, Shri Virendra Singh.

[Translation]

PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : We are obeying your order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are not following the orders.

....(Interruptions)

11.09 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Meena, I am on my legs. I will have to name you. There is a limit to everything. Nothing will go on record.

....(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Gawai, I am on my legs. Please let me say something in the House.

[Translation]

Why are you standing, please..

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : Under what rule, can you name us? What have we done? We have written to you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Are you challenging my ruling? Will you please resume your seat?

....(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH : How can you name us?

*Not Recorded

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not the way.

....(Interruptions)

11.10 hrs.

At this stage, Shrimati Meira Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, this is not the way. You are interrupting the House.

[Translation]

Please, take your seat.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is prepared to make a statement and you are not allowing him.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh, you are a senior leader. I want to say something and you are not allowing me to say anything.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is ready to make a statement, please go back to your seats.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You do not want the Prime Minister to make a statement.

....(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Crop Rotation

*301. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Agriculture has recommended to adopt the crop rotation method to increase the production of foodgrains in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any action plan to implement this recommendation of the National Commission on Agriculture; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) The National Commission on Agriculture had in general recommended adoption of crop rotation for increasing the production of crops.

(b) and (c) The Government has been following the approach of crop rotations in the crop development programmes. These programmes have been modified from time to time as per research recommendations suited to different situations. Presently the crop based programmes are being implemented on cropping system approach basis which ensures adoption of proper crop rotations in the system.

[English]

P. M. Visit to Pakistan

*302. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Prime Minister during his recent visit to Lahore had discussed several issues with the Pakistan Prime Minister;

(b) if so, the details of the issues discussed and agreement signed between the two countries;

(c) the contents of the Lahore Declaration;

(d) the reaction of USA, UK, Japan and other countries to the declaration; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to give impetus to the agreements signed with Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (e) The Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, visited Pakistan on the inaugural run of the Delhi-Lahore-Delhi bus service on 20-21 February 1999. During his visit, the Prime Minister conveyed to the Government and people of Pakistan India's deep desire for peace and friendship with them and to develop a stable and comprehensive structure of cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples.

Prime Minister's discussions with the Pakistan Prime Minister were wide-ranging, covering the entire range of bilateral relations, regional cooperation within SAARC and issues of international concern. Prime Minister empha-

sised that the peoples of the two countries desire lasting peace and an environment where their security, progress and prosperity can be assured. For this purpose, he conveyed that it was essential that the forces of violence and terrorism be combated and the hands of the advocates of harmony, balance and realism be strengthened for the development of good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Pakistan signed the Lahore Declaration on 21 February 1999. The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan also signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Confidence Building Measures. A Joint Statement was also issued at the conclusion of the visit. The triad of documents aims at moving the relationship forward across a broad front by building trust and confidence, exploring avenues of mutually beneficial cooperation and addressing outstanding issues. It is noteworthy that in both the Lahore Declaration and the Memorandum of Understanding, India and Pakistan have reaffirmed their determination to implementing the Simla Agreement in letter and spirit. The Simla Agreement remains the cornerstone for the conduct of bilateral relations between India and Pakistan.

In the Lahore Declaration, the Prime Ministers have agreed that the two countries will intensify efforts to resolve all issues, including the issue of Jammu & Kashmir, through the composite dialogue process; refrain from intervention and interference in each other's internal affairs; combat the menace of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; protect human rights; take immediate steps to reduce the risk of accidental or unauthorised use of nuclear weapons and to discuss security concepts and doctrines with a view to elaborating measures for confidence building in the nuclear and conventional fields, aimed at prevention of conflict; and reaffirm their commitment to the objectives of SAARC and to work towards the realisation of the SAARC vision for the year 2000 and beyond with a view to promoting the welfare of the peoples of their countries.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Foreign Secretaries contains details of the confidence building measures that the two countries intend to put into place. It has been agreed that, where required, the technical details of these measures will be worked out by experts of the two sides in meetings to be held on mutually agreed dates before mid-1999 with a view to reaching bilateral agreements.

In the Joint Statement issued on 21 February 1999, it was also decided that the two Foreign Ministers would meet periodically to discuss all issues of mutual concern, that the two sides would undertake consultations on WTO related issues with a view to coordinating their respective positions and also that they would determine areas of cooperation in information technology, in particular, for tackling the problem of Y2K. In addition, the two sides

also decided to hold consultations with a view to further liberalising the visa and travel regimes and to appoint a two-member committee at Ministerial level to examine humanitarian issues relating to civilian detainees and missing PoWs.

Various humanitarian issues have already been taken up during a meeting held at the official level on 5-6 March 1999 in Islamabad. As a result of these talks, it was agreed that India would release 43 Pakistani civilian prisoners and Pakistan would release 18 Indian civilian prisoners within three weeks. The two sides also finalized a draft mechanism on improved procedures for handling civilian prisoners for submission to the Ministerial Committee. Issues relating to fishermen, visa procedures and PoWs were also touched upon during these discussions. It is Government's earnest hope to build on the opportunities that are available on account of the Prime Minister's historic initiative. Government intend to seriously implement the understandings contained in the various documents agreed upon during the Summit and expect that the Government of Pakistan will reciprocate.

The international community, including the Governments of USA and Japan, has warmly welcomed the historic initiative taken by the Prime Minister, as also the Lahore Declaration, the Memorandum of Understanding and the Joint Statement.

Spurious Seeds

*303. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI M. BAGA REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are being supplied inferior quality of seeds;

(b) whether the cotton seeds, onion seeds and now chilli seeds have been found defective and have affected the crop yield;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stern measures taken by the Union Government to check the sale of spurious seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) Yes, Sir. Some instances of supply of inferior quality seeds have been reported.

(b) and (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh reported that cotton cultivars, viz. Navratna, Moti, Manik, Ajeet-II, White Gold and Bio-seed-6569 have not performed well under certain field conditions like water-logging due to excessive rains in Warangal and Guntur Districts and have affected the crop yield in 37,762 acres

and 1,500 acres respectively. Onion seeds distributed by Andhra Pradesh State Seed Development Corporation (APSSDC) for 200 acres were found defective and the seeds have been replaced. No report has been received about supply of defective Chilli seeds from any State.

(d) Seeds Act, 1966 and Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 are the two legal instruments to check the sale of spurious seeds.

In order to ensure availability of quality seeds to farmers, seed has been declared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

The responsibility of Seed Law Enforcement is vested with the State Governments. Seed Inspectors notified under relevant provisions are authorised to draw samples from seed sellers. Action is taken against the sellers of sub-standard seeds as per the provisions specified in the Seeds Act and Seeds (Control) Order.

Crop Insurance Scheme

*304. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

SHRI H. P. SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make it compulsory for farmers to insure their groundnut crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the farmers who have taken loan from banks are only to be covered under crop insurance scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS), now under implementation in the country, insurance cover is available only to farmers availing the loan facility from the financial institutions. Under the Modified Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (MCCIS) proposed to be introduced, non-loanee farmers are also intended to be covered on an optional basis.

Bus Service to China

*305. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADODA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce a bus service between India and China on the pattern of India-Pakistan bus service;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is any proposal for the Prime Minister to undertake such a visit to China by bus;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which above bus service is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

SAARC Conference

*306. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI A. C. JOS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has volunteered to work as a co-ordinator and facilitator for free flow of Multilingual and Multimedia Information Technology (MMIT) and education among the countries of South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this offer was made at SAARC Conference on MMIT which was held recently;
- (d) the details of suggestions/recommendations made at the conference; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (e) A SAARC Conference on Multilingual and Multimedia Information Technology was held from 1-4th September, 1998 at Pune, India. The Conference discussed various aspects of Information Technology relevant to the SAARC countries and made recommendations for cooperation in this field. These recommendations are set out in the Statement.

The recommendations of the Conference were placed before the SAARC Committee on Science & Technology

which met in New Delhi from 24-26th February, 1999. No specific decision was taken by the Committee at this meeting on the recommendations. It is for SAARC countries to take a consensual view agreeing on a coordinator/facilitator for free flow of Information Technology.

Statement

Recommendations made by the Conference on 'Extending the use of Multilingual & Multimedia Information Technology held in Pune-1-4 Sept., 1998;

1. In the event of activity of software business globally, the multilingual software development has so far been considered as non-glamorous and therefore has not received the attention it deserves to propagate Multilingual and Multimedia Information Technology (MMIT). The Member States may therefore endeavour to offer greater incentives to encourage the development of MMIT and to promote its large scale usage in the respective countries. The industry may also set up Special interest Groups to focus the attention in this area.

2. The SAARC forum provides for cooperation in many fields among the SAARC nations. The Colombo Declaration issued at the Tenth SAARC Summit encourages exchange of Information Technology. The avenue should be used for greater cooperation among SAARC nations for development of MMIT, imparting education and training and for free flow of technology and products. As an enabling mechanism for this, focal points for Information Technology may be established in each country with special focus on MMIT. Suitable networking arrangement may be initiated in this regard.

3. In order to encourage wide spread use of MMIT, Member States may encourage introduction of specific course module in this area in all Degree Colleges and other academic institutions. For this Distance Education made for delivering quality education may be provided.

4. The following are the major areas for development where focus needs to be increased:

- (i) Human Machine Interface Systems including Speech Recognition/Synthesis Technologies and Optical Character Recognition.
- (ii) Machine aided translation.
- (iii) Research in Ancient Languages.

5. There is a need to create information Contents using MMIT for effective documentation and dissemination of culture and heritage of the Region. For this mass media, Internet and CD-ROMs are an ideal choice, and thus could be used increasingly.

6. In order to spread the usage of MMIT, the localisation of important applications should be urgently

carried out. For this, the services of the software industry from the Region should be utilised.

7. In order to spread the information Technology education amongst the masses, including the schools, translation of the relevant course material should be carried out in the regional languages using MMIT.

8. Apart from the developing products and technologies, customer focus needs to be brought in for serving the user interests.

9. Standardisation of various scripts, unification of coding sets of similar languages, standardisation of terminology on computer in various languages, and Multimedia components, are an important prerequisite for faster spread of Multilingual Technologies and their cross migration among various applications and countries. A SAARC Task Force may be set up for proper co-ordination of this activity.

10. To enable deeper penetration of MMIT, recourse should be made to the internet for putting results on development in this area and information on cooperation efforts in the public domain for the benefit of all concerned. This may also promote evolution of common networking languages.

11. With the internet and needs developing in this area among SAARC countries, it was felt that such Conferences should be held every year by rotation among SAARC nations, which may also review progress on recommendations.

12. An annual SAARC MMIT award may be instituted in the Region for recognising commendable performance in this area.

[Translation]

National Rehabilitation Policy

*307. SHRIGAURI SHANKER CHATURBHUIJ BISEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate a National Rehabilitation Policy for the oustees of major and medium irrigation projects of the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) There is at present no National Resettlement Rehabilitation Policy. However, in the year 1980, the then Union Ministry of Irrigation had issued directives to all the States regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons due to major reservoir projects. Programmes for resettlement and

rehabilitation of persons affected by reservoir projects are presently carried out by the State Governments/project authorities as an integral part of the project based on their own policies which vary from State to State and Project to Project. Steps have been initiated for adopting a National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of persons affected by reservoir projects to get over the shortcomings in the implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation programmes. A draft policy document in this regard has been prepared by the National Water Board for consideration of the National Water Resources Council. However, the consideration/adoption of the said Policy by the National Water Resources Council depends on further modifications, if considered necessary, after the "National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of persons or families adversely affected or displaced on account of compulsory acquisition of land" and "Amendment to the Land Acquisition Act, 1894" presently under consideration by the Government is finalised in consultation with the States and various voluntary organisations.

Fish Production

*308. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :

DR. ASHOK PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that despite vast potential of fisheries in the country, those engaged in it are not getting the full benefit of it due to lack of technical know-how;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to educate those engaged in fisheries about its technical aspects so that better production could be achieved; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) Several steps have been taken by Government to disseminate technical details on fisheries and training to those working in the Fisheries Sector so that they can strive to achieve higher production. These steps, *inter-alia*, include training programmes for personnel engaged in fisheries, preparation of literature in simple language and its dissemination, establishment of demonstration-cum-training centres, dissemination of information through audio-visual media, etc.

Training of fishermen and fish farmers in modern aquaculture practices is one of the main components of the Schemes "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture" and "Integrated Coastal Aquaculture". The training activities under these schemes are made available to fish farmers through a network of 422 Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDA) and 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (BFDA).

About 5.77 lakh fishermen have been trained through FFDA's in freshwater aquaculture practices and about 12000 fishermen have been trained through the BFDA's in shrimp farming since the inception of the scheme.

Apart from the above, a separate Central Sector Scheme on "Training and Extension" is also implemented with the objective of augmenting the availability of qualified manpower for fisheries and broad basing the extension system. The main features of this scheme are:

- Introduction of short-term training programmes for fisheries extension officers and fish farmers on aquaculture, mariculture and other aspects related to fisheries development.
- Upgradation/setting up of training centres with Laboratory and dormitory facilities.
- Bringing out publicity material on different aspects of fisheries for use of fisheries personnel and fishermen/fish farmers.
- Production of video films on fisheries technologies and giving publicity through media.
- Organising and conducting National level workshops, seminars, meetings, etc. for exchange of information and for working out the future strategy.

Since inception of the scheme 5785 fishermen have been trained, 32 training centres were sanctioned for establishment/up-gradation, 72 extension manuals and 2 documentary films were sanctioned for preparation and 16 workshops/seminars/symposia were organised.

Beside the above, four institutes under the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, eight research institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and nine Colleges of Fisheries under the State Agricultural Universities are also engaged in human resource development activities for the fisheries sector.

[English]

G-15 Summit

*309. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had a wide ranging bilateral discussions on economic and political issues and matters of mutual interest with several Heads of States attending G-15 Summit;

(b) if so, the total Heads of States with whom the Prime Minister had discussions;

(c) the outcome of the discussions held with each of the Heads of States;

(d) to what extent Indian Government is pursuing the decisions taken in the meeting with Heads of States; and

(e) the issues discussed and final decision arrived at the G-15 Summit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (d) Prime Minister visited Montego Bay for the 9th G-15 Summit. In view of the nature of the programme arranged during this multilateral Conference, it was not feasible to have wide-ranging discussions with other Heads of States/Governments on matters of mutual interest. However, Prime Minister availed of the opportunity to speak with a number of leaders on current issues. These brief exchanges of views between PM and leaders present at the Summit mainly covered the present state of our relations and focussed on the need for greater exchanges and closer bilateral cooperation in various fields. Follow up action in this regard will be taken by the Government.

(e) The G-15 Summit deliberated extensively on issues of concern to developing countries. These included discussions on the current international economic situation in the light of the ongoing financial crisis, establishment of a fair and equitable rule-based multilateral trading system under the WTO, reform of the international monetary and financial architectures, South-South and intra-G-15 cooperation and prospects of undertaking a G-15 – G-8 dialogue. Sri Lanka became a member of G-15 at the Summit bringing the membership to seventeen.

The discussions of the Summit are reflected in the Joint Communique issued at the conclusion of the Summit. Its salient features include a call by G-15 countries to establish an international consultation process for reform of the international financial architecture. The Summit also welcomed India's offer to host an inter-governmental meeting of G-15 countries in preparation for the Third WTO Ministerial Conference. The Joint Communique also called for intensification of intra-G-15 and South-South Cooperation linkages and in this context also supported India's proposal to evolve a new strategic sector approach for South-South Cooperation in sectors like information technology, biotechnology and infrastructure development. Continuation and enhancement of G-15 dialogue with G-8 at all levels on the priority issues on the international economic agenda were also agreed upon.

Employment Opportunities

*310. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment opportunities have been created as per the target fixed for the Eighth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the annual growth rate is to increase to provide employment to one and all by 2002 AD; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) targetted a growth in employment of around 2.6% to 2.8% per annum. As per an assessment carried out by the Planning Commission the employment as per Usual Status, for age group fifteen years and above grew at the rate of 2.67% per annum during the period 1992-97.

(c) Based on the assessment of labour force for the year 2002, the rate of growth of employment required during 1997-2002 to achieve full employment for the year 2002 is estimated at 2.82% per annum.

(d) The Ninth Plan envisages a reduction in the unemployment rate from an average unemployment rate of 1.87% in the Eighth Plan to an average unemployment rate of 1.66% in the Ninth Plan. This goal is sought to be achieved by accelerating growth of productive employment opportunities on the basis of faster growth of employment-intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities such as agriculture, agro and rural industries, rural infrastructure, small and decentralised manufacturing sector, urban informal sector, trade transport, construction and services. Schemes such as Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), will be strengthened in the Ninth Plan period besides continuing the on-going scheme like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) etc.

Damage to Crops

*311. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large damage to crops and vegetables every year in the country caused by insects;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been sponsored or is proposed to be sponsored by the Union

Government in Orissa and other States where crops and vegetables are damaged due to insects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The Government are aware of the damage to crops and vegetables every year in the country as caused by insects. However, no large scale damage has been caused by the insects during recent crop seasons.

(b) and (c) The Union Government have a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to prevent insect damage to crops and vegetables in various States including Orissa. Details of such schemes are as under :-

1. Central Sector Scheme :

- i) Central Integrated Pest Management Centres;
- ii) Locust Control and Research;
- iii) Implementation of Insecticides Act, 1968;
- iv) Expansion of Plant Quarantine Facilities; and
- v) Training in Plant Protection.

2. Centrally Sponsored Sector Schemes : (with crop protection component)

- i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice).
- ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat).
- iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Coarse Cereals).
- iv) Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP).
- v) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems (SUBACS).
- vi) Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP)
- vii) National Pulses Development Project (NPDP).

- viii) Integrated Development Programme for Cashewnut.
- ix) Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India.
- x) Integrated Programme for Development of Spices (IPDS).

Major thrust of Central and State Governments is to control insects on crops and vegetables by promoting eco-friendly Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach.

[Translation]

Milch Cattles

- *312. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research work has been undertaken to improve the breed of milch cattles and to increase their milk yielding capacity;

(b) if so, the animals on which the above experiment has been carried out to successfully increase the milk production;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated to bring about qualitative change in these milch cattles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the estimated number of milch cattles in the country at present and the target set for increasing their number in the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various research programmes for improvement of indigenous cattle (Sahiwal, Red Sindhi, Gir, Tharparkar, Rathi, Kankrej, Ongole, Deoni, Hariana) for milk through selection as well as crossbreeding of non-descript and some indigenous cattle breeds with exotic dairy cattle breeds for increasing milk production have been undertaken at different ICAR Research Institutes, Central and State Livestock Breeding Farms, State Agricultural Universities, NDDB and by NGO,s.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Selective breeding of indigenous dairy cattle breeds, upgradation of local non-descript cows with im-

proved indigenous cattle breeds and crossbreeding with exotic dairy breeds is being undertaken to increase milk production. The crossbred dairy populations are being further improved. The estimated number of milch cattle including crossbreds was 57.8 million in 1992 and has been projected as 61.7 million in 1999.

[English]

Ninth Five Year Plan

- *313 SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK :
SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Development Council has approved the proposals of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the issues discussed in the recent meeting of NDC held in New Delhi and the decisions taken by the Government thereon;

(c) the demands of the States raised by various States therein; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in regard to their demands particularly to subsidy on foodgrains, higher education and electricity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The National Development Council (NDC) met under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister on the 19th February, 1999 and considered the following agenda items.

- (i) Ninth Five Year Plan 1997-2002;
- (ii) Report of the National Development Council Committee on Power;
- (iii) Revision in the Administered Prices of wheat, Rice, Sugar, Urea and LPG;
- (iv) A criterion for allocation of funds under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes;
- (v) Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).

The following decisions were taken :

1. The NDC approved the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002), as placed before the Council.

2. The NDC endorsed the recommendations of the NDC Committee on Power and urged the Union, State and UT Governments to implement these recommendations on priority.
3. It was suggested by the NDC that, while revising the administered prices of essential commodities, a balance needs to be struck between the interests of farmers and consumers, particularly the poorer sections of society, and the macro-economic imperatives of fiscal stabilisation and control of inflation.
4. The NDC decided to constitute two sub-Committees under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, with members from the Central Ministries and States, to go into (a) the criteria for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation schemes and (b) the transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the modalities involved therein.

During the discussions which took place on the 19th February, 1999, various State Governments also raised issues relating, inter alia to their finances. In this regard, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has implemented the revised ways and means advances to States from 1.3.1999, as against the earlier decision of doing so with effect from 1.4.1999, as part of short-term measures. In order to address the medium term fiscal problems of the States, the Union Finance Minister will hold a meeting with the Chief Ministers.

On the question of subsidy on foodgrains, the Government took a decision in December, 1997 that PDS issue prices would be 50 per cent of the economic cost for below-poverty line families and 90 per cent of the economic cost for above-poverty line families. Subsidy on education is gradually being confined to basic education. An attempt is being made to make higher education available on self-financing basis. As regards electricity, the Union and State Governments have initiated steps to implement the recommendations of the NDC Committee on Power.

[Translation]

Misutilisation of Funds under MPLADS

*314. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR . Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the local district officers are misutilising funds under the MPLADS in several Parliamentary constituencies of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the government propose to implement any action plan to check misuse of said funds and to ensure proper utilisation of the funds for development work; and

(d) if so, by when and the manner in which the Government propose to implement the said action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Some complaints from MPs about misutilisation of funds under MPLADS by District Collectors have been received. In such cases the matter is taken up with the concerned Collectors/State Governments and necessary instructions are issued.

(c) and (d) The guidelines on MPLAD Scheme contain the scheme concept, provision for implementation and monitoring, procedure for execution of works, release of funds, alongwith illustrative list of works which can be taken up under MPLADS and those which cannot be taken up under MPLADS. There may not be any misutilisation if the guidelines are strictly followed.

[English]

Kashmir Issue

*315. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan Prime Minister has threatened to suspend talks with India if the Kashmir issue is not resolved within a specific time frame;
- (b) if so, the time frame specified by Pak premier; and
- (c) the reaction of the Indian Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has not given any indication of Pakistan desiring a suspension of the composite dialogue process, of which the first round was held between October 15 and November 13, 1998. The two sides are in touch through diplomatic channels regarding the second round which will be held shortly.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Review of Special Employment Scheme

*316. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have undertaken the review of special Employment Schemes;
- (b) if so, the results thereof, State-wise.
- (c) whether Union Government propose to undertake any new scheme to generate more employment opportunities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Government reviews the implementation of rural poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes, namely the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) from time to time in the Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC), State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) and at the district level by the Governing Body of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). These programmes are also reviewed through regular progress reports from the States on key indicators and through an intensive regimen of field inspections by officers of the centre, state and implementing agencies. Periodic review meetings with State Secretaries incharge of Rural Development and Conferences of Project Directors of DRDAs are also held to review the progress in the implementation of these schemes. Monitoring and Vigilance Committees have been set up at the State, district and block levels to monitor the implementation of these schemes.

Furthermore, to assess the overall impact of various employment-generation schemes for poverty alleviation, in relation to their specific objectives, the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment undertakes periodic Concurrent Evaluations of their major schemes through independent recognised institutions/organisations. Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) also does evaluations.

On the basis of reviews and evaluation studies the Government periodically makes changes in the schematic guidelines of these programmes to improve their overall efficacy. Before every Five Year Plan, a detailed in depth review of the existing poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes is made and programmes are accordingly redesigned in order to improve their efficacy/ impact on the poor. Such a detailed review was undertaken recently before the finalisation of the Ninth Plan.

To tackle the problem of urban poverty through creation of employment., Swarna Jyanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana

(SJSRY) was introduced with effect from 1.12.1997. This was done after a detailed review of the erstwhile three urban poverty alleviation programmes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, (NRY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) by the Hashim Committee, which was set up to review and rationalise Centrally Sponsored Schemes for poverty alleviation and employment generation. These three were discontinued and replaced by SJSRY.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal to undertake any new scheme to generate more employment opportunities at present.

Change in Gadgil-Mukherjee Formula

*317. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI K. P. MUNUSAMY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several State Governments have sought changes in the Gadgil-Mukherjee formula in providing Central assistance to States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) since when the Gadgil-Mukherjee formula is applicable and the time by which changes are likely to be made in the formula?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. The views of State Governments on this subject were sought. However, comments have not been received from all States.

(b) The details of the comments received would be consolidated and furnished after their receipt from all States.

(c) The Gadgil-Mukherjee formula was approved by the NDC in December 1991. Changes in this formula would be based on the decisions of the NDC as and when taken.

Ground Water

*318. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Ground Water Board have conducted studies in various parts of the country in regard to contamination of ground water which is not found fit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with the findings of the study report; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to supply safe drinking water to the people of such areas where the ground water is not found fit for human consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has carried out studies regarding contamination of ground water due to inorganic substances, chemicals and heavy metals in various parts of the country. The Board has also carried out studies in ground water contamination due to bacteriologic and organic substances in NCT of Delhi. State-wise details of contamination of ground water due to various contaminants found in some areas of various districts are given in the Statement.

(c) Provision of drinking water supply is the responsibility of the State Governments. Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission has been assisting and guiding the States in the provision of safe drinking water

to rural population under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and exclusive sub-mission programmes in areas having serious ground water quality problems like Fluoride, Iron, Arsenic, Nitrate and Brackishness. In such quality affected areas where ground water is unfit for drinking, the safe drinking water is supplied either through alternative sources, tapping surface water or by other means by undertaking remedial measures like defluoridation, iron removal and arsenic removal.

In addition, measures taken to mitigate the problem of ground water pollution are as follows :-

(i) The Central Government has setup Central Ground Water Authority to regulate and control ground water management and development.

(ii) Mass awareness and education programme have been launched on the significance of water economy, efficient utilisation, health, hygiene and sanitation.

(iii) Central Pollution Control Board has adopted several measures like directing the industries through State Pollution Control Boards to limit the discharge of effluent within the stipulated standards, setting up of network of ambient water quality monitoring stations, initiation of scheme to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and taking up of quality scheme of monitoring in critically polluted areas.

Statement

Statewise details of Contamination of ground water in some areas of the districts due to various contaminants

Sl No.	State	Salinity	Iron	Fluoride	Nitrate	Arsenic	Heavy metals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam	—	Prakasam, Nellore, Anantpur, Nalgonda, Rangareddy, Adilabad	Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Prakasam, Nellore, Chittoor, Anantpur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Mehboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Adilabad, Nalgonda, Khammam	—	Anantapur, Mehboobnagar, Prakasam, Visakhapatnam, Cuddapah, Nalgonda
2	Assam	—	Northern Bank of Brahmaputra	—	—	—	Digboi
3	Bihar	Begusarai	Champanan, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Munger, Deoghar, Madhubani, Patna, Palamau, Nalanda, Nawada, Banka	Giridih, Jamui, Dhanbad	Palamau, Gaya, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhagalpur, Sahebgunj, Banka	—	Dhanbad, Muzaffarpur, Begusarai
4	Gujarat	Banaskantha, Junagarh, Bharuch, Surat, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Surendranagar, Kheda, Jamnagar	—	Kachch, Surendra Nagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Panchmahal, Kheda	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	Haryana	Sonepat, Rohtak, Hissar, Sirsa, Faridabad, Jind, Gurgaon, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	—	Rohtak, Jind, Hissar, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh, Faridabad	Ambala, Sonapat, Jind, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Hissar, Sirsa, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	—	Faridabad
6	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	Kulu, Solan, Una	—	Purwanoo, Kalamb
7	Karnataka	Bijapur, Belgaum, Raichur, Bellary, Dhanwar	—	Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore, Guibarga, Bellary, Raichur	—	—	Bhadravati
8	Kerala	Ernakulam, Trichur, Alleppey	—	Palghat	—	—	—
9	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Jhabua, Khargaon, Dhar, Shivpuri, Shahajapur, Guna, Mandsoor, Ujjain	—	Bhind, Morena, Guna, Jhabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla, Raipur, Vidisha	Sehore	—	Bastar, Korba, Ratlam, Nagda
10	Maharashtra	Amaravati, Akola	—	Bhandara, Chandrapur, Nanded, Aurangabad	Thane, Jalna, Beed, Nanded, Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Pune, Buldhana, Amravati, Akola, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli	—	—
11	Orissa	Cuttack, Baleswar, Puri	Parts of coastal Orissa	Bolangir	—	—	Angul, Talcher
12	Punjab	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Faridkot, Firozpur	—	Ludhiana, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Sangrur, Jalandhar, Amritsar	Patiala, Faridkot, Firozpur, Sangrur, Bhatinda	—	Ludhiana, Mandi, Gobindgarh
13	Rajasthan	Bharatpur, Jaipur, Nagaur, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur	Bikaner, Alwar, Dungarpur	Barmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi	Jaipur, Churu, Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jalore, Barmer, Bundi, Swai Madhopur	—	Pali, Udaipur, Khetri
14	Tamil Nadu	Karaikal, Pondicherry, Nagapattanam, Quidemillet, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, North Arcot- Ambedkar, Dharmapuri Salem, Trichy, Coimbatore	—	Dharampuri, Salem, North Arcot-Ambedkar, Villipuram-Padayatchi, Muthuramalingam, Thiruchirappalli, Pudukottai	Coimbatore, Periyar, Salem	—	Manali, North Arcot
15	Tripura	—	Dharmanagar, Kauleshaer, Khowai, Ambasa, Amapur and parts of Agartala valley	—	—	—	—
16	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mathura, Mainpuri, Banda	—	Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Unnao, Rae-Bareli	Orai, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Faizabad, Sultanpur, Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria	—	Singrauli, Basti, Kanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad, Saharanpur, Aligarh
17	West Bengal	—	Midnapore, Howrah, Hoogly, Bankura	Birbhum	Uttar Dinajpur, Malda, Birbhum, Nadia, Midnapore, Howrah, Murshidabad, Purulia	Malda, South 24 Paraganas, Nadia, Hoogly, Murshidabad, Bradhaman, Howrah	Durgapur, Howrah, Murshidabad, Nadia
18	NCT of Dethi	Najafgarh, Kanjhawala and Mehrauli blocks	—	—	City, Shahdara, and Mehrauli blocks	—	Alipur, Kanjhawala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli, City and Shahdara blocks

Role of N.A.M.

*319. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India consider NAM to be an important and relevant forum which could be used to achieve some of her foreign policy goals like promotion of peace, stability in the world, encouraging South and South Cooperation working out a common approach to the international financial problems, etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to play more active role in NAM?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The philosophy of NAM, based on independence of judgement and autonomy of action, retains its continuing relevance in the post Cold War world and provides the platform for NAM countries to address existing and emerging challenges in the international arena. NAM continues to be an active forum in formulating collective positions on a wide range of issues of importance to India. The XIth NAM Summit in September, 1998 in Durban considered a broad spectrum of issues relating to peace, disarmament and development ranging from an analysis of the international political situation to global economic issues, including the tackling of international financial problems and South-South cooperation.

(c) As a founder-member of NAM, India has actively participated in all discussions and contributed to the formulation of NAM positions on various political, economic and social issues. These were reiterated in the Final Document adopted by consensus at the XIth Summit in Durban in September, 1998.

Inter-State Water Disputes

*320. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand and the actual supply of Yamuna river water made available to Delhi by the Government of Haryana during each of the last three years;

(b) whether a dispute over the sharing of Yamuna river water has again arisen amongst the State Governments of Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government have taken any initiative to resolve the dispute; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) As per information received from Government of NCT of Delhi, the total demand and the actual supply of Yamuna river water made available to Delhi at Water Treatment Plants by the Government of Haryana during the last three years were :

(Unit : Billion Cubic Metres)

Year	Demand	Actual supply
March, 1996 - February, 1997	0.558	0.558
March, 1997 - February, 1998	0.558	0.557
March, 1998 - February, 1999	0.558	0.556

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Akhupada Anicut Project

3199. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Akhupada Anicut Project in Orissa is being modernised with World Bank fund;

(b) if so, the total funds required for its modernisation; and

(c) the progress made in modernisation work during the last two years and the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Modernisation of Akhupada Anicut is one of the component under the World Bank aided Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project.

(b) Total funds required for the modernisation of Akhupada Anicut is Rs. 44.05 crore.

(c) During the financial years 1997-98 and 1998-99 Rs. 4.73 crores has been spent on the modernisation work. The target date for completion of the project is March, 2000.

Funds to J & K Ultras

3200. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Funds for J & K

ultras frozen by Britain" appearing in the 'The Hindustan Times' dated February 17, 1999.

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken by the Indian Government to ensure British soil is not used for anti-Indian activities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The funds of one particular organisation in the U.K. have been frozen by the British authorities. It is reliably learnt that this is because of factional differences within the organisation.

(c) The Government have taken up its concerns regarding anti-Indian activities groups based in U.K. with the British Government.

House to Homeless Persons

3201. SHRI SURENDRAN CHENGARA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala for providing houses to the homeless persons from the MPLADS fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the fund proposed to be allocated by the Union Government to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION : (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) MPLADS funds to the extent recommended by the MP concerned could be used for providing housing in accordance with the procedure and terms and condition of Indira Awas Yojna. However no such proposal has been received from the Government of Kerala.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Bio-Pesticides

3202. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme under ICDP to promote the establishment of cottage industries in village clusters for producing bio-pesticides and to make them available for use by the farmers in the vicinity;

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

(c) whether the use of bio-pesticides is very effective in the control of pests that affect cotton; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal for setting up of cottage industries in village clusters for producing bio-pesticides under the following ICDP projects :-

- (i) Integrated Cooperative Development Project
- (ii) Intensive Cotton Development Programme
- (iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Rice
- (iv) Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Wheat
- (v) Integrated Cereals Development Programme-Coarse Cereals

However, assistance is being given to the States by the Government of India to promote the technology and production of bio-pesticides to make them available for use of the farmers.

(c) and (d) Bio-pesticides which prove effective in control of pests affecting cotton crops are as under :-

Bio-Pesticides	Cotton Pest
Bacillus thuringiensis	American Bollworm, Spotted Bollworm, Spodoptera.
NPV	American Bollworm, Spodoptera
Neem Based formulations	Bollworms, Whitefly, Aphid and Leafhopper
Trichoderma	Wilt disease.

[Translation]

Unemployed Youths

3203. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed to provide employment to the educated unemployed youths of Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The target of employment in the Ninth Five Year Plan Period is not fixed by level of literacy of those in the labour force.

[English]

Saving-cum-Relief Scheme for fishermen

3204. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to continue the Saving-cum-Relief Scheme for marine fishermen;

(b) if so, whether the Government also propose to extend its benefits to the inland fishermen and fisherwomen; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While the issue of extending the Saving-cum-Relief Scheme, which presently covers only marine fisherfolk, to the inland fisherfolk is engaging our attention, there is no proposal to extend the Scheme to fisherwomen engaged either in retail marketing of fish or in other allied fisheries activities.

Veligonda Irrigation Project

3205. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal in regard to Veligonda Irrigation Project to the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) and (b) The Project report of Veligonda Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 978.96 Crores was submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to Central Water Commission in March '96 for providing irrigation benefits to an area of about, 1,77,200 hectares.

(c) The Project report was sent back to State Government after detailed examination in November, 96 on account of the following reasons :-

(i) Availability of water was not established in the report.

(ii) Proper provisions of environmental management and monitoring plans including rehabilitation and compensatory afforestation was not made in the estimate.

Baijhal Irrigation Project

3206. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to execute Baijhal Irrigation Project in Orissa;

(b) the estimated cost of the project and funds provided by the Centre for the execution of the project;

(c) whether there has been an inordinate delay in the execution of the project; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for its expeditious completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) Baijhal project being a minor irrigation project is not required to be referred to the Ministry of Water Resources by the State Government, as the minor irrigation projects are approved, executed and funded by the State Governments themselves.

[Translation]

Forestry and Orchard

3207. SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ :

SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote agro forestry and orchards in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) In so far as promotion of Orchards is concerned, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid zone Fruits" since 8th Five Year Plan. Under this scheme, assistance is being provided for production of quality planting material through small and large nurseries, establishment of tissue culture

units in the public and private sector, area expansion, improving productivity of old/senile orchards, taking up of publicity measures and training of farmers. The scheme was launched in all the States during 1997-98 with an outlay of Rs. 17.00 crore and the same is being continued during 1998-99 with an outlay of Rs. 25.00 crore in all the States including Uttar Pradesh. The position regarding release of funds to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1997-98 and 1998-99 is as follows :-

(Rs in lakh)		
Year	Allocatio	Funds Released
1997-98	90.39	—
1998-99	122.84	20.00 (till 2/99).

As regards Agro-forestry, requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Scientists of ICAR

3208. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that over 95 per cent of the scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institutes have resigned from the faculty;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to alleviate the discontentment amongst the scientists of the ICAR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Scientists were agitating for early implementation of revised pay scales and the same have already been implemented vide Council's letter No. 1 (15)/98-Per.IV dated 27.2.99.

Closure of NAFED

3209. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED is on the verge of closure;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Funds under MPLADS

3210 SHRIAMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds under MPLADS (Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme) have been revised;

(b) if so, the amount allocated to each of MPs as per the revised scheme;

(c) whether the amount is not released or made available for this scheme to MPs in the beginning of each financial year;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the amount released to each of the MPs of West Bengal during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 and proposed to be released to each of MPs during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) An announcement was made by the Government in both the Houses of Parliament on 23.12.1998 conveying the decision to increase the allocation of MPLADS funds from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 2 crore per MP per year from the year 1998-99. Action has been taken for obtaining additional budget provision for releasing the funds at enhanced rate. At present funds are released @ Rs. 1 crore per MP for 1998-99.

(c) to (e) As per criteria approved from the year 1997-98, funds are released in two instalments of Rs. 50 lakhs each on receipt of expenditure statement from the concerned District Collector showing an unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakhs. Statements I and II indicating position of release of funds in respect of Lok Sabha MPs and Rajya Sabha MPs of West Bengal during 1997-98 and 1998-99 are enclosed. For the year 1999-2000 MP-wise funds will be released in two instalments depending on physical and financial progress.

Statement-I

Details of Funds Released under MPLADS for Ist & IInd instalments of 1997-98
and Ist & IInd instalment of 1998-99 as on 12/03/99

State : West Bengal

S.No.	Constituency	Name of Lok Sabha MP	Lok Sabha			
			(1997-98) Instalment		(1998-99) Instalment	
			Ist	IInd	Ist	IInd
			(Rs.in Lakhs)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Allpurduars (ST)	Sh. Joachim Baxla Sh. Joachim Baxla	50.0 —	— —	— —	— —
2.	Arambagh	Sh. Anil Basu Sh. Anil BASu	— 50.0	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —
3.	Asansol	Sh. Haradhan Roy Sh. Bikash Chowdhury	50.0 —	— 50.0	— —	— —
4.	Balurghat (SC)	Sh. Ranen Barman Sh. Ranen Barman	50.0 —	50.0 —	— 50.0	— —
5.	Bankura	Sh. Basudeb Acharia Sh. Acharia Basudeb	50.0 —	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —
6.	Barasat	Sh. Chitta Basu Dr. Ranjit Kumar Panja	50.0 —	— 50.0	— —	— —
7.	Barrackpore	Sh. Tarit Baran Topdar Sh. Tarit Baran Topdar	— 50.0	— —	— —	— —
8.	Basirhat	Sh. Ajay Chakraborty Sh. Ajay Chakraborty	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
9.	Behrampore	Sh. Pramothes Mukherjee Sh. Pramothes Mukherjee	— —	— —	— —	— —
10.	Birbhum (SC)	Sh. Ramchandra Dome Sh. Dome Ram Chandra	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
11.	Bolpur	Sh. Somnath Chatterjee Sh. Somnath Chatterjee	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
12.	Burdwan	Sh. Balai Ray Sh. Sar Nikhilananda	50.0 —	— 50.0	— —	— —
13.	Calcutta N.E.	Sh. Ajit Kumar Panja Sh. Ajit Kumar Panja	50.0 —	— 50.0	— —	— —
14.	Calcutta N.W.	Sh. Debi Prosad Pal Sh. Sudip Bandyopadhyay	— 50.0	— —	— —	— —
15.	Calcutta South	Ms. Mamata Banerjee Ms. Mamta Banerjee	— —	— —	— —	— —
16.	Contai	Sh. Sudhir Giri Sh. Sudhir Giri	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
17.	Cooch Behar (SC)	Sh. Amar Roy Pradhan Sh. Amar Roy Pradhan	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
18.	Darjeeling	Sh. R.B. Rai Sh. Ananda Pathak	— —	— —	— —	— —
19.	Diamond Harbour	Sh. Samik Lahiri Sh. Samik Lahiri	— —	— —	— —	— —
20.	Dum Dum	Sh. Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee Sh. Tapan Sikdar	50.0 —	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —
21.	Durgapur (SC)	Sh. Sunil Khan Sh. Khan Sunil	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —	— —
22.	Hooghly	Sh. Rupchand Pal Sh. Rupchand Pal	50.0 —	— 50.0	— 50.0	— —

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Howrah	Sh. Priya Ranjan Das Munsri Dr. Bikram Sarkar	— 50.0	— —	— —	— —
24.	Jadavpur	Smt. Krishna Bose Sh. Krishna Bose	50.0 —	— 50.0	50.0	—
25.	Jalapaiguri	Prof. Jitendra Nath Das Sh. Minati Sen	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—
26.	Jangipur	MD. Idris Ali Sh. Abul Hasnat Khan	— 50.0	— —	—	—
27.	Jhargram (ST)	Sh. Rupchand Murmu Sh. Murmu Rupchand	— 50.0	— 50.0	50.0	—
28.	Joynagar (SC)	Sh. Sanat Kumar Mandal Sh. Sanat Kumar Mandal	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—
29.	Katwa	Sh. Mahaboob Zahedi Sh. Zahedi Mehboob	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—
30.	Krishnagar	Sh. Ajoy Mukhopadhyay Sh. Ajoy Mukhopadhyay	— 50.0	— —	—	—
31.	Malda	Sh. A. B. A. Ghani Khan Choudhury Sh. Abul Barkat Ataul Ghani Khan Choudhary	50.0 —	50.0 —	50.0	—
32.	Mathurapur (SC)	Smt. Radhika Ranjan Pramanik Sh. Radhika Ranjan Pramanik	— —	— —	—	—
33.	Midnapore	Sh. Inderjeet Gupta Sh. Indrajeet Gupta	— 50.0	— 50.0	50.0	—
34.	Murshidabad	Sh. Masudal Hossain Sh. Moinul Hassan	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—
35.	Nabadwip (SC)	Sh. Ashim Bala Sh. Asim Bala	— 50.0	— —	—	—
36.	Panskura	Smt. Geeta Mukherjee Smt. Geeta Mukherjee	— 50.0	— 50.0	50.0	—
37.	Purulia	Sh. Bir Singh Mahato Sh. Bir Singh Mahato	50.0 —	— 50.0	50.0	—
38.	Raiganj	Sh. Subrata Mukherjee Sh. Subrata Mukherjee	50.0 —	— 50.0	50.0	—
39.	Serampore	Sh. Fredip Bhattacharaya Sh. Akbar Ali Khadoker	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—
40.	Tamluk	Sh. Jayanta Bhattacharaya Shi Lakshman Chandra Seth	— 50.0	— 50.0	—	—
41.	Uluberia	Sh. Hannan Mollah Sh. Hannan Mollah	— 50.0	— —	50.0	—
42.	Vishnupur (SC)	Smt. Sandhya Bauri Smt. Sandhya Bauri	50.0 —	— 50.0	—	—

Note : First Name is of 11th Lok Sabha MP
Second Name is of 12th Lok Sabha MP

Statement - II

*Details of Funds released under MPLADS for 1st & IInd instalments of 1997-98
and 1st & IInd instalments of 1998-99 as on 12/03/99*

State : West Bengal

S.No.	District Opted	Name of Rajya Sabha MP	Rajya Sabha			
			(1997-98) Instalment		(1998-99) Instalment	
			Ist	IInd	Ist	IInd
(Rs. in Lakhs)						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The Present Sitting Member of Rajya Sabha						
1.	Calcutta	Sh. Jibon Roy	50.0	—	—	—
2.	Calcutta	Sh. Gurudas Das Gupta	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Calcutta	Dr. Biplab Dasgupta	—	—	—	—
4.	Calcutta	Dr. Ashok Mitra	—	—	—	—
5.	Burdwan	Sh. Ramnarayan Goswami	50.0	50.0	—	—
6.	Calcutta	Dr. Smt. Chandra Kala Pandey	50.0	—	—	—
7.	Birbhum	Sh. Pranab Mukherjee	50.0	50.0	—	—
8.	South Dinajpur	Sh. Nilotpal Basu	50.0	50.0	—	—
9.	Malda	Sh. Dipankar Mukherjee	50.0	50.0	50.0	—
10.	Murshidabad	Sh. Jayanta Roy	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
11.	Calcutta	Sh. Mrinal Sen (N)	50.0	50.0	—	—
12.	Darjeeling	Sh. Dawa Lama	50.0	50.0	—	—
13.	North Dinajpur	Sh. Debabrata Biswas	—	—	—	—
14.	Darjeeling	Sh. Bratin Sengupta	50.0	—	—	—
15.	Jalpaiguri	Smt. Bharati Roy	50.0	—	—	—
16.	Calcutta	M. Salim	—	—	—	—

[Translation]

Voluntary Organisations

3211. SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes under which Union Government are providing grants to the voluntary organisations;

(b) the criteria and procedure laid down for extending grants to the voluntary organisations;

(c) the number of voluntary organisations in Uttar Pradesh provided grants by the Union Government during 1998-99 alongwith the details of proposals submitted by them; and

(d) the total grant released by the Union Government to the voluntary organisations during 1998-99, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SCMPAL) :

(a) and (b) Details of the scheme under which Department of Agriculture & Cooperation are providing grants-in-aid to voluntary organisation and criteria adopted therefor are as follows:-

(1) Central Sector Scheme on bee keeping :

Assistance is provided @ Rs. 1000 per participants for organising training programmes of seven day's duration for a group of twenty five trainees. The selected organisation should have necessary infrastructure facilities and be capable of organising not less than 2-3 training programmes per year on the basis of uniform course material developed by the Department.

(2) Central Sector Scheme "National Project on Development and use of Bio-fertiliser":

Grants in aid is provided under this scheme to voluntary organisations/private entrepreneurs upto Rs. 20.00 lakhs for setting up/strengthening of bio-fertilizer production unit of 150 tonnes capacity when they are public Ltd. Companies registered under Companies Act and their proposals are recommended by concerned State Govt.

(3) Central Sector Scheme on Agriculture Extension through Voluntary Organisations :

The objective of the scheme is to involve the voluntary organisations in the process of technology transfer and to integrate their efforts with the main agricultural extension system in the State.

Assistance is provided to registered NGOs working

the field of agriculture and rural development for not less than three years @ Rs. 5 lakh per annum per NGO for undertaking documentation of farming system at micro level; preparation of audio visual aids; conducting demonstration and training programmes; study tours of farmers; organising farmer scientists interactions at research stations and production and procurement of farm information material. Funds are released by the Directorate of Extension through CAPART as 100 per cent funding from Government of India.

(c) and (d) Details of number of organisations in Uttar Pradesh and other States for which grants-in-aid were released by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation during 1998/99 are as follows:-

Sl. No.	State	No. of Organisations	Amount Sanctioned/Released (Rs. Lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	10.00
2.	Assam	1	0.75
3.	Bihar	2	10.00
4.	Gujarat	1	0.75
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0.75
6.	Karnataka	2	5.25
7.	Kerala	1	0.75
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2	6.60
9.	Maharashtra	1	0.70
10.	Manipur	1	5.00
11.	Mizoram	1	0.25
12.	Punjab	1	0.75
13.	Tamil Nadu	1	0.75
14.	Tripura	1	5.00
*15.	Uttar Pradesh	7	8.50
16.	West Bengal	2	10.00
17.	NCT Delhi	1	0.25
Total		28	66.05

* Out of the seven organisations benefited in Uttar Pradesh, six related to bee-keeping and one for extension work.

[English]

Water Logging in Haryana

3212. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several thousand hectare of agriculture land has been affected due to water logging in Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate the affected farmers and to solve this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) As per an assessment made by the Ministry of Agriculture (1984-85), an area of 6.20 lakh hectare is suffering from waterlogging in Haryana. However, the estimation made by the Working Group (1991) constituted by Ministry of Water Resources estimated that an area of 2.49 lakh hectare is waterlogged in irrigation commands in the State.

(c) To solve the problem of waterlogging, Ministry of Water Resources has taken following measures :-

(i) A new component "Reclamation of water logged areas in irrigation commands" has been included under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme since 1.4.1996. A Central Grant @ Rs. 6000/- per hectare of half of the expenditure incurred on reclamation, whichever is less, is reimbursed to the States.

(ii) The awareness of this problem is created through training workshops, publishing and circulating relevant material etc.

[Translation]

Ban on Entry of Indians

3213. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY

SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that some Gulf countries have imposed a strict ban and regulation on the recruitment of persons of Indian origin for employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the ban on recruitment ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Suicide by Farmers

3214. SHRI CHANDU LAL AJMEERA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for mass suicide by cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether alleged biological warfare launched by USA is particularly responsible for that; and
- (c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) and (b) The suicide by farmers in Andhra Pradesh was due to damage to crops, mainly cotton, due to pest attack and indebtedness of the farmers. The pest attack was further aggravated by excessive and indiscriminate use of sub-quality chemicals and faculty spray equipments.

- (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Purchases without Inviting Tender

3215. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Agriculture Research Institute, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Indian Agricultural Statistical Research Institute, other such institutes have made purchases of various items worth 1.30 crore of rupees without inviting open tender;
- (b) if so, the reasons for this illegal purchase without inviting tenders; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officers found guilty of violating purchase rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) Yes, Sir. This issue has been raised by C & AG in Para 8.1 (sub-para 8.1.4 (b)) of C & AG Report No. 5 of 1998.

(b) and (c) The detailed comments from the concerned institutes are being collected. After thorough examination of the reply and verification of the records, appropriate action will be taken.

[English]

Posts Reserved for SC/ST

3216. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the 43 posts of Section Officer reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes for the year 1996 and 28 posts for 1997 in different Ministries are laying vacant;

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

(c) the reasons for not filling up the posts through Section Officer/Steno Grade B Limited Departmental Competitive Exams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The cadre controlling authorities of Central Secretariat Service (CSS) reported 43/12 posts of Section Officers (SOs reserved for SCs/STs to be filled from the Limited Departmental Competitive Examinations (LDCE), 1996/1997 respectively. No candidate was recommended by the UPSC against these vacancies on the basis of the said examinations as per the qualifying standards fixed.

Funds under MPLADS

3217. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released to each Member of Parliament of Orissa under the MPLADS during each year till date since its constitution;
- (b) whether some of the amount released has remained unutilised;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefore;
- (d) the details of the works recommended by MPs of Orissa considered and completed during the last three years in Orissa; and
- (e) the time by which the incomplete works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The total amounts released and sanctioned to each Member of Parliament of Orissa under MPLADS till date since its constitution are given in enclose Statement-I and II. In case of Lok Sabha, funds are released constituency-wise. The balance remains unutilised due to application of Model Code of conduct during Elections of the Parliament, State Legislatures and Panchayati Raj Institutions, change in recommendation by MPs, non-availability of land, time taken by implementing agencies in submitting plans and estimates etc.

(d) and (e) Details of works recommended by MPs and taken up under MPLADS are not maintained by this Department. Such details are available with the concerned District Collectors.

Statement-I

State : Orissa

Sl. No.	M.P. Name (XII Lok Sabha) Constituency	1993-99	
		Release by G.O.I (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Sh. Naveen Patnaik (LS) Aska	455.0	403.7
2.	Sh. Mahameghabhan Aira Kharabela Swain (LS) Balasore	505.0	420.3
3.	Smt. Jayanti Patnaik (LS) Berhampur	405.0	355.0
4.	Sh. Arjun Charan Sethi (LS) Bhadrak (SC)	355.0	292.3
5.	Sh. Prasanna Kumar Patasani (LS) Bhubaneswar	355.0	261.0
6.	Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo (LS) Bolangir	455.0	404.9
7.	Sh. Bhartruhari Mahtab (LS) Cuttack	455.0	396.7
8.	Sh. Debendra Pradhan (LS) Deogarh	505.0	421.2
9.	Sh. Tathagata Satpathy (LS) Dhenkanal	455.0	404.4
10.	Sh. Ranjib Biswal (LS) Jagatsinghpur	455.0	402.9
11.	Sh. Rama Chandra Mallick (LS) Jajpur (SC)	455.0	355.3
12.	Sh. Bikram Keshari Deo (LS) Kalahandi	405.0	347.8
13.	Sh. Prabhat Kumar Samantaray (LS) Kendrapara	405.0	390.0
14.	Sh. Upendranath Nayak (LS) Keonjhar (ST)	455.0	380.0
15.	Sh. Giridhar Gamang (LS) Koraput (ST)	405.0	355.0
16.	Sh. Salkhan Murmu (LS) Mayurbanj (ST)	450.0	399.6
17.	Sh. Khagapati Pradhani (LS) Nowrangpur (ST)	455.0	399.4

1	2	3	4
18.	Sh. Padmanava Behera (LS) Phulbani (SC)	455.0	367.7
19.	Sh. Braja Kishore Tripathy (LS) Puri	355.0	305.0
20.	Sh. Prasanna Acharya (LS) Sambalpur	405.0	325.6
21.	Sh. Jua Oram (LS) Sundargarh (ST)	505.0	455.0
Total		9150.0	7842.7

Statement-II

State : Orissa

Sl. No.	M.P. Name Rajya Sabha District	1993-99	
		Release by G.O.I (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
<i>Sitting Members of Parliament</i>			
1.	Sh. Sanatan Bisi (RS) Sambalpur	400.0	316.5
2.	Sh. Rahas Bihari Bark (RS) Keonjhar	505.0	453.0
3.	Sh. Bhagwan Majhi (RS) Nowrangpur	450.0	400.0
4.	Dr. M.N. Dass (RS) Balasore	50.0	26.5
5.	Sh. Ramchandra Khuntia (RS) Jajpur	50.0	N.A.
6.	Sh. Rangnath Mishra (RS) Cuttack	50.0	40.2
7.	Sh. Dilip Kumar Ray (RS) Sundargarh	300.0	242.9
8.	Sh. Maurice Kujur (RS) Sundargarh	300.0	250.0
9.	Sh. Ananta Sethi (RS) Bhadrak	300.0	210.9
10.	Miss. Farida Topno (RS) Sundargarh	50.0	50.0
<i>Ex-Members of Parliament</i>			
11.	Smt. Illa Panda (RS) Rayagada	355.0	355.0
12.	Sh. Somappa R. Bommal (RS) Khurda	305.0	139.4

1	2	3	4
13.	Sh. Narendra Pradhan (RS) Cuttack	455.0	359.8
14.	Sh. Basant Kumar Das (RS) Kalahandi	205.0	202.1
15.	Smt. Mira Das (RS) Jagatsinghpur	205.0	105.0
16.	Sh. Sharada Mohanty (RS) Cuttack	205.0	205.0
17.	Sh. Pravat Kumar Samantaray (RS) Kendrapara	205.0	201.6
18.	Sh. K.C. Lenka (RS) Cuttack	5.0	5.0
19.	Sh. Man Mohan Mathur (RS) Kalahandi	5.0	3.0
20.	Smt. Jayanti Patnaik (RS) Cuttack	200.0	102.5
Total		4600.0	3668.4

[Translation]

Construction of Haj House

3218. SHRI RIZWAN ZAHEER KHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have provided five acres of land at Okhla in Delhi and a grant of rupees four crore and sixty six lakhs for the construction of Haj House;

(b) if so, the main reasons for not constructing this Haj House so far for the Haj pilgrims of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to construct this Haj House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) The Delhi Government have provided five acres of land to U.P. Government at Okhla, New Delhi. Administrative sanction of Rs. 466.17 lakhs for the construction of a Haj House was issued by the U.P. Government on 26th August, 1996.

(b) and (c) The land allotted happened to be in the green belt zone of the Delhi Master Plan. Hence, the building plan has been approved by the Delhi Development Authority.

[English]

Cultivable Land

3219. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake any study to assess the availability of cultivable land under National land use policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) to (c) The estimated data on land use by Ministry of Agriculture, is given in the enclosed statement. Besides, under Central Sector Scheme for support to State Land Use Boards (SLUBs), several SLUBs have completed land and soil surveys and prepared inventory of land resources under the National Land Use Policy Outline. Other SLUBs have also undertaken similar exercise.

Statement

Land Use Classification

Heading	(Million Hectares)										
	1950-51	1960-61	1970-71	1980-81	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (P)	1994-95 (P)	% of Reporting area (1994-95)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I. Geographical Area	328.73										
II. Reporting Area for Land Utilisation Statistics (1 to 5)	284.32	298.46	303.76	304.15	304.88	304.86	304.90	304.84	304.88	340.88	100.00
1. Forests	40.48	54.05	63.91	67.47	67.41	67.80	67.87	67.98	68.28	68.39	22.4
2. Not available for Cultivation (A+B)	47.52	50.75	44.64	39.62	40.96	40.48	40.74	40.91	40.90	41.28	13.6
(A) Area Under Non-Agricultural Uses	9.36	14.84	16.48	19.66	21.26	21.09	21.47	21.87	22.21	22.51	7.4

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
(B) Barren And Unculturable Land		38.16	35.91	28.16	19.96	19.70	19.39	19.27	19.04	18.69	18.77	6.2
3 Other Uncultivated Land Excluding Fallow Land (A+B+C)		49.45	37.64	35.06	32.31	30.20	30.22	30.05	29.40	29.07	29.08	9.6
(A) Permanent Pastures and other Grazing Lands		6.68	13.97	13.26	11.97	11.30	11.40	11.30	11.07	10.97	11.24	3.7
(B) Land Under Miscellaneous Tree Crops and Groves not Included in net Area Sown		19.83	4.46	4.30	3.60	3.80	3.82	3.76	3.76	3.69	3.63	1.2
(C) Culturable Waste		22.94	19.21	17.50	16.74	15.10	15.00	14.99	14.57	14.41	14.21	4.7
4 Fallow Lands (A+B)		28.12	22.82	19.88	24.75	23.97	23.36	24.61	23.83	24.01	23.30	7.6
(A) Fallow Land other than current Fallows		17.44	11.18	8.76	9.92	10.27	9.66	9.94	9.68	9.63	9.77	3.2
(B) Current Fallows		10.68	11.64	11.12	14.83	13.70	13.70	14.67	14.15	14.38	13.53	4.4
5 Net area Sown (6-7)		118.75	133.20	140.27	140.00	142.34	143.00	141.63	142.72	142.42	142.82	46.8
6 Total Cropped Area (Gross Cropped Area)		131.89	152.77	165.79	172.63	182.27	185.74	182.24	185.70	186.60	188.15	
7 Area Sown more than once		13.14	19.57	25.52	32.63	39.93	42.74	40.61	42.98	44.18	45.33	
8 Cropping Intensity*		111.07	114.69	118.19	123.31	128.05	129.89	128.67	130.10	134.00	131.70	
III. Net Irrigated Area		20.85	24.66	31.10	38.72	46.70	47.78	49.87	50.30	51.34	53.00	
IV. Gross Irrigated Area		22.56	27.98	38.19	49.73	61.85	62.47	65.68	66.76	68.25	70.64	

(P) – Provisional

* – Cropping intensity is obtained by dividing the gross cropped area by the net area sown.

Source : Agricultural Statistics at a Glance by Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture

Rationalisation of Water Charges

3220. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

DR. ULHAS VADUDEO PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a large variation in the water rates charged for agriculture purposes in the various States;

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

(c) whether the Government have set up any Expert Committee in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a large variation in the water rates charged for agriculture purposes among various States. The details on Statewise water rates are given in Statement-I.

(c) to (e) The Planning Commission set up a Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Vaidyanathan in October 91 to review the existing water rates. The Committee submitted its report in September, 1992. Subsequently, Planning Commission constituted a Group of Officials (GOO) in December, 1992 with representatives from Union Ministries of Finance, Agriculture, Water Resources and nine major States to go into the report of the Committee and suggest action to be taken on the various recommendations of the Committee. The GOO submitted its report in December 1994, which has been accepted by the Planning Commission. The main recommendations of the Vaidyanathan Committee and GOO are given in Statement-II. Since, Irrigation is a State subject, both the recommendations of GOO and the report of the Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water have been forwarded by the Planning Commission to the State Governments for consideration and further action.

Statement-I*Agricultural water rates in various States/Union Territories of India*

Sl.No.	Name of the States/U.T's	Water Rates (Rs./ha)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	148.27 to 1235.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
3.	Assam	75.00 to 375.50
4.	Bihar	74.13 to 296.53
5.	Goa	60.00 to 300.00
6.	Gujarat	25.00 to 830.00
7.	Haryana	29.66 to 148.66
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.86 to 41.09
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.71 to 289.12
10.	Karnataka	19.77 to 556.00
11.	Kerala	17.00 to 99.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14.83 to 296.53
13.	Maharashtra	50.00 to 4875.00
14.	Manipur	22.50 to 75.00
15.	Mehgalaya	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
16.	Mizoram	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
17.	Nagaland	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
18.	Orissa	25.00 to 465.00
19.	Punjab	Abolished
20.	Rajasthan	19.77 to 143.32
21.	Sikkim	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
22.	Tamil Nadu	18.53 to 61.78
23.	Tripura	Not yet notified
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00 to 474.00
25.	West Bengal	37.06 to 123.00

1	2	3
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
27.	Chandigarh	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
28.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	75.00 to 275.00
29.	Daman & Diu	200.00
30.	Delhi	4.22 to 237.00
31.	Lakshdweep	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---
32.	Pondicherry	---No Irrigation Water Rates are in Operation---

Remarks : Water rates generally vary according to the crop, season source of irrigation and type of projects.

Statement-IIA) *Main Recommendations of Vaidyanathan Committee on Pricing of Irrigation Water*

- Enhancement of irrigation rates to recover O & M costs and interest on capital costs alongwith the depreciation. This increase is to be achieved in phases. Immediate aim should be to recover O & M costs and 1% interest charges on capital costs as envisaged in the National Water Policy.
- At least 10 % of the plan provision of major and medium irrigation projects to be earmarked for modernisation and renovation.
- Recovery of accumulated arrears to be ploughed back for deferred maintenance/special repairs.
- Improvement in the assessment and collection of water rates.
- Revision of water charges need to be accompanied by concrete measures to provide a better and improved quality of irrigation systems and to cut the cost of providing that service.
- Irrigation and Water Pricing Board should be set up at State level to review the policy, establish the norms regarding maintenance costs for various components and staff costs, assess the actual expenditure in relation to these norms and determine the parameters and criteria for revising water rates etc.

B) *Main Recommendations of Group of Officials (GOO)*

- Water rate is to be considered as service charge and not a tax and revenue through irrigation water rates should recover full O & M costs. This increase is to be achieved in a phased manner i.e. in five years.

- Two tier tariff was not found feasible, instead a suitable formation of irrigation water pricing structure has been recommended to take care of Vaidyanathan Committee's recommendation in totality based on individual State condition.
- The other recommendations made by Vaidyanathan Committee were accepted by GOO with slight modifications.

[Translation]

Consulates at the Indian Missions Abroad

3221. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have set up Consulates at the Indian Missions abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have recently made any appraisal of the performance of these Consulates in regard to export promotion;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have found the performance of these Consulates not up to the mark;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the objectives for setting up these consulates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
 (a) and (b) The Government of India have set up 30 Consulates General and three Consulates abroad. An up to date list of Consulate General and Consulates of India currently maintained abroad is at Statement.

(c) and (d) Monitoring of the performance of the Economic and Commercial wings in these Posts abroad, including that on export promotion, is a continuous exercise. The Economic and Commercial Wings furnish Monthly Status Reports, Monthly Economic and Commercial Reports and Annual Reports to both the Ministries of External Affairs and Commerce. These Posts are provided all necessary support and guidance by both the Ministries so that they can contribute optimally to ensure that export promotion initiatives bear fruit.

(e) to (g) The performance of these Posts have been found to be satisfactory. The Government regularly supervises their working abroad through administrative circulars, Government orders, periodic inspections and audit teams; senior officials who visit the Consulates General and Consulates also examine their functioning so as to ensure that the objectives for setting them up are fully met.

Statement

I. Consulates General of India (CGI)

Sl. No.	Country	Mission
1.	Australia	Sydney
2.	Brazil	Sao Paulo
3.	Canada	Toronto
4.	-do-	Vancouver
5.	China	Shanghai
6.	Egypt	Port Said
7.	Germany	Frankfurt
8.	-do-	Hamburg
9.	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
10.	Indonesia	Medan
11.	Italy	Milan
12.	Japan	Osaka-Kobe
13.	Pakistan	Karachi (Temporarily closed)
14.	Reunion Islands	St. Denis
15.	Russia	St. Petersburg
16.	-do-	Vladivostok
17.	Saudi Arabia	Jeddah
18.	South Africa	Johannesburg
19.	-do-	Durban
20.	Switzerland	Geneva
21.	Tanzania	Zanzibar
22.	Turkey	Istanbul
23.	U.A.E.	Dubai
24.	U.K.	Birmingham
25.	-do-	Glasgow
26.	U.S.A.	Chicago
27.	-do-	New York
28.	-do-	San Francisco
29.	-do-	Houston
30.	Vietnam	Ho-Chi-Minh City
II. Consulates of India		
1.	Iran	Shiraz
2.	-do-	Zahidan
3.	Thailand	Chiangmai

[English]

Electronic Unit

3222. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

- the number of electronics units or factories in the country;
- whether the Government propose to set up an electronics unit in Delhi in private/public sector; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) As per Industrial Policy, 1991, electronic industries can be set up by entrepreneurs anywhere in the country without any locational constraints. The Government has only a promotional role. The Department of Electronics has brought out the 1999 edition of the "Guide to Electronic Industry in India", as the basic reference source for all information on Indian Electronics Industry. It covers a wide range of information such as : Manufacturers' Directory, Product Directory, Export Product Directory, Time-Series Data on Production and Exports and Electronics Units in State.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to set up new public sector undertaking in electronics anywhere in the country, including Delhi during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

Allocation of funds to MPs of Maharashtra

3223. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released per year to each Member of Parliament from Maharashtra under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme from the beginning of the scheme till date;
- the reasons for delay, if any, in allocation of funds;
- the details of the works submitted by the Members of Parliament of Maharashtra which was considered and completed during the last three years; and
- the time by which such works are likely to be completed in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The details of total amount released and sanctioned to each Member of Parliament from Maharashtra under MPLADS till date since

its beginning is given in statement-I and II. In case of Lok Sabha, funds are released constituency-wise.

(b) As per approved criteria, the funds continue to be released on receipt of expenditure statement showing the unsanctioned balance less than Rs. 50 lakhs.

(c) and (d) Item-wise details of works taken up under the MPLAD Scheme in various parts of the country are not maintained by the Department of Programme Implementation. Such details are available with the District Collectors concerned.

Statement-I

State : Maharashtra (13)

Sl. No.	M.P. Name (XIIth Lok Sabha) Constituency	1993-99	
		Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)
	1	2	3
1.	Sh. E.V. Alias Balasaheb Vikhe Patil (LS) Ahmednagar	450.0	400.0
2.	Sh. Ambedkar Prakash Yashawant (LS) Akola	355.0	334.1
3.	Sh. Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gawai (LS) Amravati	455.0	359.3
4.	Sh. Ramkrishna Baba Patil (LS) Aurangabad	505.0	449.9
5.	Sh. Pawar Sharadchandra Govindrao (LS) Baramati	450.0	397.7
6.	Sh. Patel Praful Manoharbai (LS) Bhandra	455.0	386.1
7.	Sh. Jaisingrao Gaikwad Patil (LS) Beed	455.0	451.9
8.	Sh. Ram Naik (LS) Mumbai North	455.0	377.7
9.	Sh. Ramdas Athawale (LS) Mumbai North Central	505.0	476.5
10.	Sh. Gurudas Kamat (LS) Mumbai North East	455.0	374.7
11.	Sh. Madhukar Sirpotdar (LS) Mumbai North West	455.0	389.4
12.	Sh. Deora Murlu (LS) Mumbai South	455.0	378.7
13.	Sh. Mohan Vishnu Rawale (LS) Mumbai South Central	455.0	365.4
14.	Sh. Wasnik Mukul Balkrushna (LS) Buldhana (SC)	455.0	357.2
15.	Sh. Puglia Naresh Kumar Chunnalai (LS) Chandrapur	455.0	399.5

1	2	3
16.	Prof. Jogendra Kawade (LS) Chimum	355.0 266.1
17.	Sh. Nam Shankar Sakharam (LS) Dahanu (ST)	505.0 505.0
18.	Sh. D.S. Ahire (LS) Dhule (ST)	405.0 377.9
19.	Sh. Annasaheb M.K. Patil (LS) Erandol	455.0 380.2
20.	Sh. Suryakanta Patil (LS) Hingoli	505.0 399.2
21.	Sh. Awade Kallappa Baburao (LS) Ichalkaranji	505.0 455.0
22.	Dr. Ulhas Vasudeo Patil (LS) Jalgaon	455.0 367.9
23.	Sh. Pawar Uttamsingh Rajdharsinh (LS) Jalna	505.0 436.5
24.	Sh. Chavan Prithviraj Dajisaheb (LS) Karad	455.0 393.5
25.	Sh. Mohol Ashok Namdeorao (LS) Khed	405.0 405.0
26.	Sh. Ramsheth Thakur (LS) Kulaba	455.0 523.9
27.	Sh. Mandlik Sadashiv Rao Dadoba (LS) Kolhapur	505.0 499.2
28.	Sh. Tanpure Prasad Baburao (LS) Kopargaon	455.0 385.8
29.	Sh. Patil Shivraj Vishwanath (LS) Latur	455.0 374.6
30.	Sh. Kahandole Zamaru Mangalu (LS) Malegaon (ST)	505.0 434.9
31.	Sh. Vilas Muttemwar (LS) Nagpur	405.0 329.8
32.	Sh. Patil Bhaskarao Bapurao (LS) Nanded	505.0 455.0
33.	Sh. Gavit Manikrao Hodiya (LS) Nandurbar (ST)	505.0 439.4
34.	Sh. Patil Machav Bahwant (LS) Nashik	455.0 408.4
35.	Sh. Arvind Tulshiram Kamele (LS) Osmanabad (SC)	505.0 453.0
36.	Sh. Thorat Sandipan Bhagwan (LS) Pandharpur (SC)	505.0 409.1
37.	Sh. Warpudkar Suresh Rao Ambadasrao (LS) Parbhani	505.0 452.9
38.	Sh. Tupe Vitthal Baburao (LS) Pune	455.0 356.4

1	2	3
39.	Sh. Suresh Prabhu (LS) Rajapur	405.0 363.0
40.	Sh. Rani Chitralekha T. Bhosale (LS) Ramtek	305.0 302.7
41.	Sh. Anant Gangaram Geete (LS) Ratnagiri	455.0 398.1
42.	Sh. Patil Madan Vishwanath (LS) Sangli	455.0 497.4
43.	Sh. Abhaysinh Shahumaharaj Bhosale (LS) Satara	505.0 505.0
44.	Sh. Shinde Sushilkumar Sambhajirao (LS) Solapur	455.0 396.2
45.	Sh. Paranjpe Prakash Vishwanath (LS) Thane	505.0 407.0
46.	Sh. Datta Meghe (LS) Wardha	455.0 373.3
47.	Sh. Naik Sudhakar Rao Rajusing (LS) Washim	355.0 299.6
48.	Sh. Uttamrao Deorao Patil (LS) Yavatmal	455.0 357.6
49.	Lt. Gen. (Retd.) N. Foley (Nom.) (LS) Nominated	50.0 N.A.
State Total		21980.0 19306.7

Statement-II

State : Maharashtra (13)

Rajya Sabha

Sl. No.	M.P. Name District	1993-99	
		Release by G.O.I. (Rs. Lakhs)	Sanctioned (Rs. Lakhs)
1		2	3

Present Sitting Members of Parliament

1.	Sh. Govindrao Adik (RS) Ahmadnagar	505.0	425.0
2.	Sh. Suresh Kalmadi (RS) Pune	255.0	204.4
3.	Sh. V.N. Gadgil (RS) Pune	355.0	304.4
4.	Dr. Gopalrao Vitthalrao Patil (RS) Latur	505.0	434.9
5.	Dr. (Smt.) Najma Heptulla (RS) Pune	400.0	353.7
6.	Sh. Pramod Mahajan (RS) Mumbai	50.0	N.A.

1	2	3
7. Sh. Satish Pradhan (RS) Thane	450.0	449.5
8. Sh. Ram Jethmalani (RS) Mumbai City	455.0	364.5
9. Kum. Saroj Khaparde (RS) Nagpur	305.0	200.1
10. Sh. Nirupam Sanjay (RS) Nagpur	250.0	160.9
11. Smt. Shabana Azmi (RS) Mumbai City	100.0	44.3
12. Sh. Vijay Darda (RS) Yavatmal	50.0	N.A.
13. Sh. Keshwani Suresh Atalrai (RS) Mumbai City	150.0	62.1
14. Sh. Vedprakash P. Goyal (RS) Raigad	250.0	159.9
15. Sh. S.B. Chavan (RS) Nanded	505.0	440.8
16. Sh. Mukesh R. Patel (RS) Dhule	300.0	208.2
17. Sh. Suryabhan Raghunath Vahadane (RS) Ahmadnagar	250.0	200.0
18. Sh. Adhik Narayan Shirodkar (RS) Raigad	100.0	40.8
19. Sh. N.K.P. Salve (RS) Nagpur	405.0	349.3
<i>Rajya Sabha Ex-Members of Parliament</i>		
20. Sh. Gautam Nabi Azad (RS) Akola	200.0	172.4
21. Dr. Bapu Kaldate (RS) Latur	205.0	205.0
22. Dr. Shrikant Ramchandra Jichkar (RS) Nagpur	463.5	374.7
23. Sh. Sushil Kumar Sambhajirao Shinde (RS) Solapur	405.0	405.8
24. Sh. Jagesh Desai (RS) Mumbai City	205.0	236.3
25. Sh. Shivajirao G. Giridhar Patil (RS) Dhule	405.0	350.9
26. Smt. Chandrika A. Jain (RS) Mumbai City	205.0	204.6
27. Sh. Viren J. Shah (RS) Bhandara	205.0	190.1
28. Sh. R.K. Karanjia (RS) Pune	300.0	277.4

1	2	3
29. Sh. Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar (RS) Akola	250.0	247.7
30. Sh. Ram Kapse (RS) Thane	200.0	194.4
31. Sh. Vishwajit Pritigiti Singh (RS) Mumbai City	5.0	5.0
32. Sh. Bala Saheb Mane (RS) Kolhapur	5.0	2.7
33. Unallocated -R (RS)	5.0	N.A.
34. Sh. Pramod Mahajan (RS) Beed	205.0	205.0
State Total :	8903.5	7475.3

[English]

Report of UNDP

3224. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRIMATI BHAVANA KARDAM DAVE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the recent report of UNDP on Human Development, India ranks lowest among the nations of the World in the Human Development Index;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the strategy being contemplated by the Government to bring the country at the world level in the Human Development Index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) In the UNDP Human Development Report 1998, India has been ranked 139 among a total of 174 countries, for which the Human Development Index (HDI) has been computed.

(c) The Ninth Five Year Plan lays a special emphasis on allround human development with stress on social sectors and a thrust on eradication of poverty. The Plan inter-alia focuses on (i) priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty; (ii) accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices; (iii) ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly the vulnerable sections of the society; and (iv) providing the basic minimum services of safe drinking

water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter and connectivity to all in a time-bound manner. These objectives emphasise directly the dimensions of human development included in the HDI. The development strategy of the Ninth Plan has been tailored to the requirements of these objectives.

Technology for Rice Production

3225. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Central delegation visited Australia and China to have a tie up for a technology to improve rice production in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of suggestions made by the team for constituting the Rice Growers Association for providing milling and packaging of various varieties of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) No central delegation from Indian Council of Agricultural Research/Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India has visited Australia and China for a tie up for a technology to improve rice production in India.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise, Sir.

Pak Group Seeks Indian Support

3226. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan Group seeks India's support;
- (b) if so, whether this demand has come from Jammu and Kashmir Peace Committee;
- (c) whether Indian Government has welcomed this move and is agreeable to accept their demand; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to accept the Pakistan Group's demand?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS : (a) and (b) Government have seen press reports where the Jammu & Kashmir Peace Committee, based in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, has sought India's support.

(c) and (d) Government are aware of the plight of the people in Pakistan occupied Kashmir and of the existence of popular sentiment among them against Pakistan's continued illegal and forcible occupation of this territory, which is a part of the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir. This

issue was raised by the Indian side during discussions on 17 October 1998 on Jammu & Kashmir, which were held as part of the India-Pakistan composite dialogue process.

Plasticulture

3227. SHRI SURESH KURUP :

SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have prepared any plan to boost the use of plasticulture in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the area under plasticulture in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether Central Tuber Crops Research Institute has developed bio-degradable Thermo Plastics; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) and (b) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Use of Plastics in Agriculture' since the Eighth Five Year Plan at an outlay of Rs. 250.00 crores. Under this Scheme assistance is being provided for taking up plasticulture applications like drip installation, drip demonstration, construction of green houses and plastic mulching. During 1996-97 few other plasticulture applications like shading nets, anti bird nets, low tunnels, anti hail nets were introduced. The scheme was continued during 1997-98 at an outlay of Rs. 81.00 crores. The Scheme is being continued during 1998-99 at an outlay of Rs. 110.00 crores.

(c) The details of area covered under various plasticulture applications till the end of Eighth Plan is given in the Statement.

(d) and (e) The Central Tuber Crops Research Institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have developed a process to blend upto 40 percent starch with polythelene to get injection moulding and film grade thermoplastics. The starch may be derived from tapioca (cassava) or corn (maize). Low Density Polyethelene (LDPE) is used as stabilising agent. Other ingredients include gelatinizing, plasticizing and coupling agents. The plastic films thus developed have been observed to biodegrade in a period ranging between four months to five years depending upon the composition, starch content and the presence or absence of an accelerator.

Statement*State-wise area under Plastics Applications*

(Area in hectares)

State	Drip Installation	Drip Demonstration	Plastic Mulching	Green House
Andhra Pradesh	13685.0	28.0	38.0	0.7
Arunachal Pradesh	75.0	9.0	0.0	1.5
Assam	38.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bihar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Goa	277.0	3.0	7.0	0.8
Gujarat	4449.0	42.0	0.7	1.1
Haryana	1404.0	54.0	161.0	2.9
Himachal Pradesh	84.8	8.0	27.0	2.8
Jammu & Kashmir	33.0	126.0	326.0	130.6
Karnataka	31328.0	235.7	320.0	4.1
Kerala	4672.0	38.0	13.0	3.5
Madhya Pradesh	2283.0	162.0	295.7	16.7
Maharashtra	45734.4	652.6	761.2	12.4
Manipur	177.0	26.0	141.2	3.6
Meghalaya	16.0	8.0	124.0	1.4
Mizoram	0.0	16.0	174.0	8.7
Nagaland	250.0	87.0	221.5	10.0
Orissa	1748.1	125.0	0.0	0.2
Punjab	1034.0	7.0	23.0	2.0
Rajasthan	1706.1	71.5	105.0	0.1
Sikkim	98.0	6.0	87.0	4.0
Tamil Nadu	18563.2	14.9	386.0	2.6
Tripura	0.0	5.0	9.0	0.0
Uttar Pradesh	688.6	136.0	0.0	1.2
West Bengal	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Daman & Diu	23.7	8.0	0.0	0.0
Delhi	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Lakshdweep	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chandigarh	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Andman & Nicobar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pondicherry	60.0	2.0	40.0	0.4
Total	128443.9	1870.6	3260.3	211.1

Light Water Reactor

3228. SHRI C.P.M. GIRIYAPPA :

SHRI H.P. SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each Light Water Reactors working at present alongwith their locations;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more Light Water Reactors during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) Two light water reactors (Boiling Water Type) of 160 MWe each are under operation at Tarapur in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) was signed between the Government of India and the erstwhile Soviet Union in November 1988. The IGA provided for the construction of 2x1000 MWe VVER type (light water reactor type) Nuclear Power Station at Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu on a turn-key basis by the Soviet organisations. Owing to political developments in the erstwhile USSR in August 1991, the activities came to a standstill but negotiations continued. As a result of continued negotiations, a "Supplement" to the IGA of 1988 was signed between India and the Russian Federation on 21.6.98 to incorporate the revised terms for the implementation of the project on technical co-operation basis instead of on a turn-key basis. Subsequently, a contract for preparation of a Detailed Project Report by the Russian side has been signed on 20.7.98.

[Translation]

Tibet Issue

3229. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of Tibet was discussed with China during the recent talks; and

(b) if so, outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The first Foreign Ministry level Consultations between India and China in the framework of the Protocol on Co-operation between the Ministry of External Affairs of Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of China were held in Beijing on February 25-26, 1999. The Chinese side touched upon recent developments with reference to

Tibet. We reiterated our consistent, well-known position on this subject.

[English]

Implementation Procedure of MPLADS

3230. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to streamline the implementation of MPLAD Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds released and spent during the last one year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) In order to streamline the implementation of MPLAD Scheme, the guidelines were revised on 17.2.1997.

(c) The details of funds released during the year 1998-99 are given in the enclosed statement. The information about amount spent against the amount released during 1998-99 are not available.

Statement

*Summary of funds released under MPLADS
for 1998-99 as on 12/03/1999*

Sl.No.	State Name	Total Funds Released (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.5
3.	Assam	6.5
4.	Bihar	41.0
5.	Goa	1.0
6.	Gujarat	24.5
7.	Haryana	7.5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5.0
9.	J & K	3.0
10.	Karnataka	23.5

1	2	3
11.	Kerala	12.5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	39.5
13.	Maharashtra	37.5
14.	Manipur	3.0
15.	Meghalaya	1.0
16.	Mizoram	1.0
17.	Nagaland	2.0
18.	Orissa	16.5
19.	Punjab	7.5
20.	Rajasthan	20.5
21.	Sikkim	1.0
22.	Tamil Nadu	35.5
23.	Tripura	1.0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	76.5
25.	West Bengal	8.5
26.	A & N Islands	0.0
27.	Chandigarh	0.5
28.	D & N Haveli	0.5
29.	Daman & Diu	0.5
30.	Delhi	7.5
31.	Lakshdweep	0.0
32.	Pondicherry	0.0
Total		419.5

World Bank Assistance

3231. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the financial assistance proposed to be provided by the World Bank to each State Government for the Development of Agriculture in the States during the year 1999-2000;

(b) the main benefits likely to be derived therefrom;

(c) whether the World Bank had laid down any conditions in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) There are two projects, namely, Integrated Watershed Development Project, Phase-II proposed to be implemented in the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and Orissa Rural Development Project proposed to be implemented in the State of Orissa, which are under consideration of the World Bank for financial assistance during the year 1999-2000.

These projects will be for agriculture, infrastructure and rural development in these States. The detailed terms and conditions of the World Bank assistance would emerge out of further discussions and negotiations with the World Bank.

Sandalwood Scandal

3232. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras High Court has ordered CBI inquiries into a sandalwood smuggling scandal of Tirupattur and in the Kodyankulam police atrocities case; and

(b) if so, the stage of its investigation by the CBI in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) and (b) Regular Case No. 20 (A)/98-ACB, Chennai was registered by the CBI regarding alleged sandalwood smuggling from Reserve Forest, Tirupattur Range on the orders of the Madras High Court. Two Regular Cases Nos. RC. 9(S)/96, SCB, and 10(S)/96 SCB, Chennai were registered by the CBI regarding alleged police atrocities in Kodyankulam village on the request of the State Government of Tamil Nadu. All the three cases, which are under investigation, will be disposed of according to law.

Availability of Seeds

3233. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance has been provided to State Seed Corporation under National Seeds Project-III (NSP-III) for the development and availability of seeds during the last three years;

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

[Translation]

(c) whether National Seed Corporation has any plan to set up more seed testing laboratories in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

Statement about assistance provided to various State Seed Corporations from 1995-96 to 1997-98 under National Seeds Projects-III

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State Seed Corporation	Fund released		
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1.	Andhra Pradesh State Seed Corporation, Hyderabad.	219.60	107.64	—
2.	Gujarat State Seed Corporation, Gandhinagar	30.00	4.00	—
3.	Karnataka State Seed Corporation, Bangalore	82.67	—	—
4.	Maharashtra State Seed Corporation, Akola	9.00	223.00	—
5.	Madhya Pradesh State Seed & Farm Development Corporation, Bhopal	85.00	313.00	—
6.	Orissa State Seed Corporation, Bhubaneshwar.	—	348.00	—
7.	Rajasthan State Seed Corporation, Jaipur	—	280.00	—
8.	Haryana Seed Development Corporation, Chandigarh	19.50	—	—
9.	Assam Seeds Corporation, Guwahati	—	714.80	100.00
Total		445.77	1990.44	100.00

Loan for Seeds

3234. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme for providing loans to the farmers for seeds and fertilizers etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to request the World Bank for providing loans to the farmers in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) No, Sir. However, crop loans disbursed through Rural Financial Institutions have two components, viz. A and B, the latter of which is meant for distribution in kind of inputs including fertilizers and seeds.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Lift Irrigation System

3235. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any lift irrigation scheme in the State of Karnataka is being funded by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether any such proposal has been submitted by the Government of Karnataka to the Union Government recently; and

(d) the details thereof alongwith the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) Ministry of Water Resources is not funding any lift irrigation scheme of Karnataka.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Technology Information Centre

3236. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ICAR has decided to set up Technology Information Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the number of Centres proposed to be opened in the country, state-wise; and

(c) the amount proposed to be sanctioned for these Centres by the Union Government during the year 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has proposed to establish Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATICs) to provide a single-window support system linking various units of research institutions with farmers in decision making and solving their problems.

(b) Forty ATICs have been proposed to be established in selected State Agricultural Universities and ICAR Institutes. The State-wise number of ATICs is indicated in the enclosed statement.

(c) A provision of Rs. 352.50 lakhs has been made for the year 1999-2000.

Statement

State-wise distribution of Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATICs) in the country

S.N.	States/UTs	Phase-I	Phase-II	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	A & N Islands	—	1	1
2.	AP	1	—	1
3.	Assam	1	—	1
4.	Bihar	1	—	1
5.	Delhi	1	—	1
6.	Gujarat	1	—	1
7.	Haryana	2	—	2
8.	HP	2	1	3
9.	Karnataka	2	1	3

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Kerala	2	3	5
11.	MP	—	3	3
12.	Maharashtra	1	4	5
13.	Meghalaya	—	1	1
14.	Orissa	—	2	2
15.	Punjab	1	—	1
16.	Rajasthan	1	1	2
17.	Tamil Nadu	1	1	2
18.	UP	3	1	4
19.	West Bengal	—	1	1
Total		20	20	40

[Translation]

DMS-Utilisation of Funds

3237. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that funds provided in Plan and non-Plan Budget for the year 1997-98 were not fully utilised by the Delhi Milk Scheme;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the funds provided for Plan and non-Plan Budget for the year 1998-99 are also not likely to be utilised fully; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to utilise the funds in both the heads during the current financial year i.e. 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Under the Plan budget provision of Rs. 1 crore during 1997-98, Rs. 58 lakh was provided to the CPWD for execution of civil and electrical work and out of the remaining Rs. 42 lakh, Rs. 41.54 lakhs was utilised by DMS for different other purposes.

Under non-Plan, Rs. 158 crores was provided during 1997-98 against which Rs. 156.20 crores was the actual expenditure. Some of the bills from the milk suppliers for the last week of March, 1998 were not received upto 31.3.1998. Hence expenditure could not be incurred.

(c) and (d) The funds provided to DMS under Plan and non-Plan funds are likely to be utilised.

Production of Kharif Crops

3238. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for the production of Kharif Crops during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated total production of the Kharif Crops;

(d) the areas of agriculture for which Government grant is granted alongwith the total amount of grant given during the last two years; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the grant is actually paid to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the details of targets fixed for production of Kharif crops and total estimated production during the current financial year is attached.

(d) A sum of Rs. 908.76 crore and Rs. 857.29 crore have been released to various State Governments during 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively for development of agriculture under Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes in respect of crop production, Horticulture, farm machinery/implements, plant protection etc.

(e) The Centrally Sponsored Schemes are implemented through the State Governments which are advised for effective implementation as well as ensuring that the assistance is fully utilized for the purpose it is provided.

Statement

Production target and estimated production of Kharif Crops for the year 1998-99

(Million tonnes/million bales)

Crop	Targets	Estimated Production
1	2	3
Rice	73.20	70.23
Jowar	7.00	5.33
Bajra	7.00	6.50
Ragi	2.50	2.30
Small Millets	0.80	0.67
Maize	10.50	8.41

1	2	3
Pulses	6.10	5.26
Oilseeds	15.90	15.10
Cotton*	14.80	14.01
Jute & Mesta**	9.75	9.28
Sugarcane	300.00	289.71

* Million bales of 170 Kg. each

**Million bales of 180 Kg. each

[English]

Nuclear Power Generation

3239. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of atomic power plants functioning at present in the country;

(b) the power generated by each unit during the current financial year;

(c) whether possibilities have been explored to generate more power by making maximum utilisation of installed capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) and (b) The number of Atomic Power Plants functioning in the country and the power generated from each during the current financial year upto January 1999, are given below:

Name of station and Location	Unit	Installed Capacity (MWe)	Gen-MUs 98-99 (upto Jan.99)
Tarapur Atomic Power Station, Maharashtra	TAPS-1	160	1073
	TAPS-2	160	767
Rajasthan Atomic Power Station, Rajasthan	RAPS-1	100	663
	RAPS-2	200	733
Madras Atomic Power Station, Tamilnadu	MAPS-1	170	884
	MAPS-2	170	1018
Narora Atomic Power Station, Uttar Pradesh	NAPS-1	220	1258
	NAPS-2	220	1192
Kakrapar Atomic Power Station, Gujarat	KAPS-1	220	1088
	KAPS-2	220	1223

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) To increase nuclear power generation, efforts made to make maximum utilisation of installed capacity include: (i) Strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive and predictive maintenance. (ii) Improving outage management. (iii) Intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly with the use of simulators etc. (iv) effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control for the grid and (v) Exchange of technical information and experience through international bodies.

People's Planning Scheme

3240. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned by the Union Government to the State Government of Kerala for implementing People's Planning Scheme (Jankeeya Aasoothranam) during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Union Government have noticed large scale corruptions in implementing the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The Planning Commission has agreed to an outlay of Rs. 6000 crore for Local Bodies (People's Planning) of Kerala during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Fishermen in Pak Jails

3241. SHRI S. S. OWAISI :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian fishermen apprehended by Pakistan and put in jails during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of Pakistani fishermen detained by India and put into jails during the last three years;

(c) the number of fishermen reported dead in each country and reasons advanced by them;

(d) whether India and Pakistan have agreed to release the fishermen of each other country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Indian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) 343 Indian fishermen were apprehended by the Pakistani authorities and 214 Pakistani fishermen were detained by the Indian authorities since March, 1996.

(c) Since March 1996, 4 Indian fishermen and 3 Pakistani fishermen died in each other's custody due to illness.

(d) and (e) During discussion between officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Ministry of Interior, Government of Pakistani in Islamabad on 5-6 March, 1999 it was agreed that both sides would release fishermen currently in their custody within one month. It was also agreed that fishermen, who inadvertently stray into each other's territorial waters, should be released expeditiously along with their boats after necessary investigations have been completed and on availability of travel documents.

Projects for Approval

3242. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Uttar Pradesh pending with the Union Government for approval since 1997;

(b) the reasons for the delay in taking any decisions; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Senior Posts out of purview of UPSC

3243. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the selection to a few senior posts have been taken out of the purview of the Union Public Service Commission recently;

(b) if so, the details of these posts and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have identified some more senior posts to be taken out from the purview of UPSC;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this move has created any resentment in the UPSC; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) and (b) Proviso to clause (3) of Article 320 of the Constitution of India empowers the President to make regulations in respect of posts to be exempted from the purview of Union Public Service Commission. All regulations made under this clause are laid before each House of Parliament and are subject to such modifications, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as both Houses of Parliament may make. 1334 posts have been exempted from the purview of the UPSC since 1985 in exercise of the powers conferred by the Constitution on the President.

(c) and (d) Certain posts in the Patent Office under Department of Industrial Development are being considered for exemption from the purview of the Commission.

(e) and (f) Does not arise since constitutional provisions empower the President to exempt any post from the purview of the Commission.

Siachen Issue

3244. PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Siachen issue was discussed in Prime ministerial one to one talks in Lahore;

(b) the total number of persons killed during the last three years in this area;

(c) whether Pakistan is not honouring the cease-fire in this area; and

(d) the outcome of the Lahore discussion on this Siachen issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A total of twenty eight (28) Army personnel have been killed in this area during years 1996-98.

(c) During talks on Siachen on 6 November 1998 as part of the composite dialogue process between India and Pakistan. India proposed a cease-fire in the Siachen area as a first step towards an atmosphere of trust and confidence. This proposal was not accepted by Pakistan.

(d) Does not arise.

Command Area Development Programme

3245. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds released by the Union Government to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during the last three years till date, year-wise; and

(b) the details of the target fixed and the achievements made by the State Governments in this regard during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The details of funds released by Central Government of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh under centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme during the last three years till 1997-98, yearwise are as under:

Year	NDS Released (In Rs. Lakh)
1995-96	2204.13
1996-97	2022.60
1997-98	3057.83

(b) The details of the targets and achievements made on field channels, field drains and warabandi activities under the programme by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh during the last three year are as follows :-

Area in 000 ha.

Year	Field Channels		Field Drains		Warabandi	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1995-96	75.00	117.08	49.66	39.24	300.00	198.42
1996-97	121.00	126.00	65.42	53.77	225.00	205.79
1997-98	99.63	112.82	58.45	45.64	155.00	170.26

[Translation]

Baragi Dam

3246. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the oustees of Baragi Dam stage a dharna protesting against the proposal for increasing storage capacity of the dam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the view-point of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) and (b) No such matter has been reported by the State Government to the Ministry of Water Resources.

Crop Failure

3247. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any Central team to the States to assess the damage caused to crops;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have provided any relief/assistance to the farmers following damages to their crops in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments concerned to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of damage due to natural calamities (including damage to crops) by utilising the allocation under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). Entire Central share of CRF for the year 1998-99 amounting to Rs. 996.11 crore has already been released to all the State Governments.

In addition to CRF, assistance is provided to the States from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for calamities of rare severity. The National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC), in its meeting held on 15.3.1999,

considered the requests from the States for assistance from the NFCR for various natural calamities and approved a total assistance of Rs. 497.10 crore.

Procurement Price of Sugarcane

3248. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cane growers have demanded to fix the procurement price of sugarcane at Rs. 100 per quintal in view of rising prices of agriculture inputs; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India fixes the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane and not the procurement price of sugarcane. For the sugar season 1998-99, Government of India has already fixed the SMP of sugarcane at Rs. 52.70 per quintal linked to the basic recovery of 8.5% in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1996.

[English]

Subsidy Bill of Urea

3249. SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the sharp hike in prices of Urea, it is likely to have little impact on the Subsidy Bill of this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove subsidy without affecting common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) and (b) The sale price of urea was increased from Rs. 3660 per Metric tonne to Rs. 4000 per Metric tonne with effect from 29.1.1999, representing an increase of 9.2 % only.

The savings due to the increase in the price of urea is estimated to Rs. 4.83 crores in the current financial year and Rs. 715 crores in a full year.

(c) The impact of the urea price increase on the cost of cultivation is likely to be less than one percent,

while the impact on the general price level would be negligible.

[Translation]

Sardar Sarovar Dam

3250. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently given any verdict in regard to Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government as well as the Governments of participating States;

(c) since when the construction work of the project has started, the estimated cost at the time of its inception and the funds spent thereon till date, year-wise;

(d) the details of sources from which the funds have been mobilised;

(e) whether the project has witnessed abnormal escalation in terms of time and cost over-run;

(f) if so, the reasons for such high escalation;

(g) the present status, revised cost and time schedule for the completion of the project; and

(h) the details of the oustees of the project and effective measures taken/being taken by the Union Government for their rehabilitation and welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :
(a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India is Writ Petition No. 314/94 has passed an interim Order on 18th February, 1999 permitting to raise the Sardar Sarovar Dam upto EL 85 Metre excluding bumps required for the safety to the dam. The Government of Gujarat has accordingly resumed the work on Sardar Sarovar Dam from 19th February, 1999.

(c) Construction work of Sardar Sarovar Project was started on 24th April, 1987 at the approved estimated

cost of Rs 6,406.04 crores (1986-87 price level) and the year-wise expenditure incurred thereon so far is as under:-

		(Rs. in crores)
		Total Expenditure incurred
Financial Year		
1.	1987-88	496.19
2.	1988-89	162.25
3.	1989-90	198.19
4.	1990-91	422.67
5.	1991-92	600.08
6.	1992-93	536.12
7.	1993-94	749.06
8.	1994-95	681.75
9.	1995-96	777.27
10.	1996-97	901.22
11.	1997-98	1117.23
12.	1998-99 (Up to January, 1999)	931.43
Total		7573.46

(d) Main sources of fund for the project are budgetary provisions made by the Government of Gujarat, share received from the participating States as determined in accordance with award of Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal against the expenditure incurred by the Government of Gujarat, Mobilisation of fund by the Government of Gujarat/Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd. by way of Public Deposits, Bonds, Loans and Inter-corporate deposits. The Government of Gujarat is also receiving Central Loan Assistance from Government of India in lieu of outstanding balance of World Bank Loan and under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The main reason for high cost escalation of the project is delay in completion of the project due to stay granted in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 319/94 filed against construction of the project by the Supreme Court of India and escalation in cost of construction.

(g) Physical Progress of various components of the project as on January, 99 is as under :

Sl. Component No	Excavation %	Concreting %	Drilling %
A. DAM			
1. Main Dam	101.88	83.26	84.40
2. River Bed Power House			
Open	95.44		
Underground	91.01		
3. Canal Head Power House	100.00		
4. Vadgam Saddle Dam	100.00		
B CANALS			
	Earthwork %	Lining %	Structural concrete %
5. Narmada main Canal (0 to 144.5 km)	99.42	99.95	96.66
6. Branch Canals Phase-I (0 to 144.5 km)	93.40	83.32	94.83
7. Distribution System (0 to 144 km)	82.30	91.80	91.12
8. Phase-II (144 to 263 Km)			
a) Narmada main Canal	—	80.24	81.22
b) Seven major structures	91.79	20.37	67.78

The revised estimate of the project is under preparation by Government of Gujarat. The Project was scheduled to be completed by 2000 AD. However, completion of the project is dependent on disposal of Writ Petition pending before the Supreme Court, the availability of funds and pari-passu implementation of Resettlement & Rehabilitation measures of Project Affected Families by the party States as per the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) Award.

(h) As per the present estimates 40727 families are likely to be affected due to submergence because of Sardar Sarovar Project. Out of these 4600 are from Gujarat, 3113 from Maharashtra and 33014 from Madhya Pradesh.

As per the present estimates 10,447 Project Affected Families have been settled upto 31.1.1999 and balance families likely to be shifted are 30,280. The respective State Governments are taking necessary measures for resettlement of the families based on their own policies which are much more liberal than those provided in the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal Award and the same is being closely monitored by the Resettlement & Rehabilitation Sub-Group of Narmada Control Authority headed by the Secretary, Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Pending Scheme of U.P.

3251. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some development projects of Uttar Pradesh are pending with the Planning Commission for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not clearing these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Watershed Development Scheme

3252. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made under the National Watershed Development Scheme in the rain-fed areas of Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan particularly in Patan;

(b) whether the set target could not be achieved under the above scheme;

(c) if so, the details of target set and achievement made in this regard during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) An area of 2,92,579 ha. has been developed under the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas against the target of 3,34,261 ha., in Gujarat, during the VIIIth Plan. No Watershed was taken up in Patan.

Agriculture Produce

3253. SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy has been formulated to increase the agricultural production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether agricultural produce are being imported;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to ban the imports of such item; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Policy on food security announced by the Government seeks to double food production and make India hunger free in ten years. At regionally differentiated strategy, based on agro-climatic regional planning, will be adopted to realize the full potential of each region for the development of agriculture.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The import policy of the Government is primarily based on augmentation of domestic supplies to meet the local requirements and providing inputs at reasonable price to the processors/manufacturers of agricultural products.

[English]

Bus Service between Lahore and Delhi

3254. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the time by which the regular bus service between New Delhi and Lahore is likely to begin?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : The regular bus service between New Delhi and Lahore has begun on 16th March, 1999.

Coconut as Oilseeds

3255. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether coconut has been declared as an oilseed by the Government; and

(b) if so, the benefits being given to coconut cultivators by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Coconut was declared as an oilseed of tree origin in October, 1990.

(b) The support being provided to coconut farmers through the Coconut Development Board (CDB) under Ministry of Agriculture is given in the enclosed Statement. Further, to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers, Government of India fix Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Milling copra and Ball Copra every year. The MSP fixed for the 1999 Season at Rs. 3,100/- per quintal for Milling Copra and 3,325/- per quintal for Ball Copra of Fair Average Quality are Rs. 200/- per quintal higher than for the previous year. Farmers are also supported to the extent of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare for installation of drip irrigation system for all horticultural crops including coconut.

Statement

Incentives/Facilities Provided to Coconut growers during 1998-99

Programme	Incentives/facilities provided
1	2
1. Production and distribution of planting material	(i) 100% assistance for establishment and maintenance of Demonstration-cum-Seed Production Farms for coconut.
	(ii) 100% assistance for setting up nurseries for production and distribution of quality seedlings at Demonstration-cum-Seed Production farms.
	(iii) 50% assistance for production and distribution of Tall x Dwarf hybrid coconut seedlings.
2. Area expansion	Rs. 6,000/- per ha. in 3 annual instalments.
3. Integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement:	
(i) Removal of disease advanced/ senile palms	Rs. 200/- per palm
(ii) Subsidised supply of quality seedlings for replanting	Rs. 5/- per seedling
(iii) Subsidy for promoting fertiliser application and plant protection.	Rs. 8/- per palm (Rs. 1280/- per ha.)
(iv) Assistance for multi-species cropping including green manure crops	Rs. 200/- per ha. towards cost of planting material.
4. Integrated control of major pests and diseases	50% assistance for integrated control of leaf eating caterpillar.
5. Coconut Technology Development Centre :	
(i) Financial aid to artisans	Maximum of Rs. 5000/- per unit.
(ii) Financial assistance to coconut processing industries.	Rs. 1.00 lakh or 25% of the capital cost of the plant and machinery.

1	2
(iii) Financing small and medium milling units to install efficient expellers	Rs. 1.00 lakh of 75% of the cost of expeller in the form of loan at low rate of interest.
(iv) introduction of improved copra dryer	50% of the cost of dryer or Rs. 10,000/- whichever is less provided to coconut farmers for processing of coconuts into copra.
6. Extension and publication activities :	
(i) Training	Training of unemployed youth in harvesting and plant protection on coconut. Training of unemployed youth and rural women in manufacturing of coconut handicrafts. Training of farmers in scientific coconut cultivation.

National Statistical Commission

3256. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up a National Statistical Commission to centralise the collection and dissemination of economic data;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have framed any national policy on dissemination of data; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Government have decided to establish a National Statistical Commission to critically examine the deficiencies of the present statistical system. The need for timely and reliable statistics for policy formulation and planning cannot be over emphasised and there is reason to believe that with progressive dismantling of the system of economic controls, the quality of data flows has weakened. The Commission is to recommend measures for a systematic revamping of the statistical system.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details, inter-alia, are as follows:

'Dissemination of official statistics in the form of reports, ad-hoc and regular publications, etc. as at present shall continue. Validated data, though unpublished, including unit/household/establishment level data after deleting their identification particulars to maintain confidentiality shall also be made available to the national and international data users in the form of hard copies and on magnetic media on payment basis. The price of data shall include the cost of stationary, computer consumables and computer time for sorting information but will not include

the cost of collection and validation of data. No data which are considered by the concerned official data source agency to be of sensitive nature and the supply of which may be prejudicial to the interest, integrity and security of the nation, will be supplied. Survey results/data shall be made available to the national and international data users after the expiry of three years from the completion of the field work or after the reports based on survey data are released, whichever is earlier. The Department of Statistics will be the nodal agency for dissemination of official statistics produced by Central Government Ministries and Departments. A Data Warehouse is planned in the Department of Statistics for the purpose.'

Foot and Mouth Disease

3257. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several cattle in Kerala died due to foot and mouth disease, an epidemic that spread in cattle of Kerala recently;

(b) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government consider to provide adequate arrangements to make available the vaccine for extensive vaccination of cattle; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India became aware about the high incidence of foot and mouth disease in Kerala only on 12.3.1999 following the receipt of a reference (letter No. E1-6877/99 dt. 9.3.1999) on 12.3.1999.

(b) The State Government has been requested to furnish detailed epidemiological information about the incidence for the purpose of further investigation by Indian Council of Agricultural Research scientists.

(c) The Government of India will provide grant-in-aid under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Control of

Animals Diseases" on receipt of proposals from the Government of Kerala as per the guidelines of the scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

High Yielding Varieties of Pepper and Cash Crops

3258. PROF P. J KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research is undertaken in ICAR or other research institutions on high yielding varieties of pepper and other cash crops; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Research on pepper and other cash crops are underway in I.C.A.R. Institutes, State Agricultural Universities and different Centres under All India Coordinated Research Projects of respective crops. List of Research Institute of ICAR and varieties developed are given in enclosed statement.

Statement

A. List of Research Institute of ICAR concerned with pepper and other cash crops.

1. Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut, Kerala. (Black Pepper)
2. Central Institute for Cotton Research, Nagpur (Maharashtra).
3. Indian Institute for Sugar Cane Research, Lucknow (U.P.)
4. Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
5. Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry (A.P.)
6. Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore (West Bengal)

B. Varieties Developed

1. Black Pepper — Panniyur 1 to 5, Subakara, Sreekara, Pournami and Panchami.
2. Cotton — F414, H777, RST9, G.Cot. 12, LRA 5166, MCU7, RG8, ID327, Hybrid-4, JKHY-1, MECH-1, Savita, DCH32, Fateh.

3. Sugarcane — Co205, Co658, Co6806, Co6907, Co7219, Co7314, Co7527, Co7508, CoC671, Coj64, Colk8001, Colk8102, CoPant, 84211.
4. Jute — JRO632, JRO878, JRO524, JRC321, JRC 212, JRC7447, KTC-1, PB06.
5. Mesta — C583, AMC 108.
6. Tobacco — Jayasri, Godavari spl, Swarna, Hema, Bhavya, Gauthami, CM-12, Virginia, Gandak, Behar, Sona, Vairam, Bhagyalakshmi.

[Translation]

Irrigation/Water Logging in Bihar

3259. SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mokama, Barahia Lakhisaral, Suryagarh and Taal irrigation project in Bihar has not been implemented so far and draining of water logged in these areas has also not been undertaken so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to take any concrete step to implement the said project; and

(d) if so, the time by which the work on the said project is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) The Mokamah Tal area was inspected jointly by officers of Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC), Ministry of Agriculture and the Agriculture Department of Bihar Government on 13.9.97 in connection with drainage improvement/development of the area followed by a meeting taken by the Union Minister for Agriculture with the Ministers of Water Resources and Agriculture, Government of Bihar and concerned officials of Centre and State Governments on 14.9.97 when it was decided that a report on drainage improvement of Mokamah Tal area should be prepared by the Government of Bihar in consultation with GFCC within 30 days. Subsequently, GFCC furnished a note outlining development of the Tal area in three phases consisting of immediate (2-3 years), short term (3-5 years) and long term (5-10 years) measures. So far no report has been received from the State Government. Flood Management including drainage being a State subject, preparation of report and taking up their execution is the responsibility of the State Government.

Heavy Water Plant

3260. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up heavy water plants in the country particularly in Bihar during the Ninth Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ravine Development Project

3261. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received the Uttar Pradesh Government to launch the ravine development project financed by the European Economic Community in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the said project have been cleared;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to take a decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A Project proposal for Ravine Stabilisation Programme in Uttar Pradesh with European Economic Community assistance was received.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Project was cleared in 1997.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Flood Control

3262. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any group of experts to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to check flood fury;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions made by the group in its report,

(c) the details action taken by the Union Government on the said report, if any; and

(d) if not, the other alternative arrangement made by the Union Government to control the floods in said States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) to (c) Government of India has not sent any Group of Experts to check flood fury in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. However, Government of India has constituted an Expert Group headed by Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission and with representatives from the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in November, 1998 to identify schemes for mitigating the adverse affects of floods in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and to prepare an action plan for their implementation. The expert group has so far held one meeting.

(d) Does not arise.

Malihan Jheel

3263. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have written to Uttar Pradesh Government about Malihan Jheel in Allahabad to check the flood fury; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had written to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to intimate whether or not the detailed survey for the flood control works to project the Malihan Lake in Allahabad district had been completed as well as to indicate the present status of the preparation of the detailed scheme. The problem area was jointly inspected by a team, comprising of the officials from Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) and the State Government on 26.3.97 and 27.3.97 and the team made some recommendations/suggestions for preparation of a detailed project report for flood protection of the area. Since the formulation, funding and execution of the flood management scheme is the responsibility of the State Government concerned, the report of the team was sent to the Government of UP for taking suitable action.

Seeds Act, 1966 and Insecticide Act, 1968

3264. SHRI K. S. RAO :

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests from State Governments for amendment in the Insecticide Act, 1968 and Seeds Act, 1966;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision of the Government thereon; and

(d) the time by which the amendments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (d) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh have suggested certain amendments in The Insecticides Act, 1968. These have been examined by a Committee in which the representatives of the States were also members. On the basis of recommendations of this Committee, amendments in The Insecticides Act, 1968 are under consideration.

Government of Andhra Pradesh have suggested certain amendments in The Seeds Act 1966. The Committee under Shri M.V. Rao has considered these in consultation with State Governments. The recommendations for amendment of The Seeds Act, 1966 are under consideration.

Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme

3265. SHRI NRIPEN GOVILAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study regarding effective implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes in Assam has been conducted by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Union Government to implement these schemes effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No such study has so far been undertaken by the Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) For effective implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments monitor and review the progress made, from time to time, in conjunction with the Planning Commission.

Fake Passports

3266. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Number of persons arrested during 1997-98 and 1998-99 with fake passport and for giving false statement for getting visa; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check these illegal activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

So far as the second part of the question is concerned, since visas are processed and issued by the foreign Missions in India, the information is not available with the Government.

(b) As and when a person with fake passport is caught, legal action as per the provisions of the law is taken

by the concerned authorities and the passport is impounded/revoked.

Plan for Development of Backward area of Maharashtra

3267. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared an action plan for the development of most backward and poverty stricken areas of Maharashtra on the line of Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the details of action being taken by the Government for the implementation of said action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir. Planning & Development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government in the development of backward regions through appropriate weightage for backwardness in the formula used for distribution of Normal Central Assistance amongst the States. Further, Central Assistance is allocated for Special Area Programme such as Western Ghats Development Programme, Tribal Sub-Plan, etc. and various poverty alleviation schemes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Haj Pilgrims

3268. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total expenditure incurred on the Indian officials of Haj pilgrim duty performed during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the steps taken to reduce such expenditure in the light of serious economic crisis faced by the country; and

(c) the total expenditure expected during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (c) The Expenditure incurred on Haj deputationists during the last three financial years is as follows :-

Year	Total Expenditure (in Rupees)
1995-96	1,64,95,182/-
1996-97	5,53,45,940/-
1997-98	5,87,92,045/-

While every effort is made to effect economies, it may be noted that over the last three years, the number of pilgrims performing Haj through the Haj Committee has increased from about 50,000 to over 63,000 which has contributed to the increase in the number of deputationists. For Haj-1998, Government had sent 398 deputationists to Saudi Arabia consisting of the medical mission and administrative staff. This year, based on an assessment of minimum requirements, Government have reduced the number of deputationists to 362.

The total expenditure expected to be incurred on account of the deputationists for Haj - 1999 would be about Rs. 5,83,56,000/-.

Heavy Water Plant in Orissa

3269. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the heavy water plant at Talcher of Orissa is not in function at present; and

(b) if so, the specific measures being taken by the Government to make it functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The functioning of heavy water plant at Talcher totally depends upon the functioning of the plants of M/s. Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. and availability of feed stock (ammonia synthesis gas) therefrom. Since the working of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. Plant continues to be erratic and uncertain no specific measures can be taken by the Department to make the heavy water plant functional at present.

Pay Scales/Allowances for SOs/DOs

3270. SHRI AJIT JOGI :

SHRI P. SANKARAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government for revision of pay scales of Assistants and Section Officers and also desk allowance of Desk Officers of the Central Secretariat Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be finalised and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Representa-

tions have been received from the CSS Forum etc. for grant of higher pay scales for the grades of Section Officers and Assistants of the Central Secretariat Services (CSS) on the analogy of the pay scales recommended by the Fifth Pay Commission for comparable grades of DANICS/DANIPS etc. The issues of pay scales recommended for the officers of DANICS/DANIPS and desk allowance for Desk Officers of CSS are under consideration of Government but it is not feasible to specify precisely the time likely to be taken in deciding the issues.

Cosmic-Rays

3271. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA :

SHRI H.P. SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to form a special team of scientists to develop cosmic-rays to explode the Atomic Energy Plants and explosive depots base in other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several developed countries scientists are in advanced stage of developing cosmic-rays;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to conduct research in this filed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal and therefore the question does not arise.

(c) and (d) No information available and therefore the question does not arise.

(e) In view of (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise.

Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

3272. SHRI VITHAL TUPE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai has been severely hit by sanctions imposed by US Government after nuclear tests in May, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scientists of the institute have urged the Government to take immediate steps to tackle the situation; and

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
 (c) No, Sir.
 (d) Does not arise.

Criteria for Holidays

3273. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Shivratri festival has not been included in the list of Holidays either gazetted or restricted;
 (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
 (c) the criteria laid down for declaring the festivals as holidays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) The Central Govt. administrative offices observe 17 holidays in a year. This includes 14 compulsory holidays on pre-noticed occasions. The remaining 3 holidays are selected every year from another notified list of 12 occasions, and, Shivratri is one of them. After selection of three holidays the remaining 9 occasions are included in the list of Restricted Holidays. However, during 1999, Shivratri fell on Sunday, 14th February, which is otherwise observed as weekly off.

[Translation]

Fodder for Milch Cattle

3274. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
 PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
 SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the total number of milch cattle in the country and the quantity of fodder made available to them during the last three years;
 (b) if so, the estimated number of milch cattle and per cattle quantity of fodder available to milch cattle in each State per day;
 (c) whether the quantity of fodder available to cattle is less than the quantity required for healthy life of cattle in the country; and
 (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide adequate quantity of fodder to cattle in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Livestock population including milch cattle in the country is enumerated in quinquennial livestock census.

No systematic estimate on the quantity of fodder has been made so far. However, as per the estimate made in 1993 by Policy Advisory Group of Ministry of Environment & Forest, the total availability of dry and green fodder in the country for entire animal population was 398.68 and 573.50 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The population of milch cattle in the country as per the 1992 livestock census is given as under :-

Type of animals	Number in thousand
Indigenous milch cows	52001
Crossbred milch cows	5792
Milch buffaloes	40275

Dry and green fodder availability for the States and Union Territories is given in the enclosed Statement. The availability of green and dry fodder per day per cattle ranges from 3.3 to 20 kg & 3.4 to 6 kg respectively as per available data.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main reasons for less availability of fodder are the decrease in grassland and pasture and availability of less land for fodder cultivation. The steps taken by the Government, to improve fodder availability to cattle, in the country, are given as under :-

1. Implementation of Central Sector Scheme on Central Feed and Fodder Development organisation, comprising three components, viz (i) Regional Stations for Forage Production and Demonstration; (ii) Central Fodder Seed Production Farm; and (iii) Central Minikit Testing Programme of Fodder Crops.
2. Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes on Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development comprising seven components :
 - (i) Strengthening of fodder seed production farm (75:25)
 - (ii) Establishment of fodder bank (75:25)
 - (iii) Seed Production through registered grower (25:75)
 - (iv) Establishment of silvipasture system (100%)
 - (v) Grassland development including grass reserves (100%)
 - (vi) Sample survey for area, requirement and production of fodder crops (100%)
 - (vii) Enrichment of straws and cellulosic wastes (100%)

Statement

Green and Dry Fodder availability during last three years and daily availability per Milch Cattle

S.No.	States/UTs	1996		1997 (Million Tonnes)		1998		Daily availability in Kg	
		Green	Dry	Green	Dry	Green	Dry	Green	Dry
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-	40.32	-	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	-	-	-	-	0.005	-	-	-
4.	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Goa	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	26.00	9.60	-	-
7.	Haryana	-	-	-	-	28.07	9.76	15.00	6.0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	4.00	3.70	-	-
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	3.96	1.91	10.00	5.0
11.	Kerala	5.00	-	5.20	-	-	5.50	9.00	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	87.60	68.43	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	-	40.00	-	42.00	-	39.50	-	5.0
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	1.50	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	0.41	-	0.44	-	0.20	0.10	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-	-	-	0.03	3.04	20.00	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	-	-	-	-	2.65	11.75	-	-
19.	Punjab	49.00	19.00	50.00	19.00	52.00	18.00	18.00	-
20.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	7.60	9.81	-	-
23.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	0.01	-	-	-
24.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	71.14	62.08	-	-
25.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Union Territories</i>									
1.	A & N Islands	-	-	-	-	0.04	-	10.00	-
2.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.33	4.4
3.	Dadra & N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Pondicherry	1.10	-	1.25	-	1.26	-	14.20	-
	IGFRI, Jhansi	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.30	3.4

[English]

Diversion of Water

3275. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that water for irrigation purpose is being provided to industrial sector from various reservoirs of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against this diversion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Water Resources Development Projects are planned for various uses such as irrigation, power generation, drinking water supply, industrial water supply; flood control etc. In some of these projects specific allocation for industrial water supply is also made. No information regarding diversion of water meant for irrigation purpose to industrial sector is kept at the Centre.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Telugu-Ganga Irrigation Project

3276. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the Telugu-Ganga Irrigation Project, Andhra Pradesh stands at present;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for its expeditious completion;

(c) the total funds likely to be spent for the completion of this project; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted modified estimate of Telugu Ganga Project for Rs. 1977 crores during March, 1996 without resolution of the inter-State issue, so the project was sent back to State during July, 1996.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 2149 crores is required for completion of the project as per summary record of discussions of the Planning Commission for the IX plan. The Project is likely to be completed beyond IX Plan.

Bakrol Irrigation Project

3277. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision in regard to grant technical clearance to Bakrol Irrigation Project, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The Union Government has not taken any decision due to non-compliance of the observations of Central Water Commission by the Government of Gujarat.

[Translation]

Production of Peanut

3278. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR CHATURBHUI BISEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the production of peanut in the country during each of the last three years and current year also; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance provided by Government to each State particularly Madhya Pradesh for the production of peanut during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The production of peanut (groundnut) in the country during the last three years and expected production during 1998-99 is given below:-

Year	Production (Lakh Tonne)
1995-96	75.79
1996-97	86.43
1997-98	78.45
1998-99	81.68 (estimated)

(b) The financial assistance provided to the States under the scheme of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) during the last three year and during 1998-99 is given in the enclosed Statement. The scheme includes assistance for peanut (groundnut) development.

Statement

Statement showing the Financial Assistance provided to the States under the scheme of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) during the last three years i.e. from 1995-96 to 1997-98 and during the current year i.e. 1998-99.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State	R E L E A S E S			
		1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Released upto Feb. '99)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1413.39	1299.67	1502.00	1100.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24.10	34.32	40.00	40.00
3.	Assam	166.02	50.00	—	70.00
4.	Bihar	97.98	74.00	—	—
5.	Gujarat	549.45	666.00	1142.00	330.00
6.	Haryana	162.50	226.00	296.36	250.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	29.50	10.00	—	40.00
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	23.32	—	80.00
9.	Karnataka	183.38	694.85	653.14	700.00
10.	Kerala	132.24	26.66	50.00	50.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1144.43	1590.45	1249.00	1200.00
12.	Maharashtra	1032.27	1325.66	1050.00	1100.00
13.	Manipur	108.26	164.00	110.00	100.00
14.	Meghalaya	6.00	10.00	20.00	25.00
15.	Nagaland	—	—	—	80.00
16.	Orissa	444.00	632.00	500.00	500.00
17.	Punjab	7.60	40.32	100.00	100.00
18.	Rajasthan	1332.50	1603.53	1650.00	1230.00
19.	Sikkim	48.68	46.66	55.00	60.00
20.	Tamil Nadu	951.70	894.32	832.50	625.00
21.	Tripura	21.09	33.92	35.00	50.00
22.	Uttar Pradesh	730.21	932.32	921.00	600.00
23.	West Bengal	205.70	200.00	250.00	196.00
Total		8820.00	10569.00	10456.00	8526.00

*[English]***Aquaculture**

3279. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industries engaged in aquaculture in Orissa at present ;

(b) the number of applications pending for setting up industries on Aquaculture in the State; and

(c) the number of applications approved by the Government during 1997 and 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a)

There are about 6,500 Units engaged in shrimp aquaculture in Orissa.

(b) and (c) Out of the 1071 applications received by Aquaculture Authority from Government of Orissa, approvals were issued for 43 cases during 1998. No applications were received during 1997.

No First Use of Nuclear Weapons

3280. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRI K.L. SHARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether China and India have lately committed to the 'No first use of Nuclear Weapons';

(b) if so, the details of the agreement signed between the two countries in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by both the countries to ensure that there is no scope for accidental nuclear war?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) India has announced a policy of 'no-frist-use' and non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States. We have also indicated our readiness to negotiate binding agreements on no-first-use, bilaterally or multilaterally. China has declared policy of no-first-use against nuclear weapon States and non-use against non-nuclear weapons States and nuclear weapon free zones. China has called on the nuclear weapon States to begin negotiations aimed at concluding a treaty on the no-first-use of nuclear weapons. No agreement has been signed between India and China on no-first use till date.

(c) India's nuclear doctrine minimises the risk of accidental nuclear war. India and China have agreed to a range of confidence building measures in the conventional field. No discussions have yet taken place with China on measures to build confidence in the nuclear field.

Production of Pulses

3281. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce training programmes for farmers under the National Pulses Development Project;

(b) if so, the number of training programmes conducted in each State particularly in Maharashtra; and

(c) the details of improved implements provided to the farmers in Maharashtra under the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Training of farmers and Demonstrations are components of the scheme of National Pulses Development Project for increasing the production and productivity of pulses.

(b) The number of training programmes conducted in various States including Maharashtra during the last 3 years as intimated by the States Governments is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The total number of improved implements provided to the farmers in Maharashtra as intimated by the State Government is given below:

Year	Total No. of improved implements
1996-97	5,497
1997-98	3,044
1998-99	1,670 (Target)

Statement

State-wise Number of Training Programme Conducted in Various States in the Country during the last 3 years

S. No.	State/U.Ts	No. of Training Programme		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Target)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42	64	20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	12	6	20
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	3	11	20
7.	Haryana	6	9	10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	2	—
9.	J & K	15	3	10
10.	Karnataka	21	21	20
11.	Kerala	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	32	40

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	27	20	20
14.	Manipur	12	40	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
16.	Nagaland	—	—	—
17.	Orissa	16	20	10
18.	Punjab	5	8	10
19.	Rajasthan	18	22	20
20.	Sikkim	—	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	31	10	10
22.	Tripura	—	—	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh	39	49	20
24.	West Bengal	4	—	—
25.	A & N Islands	—	—	—
26.	Delhi	—	—	—
Total		257	317	230

Funds for Development of Projects

3282. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI D. S. AHRIE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recently sanctioned funds for the State of Karnataka and Maharashtra for development of projects;

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

(c) the quantum of amounts released so far for the above projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The Planning Commission have not sanctioned any funds over and above the central assistance provided for the State Plan in the current year for the State of Karnataka and Maharashtra. While the normal central assistance is given block from and is not tied to any specific schemes/projects, the assistance for Externally Aided Projects as well as that under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme is given for specific projects. The central assistance under various components is released by Ministry of Finance as per prescribed guidelines.

Fishing Harbour

3283. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the construction of some fishing harbours during Ninth Plan; and

(b) if so, the States where these fishing harbours are proposed to be constructed along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery, Bangalore have recommended detailed investigations of ten sites for development of fishing harbours during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The name of the proposed sites are as follows:

Site	State/Union Territory
1. Okha	Gujarat
2. Agardanda	Maharashtra
3. Gangolli	Karnataka
4. Muthalapozyh	Kerala
5. Diamond Harbour	West Bengal
6. Krishnapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
7. Karaikal	Pondicherry
8. Rameshwaram	Tamil Nadu
9. Dhamra Stage-II	Orissa
10. Vanakbara	Daman & Diu

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

3284. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

DR. SUSHIL INDORA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the area under foodgrain cultivation in the country is more vis-a-vis other countries of the World;

(b) if so, whether the yield of foodgrains per hectare in the country is less than even the average foodgrain production in the World;

(c) if not, the details in this regard; and

(d) the name of the country having the highest lowest yield of foodgrain per hectare alongwith the quantum thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The area under foodgrains in India is highest in the World. However, the yield is lower than the world average.

(d) As per the data available in FAO's Production Year Book-1997, France had the highest (6774 kg.) and Kazakistan the lowest (792 kg.) yield per hectare among the countries producing foodgrains including wheat and paddy etc. during the year 1997.

[English]

Attack on Indians

3285. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are increasing number of Indian nations who are falling victim to skin head attacks in Moscow and other Russian cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such attacks on Indian expatriates and students in Russia?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no specific targeted threat to the Indian community in the Russian Federation. They face problems similar to those faced by other foreign nationals. In 1998, 14 such incidents on Indian nationals by some anti-social elements "skin-heads" had come to our notice. This year, no such incident has been reported.

(c) Our Embassy in Moscow and the Consulates General in St. Petersburg and Vladivostok have been regularly sensitising the Russian authorities, both at the federal and local levels, of our extreme concern at incidents affecting Indian nations. The Russian authorities have as a result taken various steps to prevent such incidents. Regular contacts have been maintained with the Indian community including businessmen, students, journalists etc. to reassure them. They have also been advised to take adequate precautions and to immediately report any incidents to the police authorities and keep the Embassy/Consulates General fully informed. The Indian community has been actively encouraged to register themselves and those of their families with our Missions /Posts to facilitate prompt and appropriate consular advice and assistance.

[Translation]

Remunerative Price of Agriculture Produce

3286. SHRI SHAIENDRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers are not getting remunerative price for their produce;

(b) if so, whether the Government would formulate any action plan for determining the remunerative price

of agricultural produce so that the agricultural production may increase and the farmers may get the remunerative price of their produce; and

(c) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The Government announces each season minimum support prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies. The MSPs are declared on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as other relevant factors. The MSPs fixed by the Government not only cover cost of production, but also provide a reasonable margin of profit as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity.

[English]

Incomplete Central Projects

3287. SHRI D. S. AHIRE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The details of Central Projects which were not completed in their stipulated period of completion during the Eighth Five Year Plan in Maharashtra and Karnataka, alongwith the reasons therefor;

(b) the total increase in the estimated cost of each of these incomplete projects;

(c) the additional amount likely to be spent on these projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the concrete steps taken for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) The details of central projects in the State of Karnataka and Maharashtra along with delays, cost increase and balance amount to be spent in the 9th Plan are given in the enclosed statement. One project namely Panvel-Karjal New line will be completed in the 10th Plan.

The reasons for delay vary from project to project. The reasons, generally, include: delay in land acquisition, delay in obtaining environmental and other clearances, inadequate funds, delay in award of contracts, delayed supply of equipment as also delay in civil works.

(d) The concrete steps taken for completion of those projects are as follows :

- (i) Monthly as well as quarterly monitoring by the Department of Programme Implementation. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and helps the management in taking remedial measures.
- (ii) In-depth critical review of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.
- (iii) Inter-ministerial coordination.
- (iv) Setting up of Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of various contracts, packages, and solving of land acquisition and other problems.
- (v) Making funds available to complete the projects on schedule.

Statement

Central Projects under Implementation in the State of Karnataka and Maharashtra

Unit : (Cost/Expenditure : Rs. In crores)

Sl. No	Project (District) (State)	Capacity	Date of Govt. Appro	Date of Commissioning		Time over-Run Original Revised (Months)	Cost		% Cost over Run on Original (Revised)	Cumulative Expenditure	Balance Cost to be spent during 9th Plan
				Original (Revised)	Anticipated (L.Rep.)		Approved	Anticipated			
State : Karnataka											
Sector : Atomic Energy											
NPC											
1.	Kaiga Atomic PWR Karwar Karnataka	MW 2*235	1987/06 1998/10	1995/12 1998/11	1999/10	46 11	730.72 2275.00	2275.00	211	2211.24	63.76
Sector : Railways											
GC											
2.	Arskere-Hassan Manglor SR Karnataka	KMS 236	1995/04 1997/03	1998/03 2000/03	2000/03	48 0	186.16 219.63	219.63	18	88.10	131.53
WS & PU											
3.	Wheel Shopcap Augment, Wap Bangalore, SR Karnataka		1998/03	1998/03	1999/03	36	21.43	21.43	0	17.84	3.59
Sector : Surface Transport											
Ports											
4.	Crude & Pol For MRPL Mangalore Karnataka	6.5 Million Tons P.A.	1994/06	1998/12	1998/09	21	238.14	238.14	0209.67	28.47	
State : Maharashtra											
Sector : Civil Aviation											
AJ											
5.	Housing Complex & other Navi Mumbai Maharashtra	1525 Houses	1983/08	1993/10 1994/04 1995/12	1998/12	62 36	22.00 45.00	49.00	123 9	40.71	8.29

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Const. Hanger No. 4-S. Cruz Mumbai Maharashtra		1993/11	1996/12	1998/12	24	49.00	66.53	36	30.31	36.22
AAI											
7.	TRNL-COMPLEX Ph-III Mumbai Maharashtra	No. 2100	1993/05	1996/10	1999/08	34	84.12 105.49	142.32	69 35	96.86	45.46
Sector : Coal											
WCL											
8.	Pimplegaon OC Chanderpur Maharashtra	0.60 MTY	1991/03	1997/03	1999/03	24	44.51	44.51	0	41.21	3.30
Sector : I & B											
D.D.											
9.	T.V. Exp. Mumbai Maharashtra		1989/03 1995/11	1994/03 1996/03	1998/12	57 33	20.18	39.36	95	27.56	11.80
Sector : Petrochemicals											
IPCL											
10.	Expn. Ethlene AT MGCC Nagothane Maharashtra	TPA 1 LAC	1992/05	1995/11	1998/09	34	177.58	177.58	0	131.54	46.04
11.	HDPE Polyet- Hylene, MGCC Nagothane Maharashtra	TPA 75000	1992/05	1995/11	1998/09	34	158.78	169.97	7	113.69	56.28
Sector : Petroleum											
HPCL											
12.	Ms. Maximisation Mumbai Maharashtra	BSD 14000	1993/09	1996/06	1998/12	30	45.27	45.27	0	31.86	13.41
Sector : Railways											
GC											
13.	Gondla-Cha- ndalort, SER Maharashtra	KMS 258.50	1992/12 1994/04	1996/12 1997/03	1999/03	27 24	158.83 215.14 232.52	232.82	47	221.23	11.59
NL											
14.	Parvel-Karjat, CR Mumbai Maharashtra	KMS 28.05	1996/02	1997/03	2002/12	69	89.00	106.89	20	0.95	20.00 (About Rs. 85.94 crores to be spent in the 10th Plan)

Nuclear Safety Research Institute

3288. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently set up a nuclear safety research institute in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has set up a Safety Research Institute (SRI) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. Selected aspects of research relating to nuclear power plant safety, radiological and environmental safety, fire and industrial safety will be addressed during the initial phase of the project. The main objective of the SRI will be to carry out and promote safety related research in selected areas of

relevance to regulatory decision making. SRI will bring together designers, operators and regulators for implementation of research programmes aimed at resolving safety related issues.

[English]

Water Management Programme

3289. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL:

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing sub-schemes under the National Water Management Programme, State-wise;

(b) the details of cultural command areas that are likely to be covered under these schemes during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon so far;

(d) the total financial assistance received from the World Bank for the implementation of these schemes during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the details of Central assistance provided to each State during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Government of India had launched National Water Management Project (NWMP) with World Bank credit assistance of SDR 93.2 million (US\$ 114.0 million equivalent) in FY 1987-88 to increase agricultural productivity and farm incomes in selected schemes through the provision of a more reliable, predictable and equitable irrigation service. In all 114 schemes in 11 participating States covering a CCA of 5.229 million hectares were undertaken NWMP. The NWMP has since closed on 31.3.1995.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sugarcane Research Centres

3290. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sugarcane research centres located in Maharashtra; and

(b) the allocation made by the Union Government for these centres during the last three years and proposed to be made for the year 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The details of the Sugarcane Research Centres in Maharashtra run by different sectors are as follows:

(i) Regional sugarcane & Jaggery Research Station, Kolhapur.

(ii) Central Sugarcane Research Station (MPKV), Padegaon.

(iii) Vasantdada Sugar Institute, Manjari, Distt. Pune.

(iv) Sugarcane Nursery-cum-Demonstration Farm, Deolalipravara, Distt. Ahmednagar.

(v) Central Sugarcane Research Station, Punjabrao Krishi Vidyapeeth, Krishnagar, Akola

(vi) Regional Sugarcane Research Station, Basmathnagar, Distt. Parbhani.

(vii) Sugarcane Research Centre, Dapoli, Distt. Ratnagiri.

(b) the allocation made by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research under the central sector for ;

	(Rs. in lakhs)			
	95-96	96-97	97-98	Proposed for 1999-2000
(1) AICRP on Sugarcane at				
i) CSRS, Padegaon	4.51	4.35	4.35	12.74
ii) RSJS, Kolhapur	4.25	2.80	2.80	7.00
(2) The allocation made by the Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture:				
Centrally Sponsored scheme	9.52	2.64	3.75	5.25

In order to support research projects taken up by research centres on sugarcane etc., grants-in-aid are provided from the Sugar Development Fund. As far as Maharashtra is concerned, the Vasantdada Sugar Institute, Pune has been sanctioned Rs. 159.721 lakhs in 1997-98 and Rs. 32.13 lakhs in 1998-99. An amount of Rs. 158.951 lakhs has been disbursed to this Institute in 1998-99. No allocations are made centre-wise on year to year basis.

Poultry Farming

3291. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the fund provided in the form of loans/grants to NGO's by the Government for poultry farming and livestock development in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide additional funds to the poor people for poultry farming and also considering to write-off the loans given to those persons who are living below-poverty line; and

(c) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has not provided any loan/grant to NGO's for Poultry Development and Livestock Development in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

[English]

Suggestions from C.V.C. to Fight Corruption

3292. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received some suggestions from Central Vigilance Commission for changes in the existing laws to fight corruption;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has supported enactment of an appropriate Act, to forfeit the properties of the corrupt public servants which is at present being considered by the Law Commission. Suggestion from the CVC for framing rules and procedures under Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 is under consideration of the Ministry of Finance.

Strengthening Democracy

3293. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Conference on ways to strengthen democracy was held in Delhi during February, 1999;

(b) if so, countries who participated in the conference; and

(c) the outcome of the conference and reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A non-governmental conference titled 'First

Global Conference on Democracy' was organized at New Delhi from February 14-17, 1999 by the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi and the Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi in collaboration with the National Endowment for Democracy, Washington.

(b) As this was a non-governmental conference, participants attended in their individual capacity and not as representatives of their countries. It is understood that around 400 delegates from around 70 countries participated in the Conference.

(c) The outcome of the conference was the affirmation of democratic values and democracy as the most acceptable form of government. The conference also started a process of building a worldwide network of Democracy in countries, which were at different stages of democratic development.

As the Government of the largest democracy in the world, Government is fully supportive of such endeavours to promote and strengthen democracy.

Prices of Molasses

3294. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sugar output sees crash in prices of molasses" appearing in the Economic Times dated January 27, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interests of sugarcane growers and save molasses prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (c) The likely sugar production during the current sugar season (October-September 1998-99) is 150 lakh tonnes of which, the share of Maharashtra works out to about 52.50 lakh tonnes. As per the information received from the sugar factories, the molasses prices ranged between Rs. 30-Rs. 292 per quintal during 1997-98 season and during current crushing season (upto 10th February, 1999), the price of molasses are in the range of Rs. 13-Rs. 189 per quintal. As the production of sugar during the current crushing season (October-September) is expected around 150 lakh tonnes as against 128 lakh tonnes during the last crushing season, the price of molasses are expected to remain at a low level. Moreover, molasses has been de-controlled with effect from 10th June, 1993 and it is also under OGL Category for export.

Cauvery Water Dispute

3295. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dispute on sharing of Cauvery water has been resolved by the Government;
- (b) if so, the share of water claimed by each basin State and the actual share of water being utilised by them at present;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to resolve this issue; and
- (d) the time by which the issue is likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) Disputes on sharing of Cauvery water is under adjudication before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal constituted by the Union Government on 2nd June, 1990. The Tribunal has so far given an interim order on 25.6.1991. Implementation of the interim order is being monitored by Cauvery River Authority constituted under a scheme, namely, "Cauvery Water (Implementation of the Order of 1991 and all subsequent related orders of the Tribunal) Scheme, 1998", and notified in official gazette on 11.8.1998.

(d) No time frame has been given to Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal for giving the final award.

Haj Pilgrims

3296. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of arrangements that are being made this year for providing accommodation to Haj Pilgrims at Makkah and Madina;
- (b) the details of criteria and guidelines observed for providing the accommodation including the space to be provided per pilgrim and the distance from the Harem-Sharief at Makkah and Madina; and
- (c) the total amount collected from the Haj pilgrims during the last three years and total amount spent on providing the accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (c) In Makkah, the buildings are selected by the Building Selection Teams, sent by State Haj Committees from India. Each member stays in Makkah for a period of three weeks and selects the buildings offered by the Moallims, landlords, lessors, agents, and power of attorney holders. The Consulate General of India, Jeddah, provides them with assistance to measure the distance and the capacity of the buildings.

In Madinah, the Haj Committee delegation signs an agreement with pilgrims services groups to provide accommodation to Indian Hajis.

Criteria for selection of buildings in different categories, i.e., Category-I and Category-II, is laid down by Haj Committee, Mumbai. There is only one uniform category of accommodation in Madinah.

Category-I accommodation consists of new buildings, having lift facilities if more than four floors. These buildings have to be situated at a distance of 600 mts. from the Haram Sharief.

Category-II consists of buildings situated upto a distance of 1000 mts. from Haram Sharief. This category has the following three sub-categories in terms of distance from Haram Sharief:-

- (i) 0-800 mts. from Haram Sharief;
- (ii) between 800-850 mts. from Haram Sharief; and
- (iii) between 850-1000 mts. from Haram Sharief.
- In Madinah, the criteria fixed is :-
- 30% pilgrims will be housed within the first Ring Road
 - 25% on the Ring Road and
 - 45% within the 750 mts. from the Masjid-e-Nabwi

In Makkah, each pilgrim is provided with accommodation space of 2.5 sq. mts. In Madinah, depending upon the local Governor's decision, it can be upto 4 sq. mts. in some buildings.

The Haj Committee, Mumbai, has provided the following figures of the total amount collected from the pilgrims during the last three years and the total amount spent on provision of accommodation:-

	1996 (Rs.)	1997 (Rs.)	1998 (Rs.)
(a) Amount Collected	242,76,12,305/-	263,02,78,470/-	356,62,22,811/-
(b) Amount Spent	56,58,12,125/-	73,81,88,603/-	103,64,04,837/-

The total amount spent during the last three years including payment of Foreign Exchange to the pilgrims and compulsory dues etc., is as follows :-

207,18,00,594/- 258,83,67,194/- Not yet finalised

Cadre Review

3297. SHRI P. SANKARAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had made any assurance to the employees of the Regional Passport Office that Cadre Review in the RPO will be completed during the current financial year (1998-99); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the decision is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the All India Passport Employees' Association were informed in December, 1998 that efforts were being made to have an early and definite decision on cadre review preferably within a period of about two months.

Cadre review of the Central Passport Organisation is under active consideration of the Government.

Expert Committee of ICAR

3298. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on crop productivity has advised diversification of crops in Punjab and Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee observed that the area under rice and wheat has increased and the rice-wheat cropping system becomes the predominant. The Committee suggested diversification with other crops such as maize, mustard, groundnut, soybean, etc.

The Committee also suggested the cultivation of summer moong (60-65 days crop) in place of summer rice, and popularisation of green manuring and diversification with vegetables and fruit cultivation.

(c) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, State Governments of Punjab and Haryana, and State Agricultural Universities have been provided with the report for consideration and follow up action.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, which is the nodal department for agricultural development, has constituted a Steering Committee for monitoring and implementation of the recommendations. The Chairman of the Committee is Joint Secretary (Crops) Department for Agriculture & Cooperation, Govt. of India, and members are from the Department

of Agriculture & Cooperation, Govt. of India, Punjab and Haryana State Departments of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities. The Committee has held meetings at New Delhi and Chandigarh for monitoring and implementation of recommendations.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has discussed the researchable issues and follow up action and has contemplated to intensify research activities in maize, pulses, oilseeds, forages, vegetable crops and post harvest technology.

Extradition Treaty

3299. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the names of the countries with whom India propose to sign extradition treaty in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : The Government of India has so far concluded Extradition Treaties with 10 countries (Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Hong Kong, Nepal, Netherlands, Russia, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.A.) and is in the process of negotiations to finalise the text of the Extradition Treaties with 22 countries which are : Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nepal, New Zealand, Oman, Poland, Romania, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, UAE, Uganda and Ukraine.

Direct Recruitment of Dy. SP

3300. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the percentage of direct recruits at the level of Deputy Superintendent of Police from 20% to 10% in new recruitment rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation against this proposal; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARATHANAN) : (a) and (b) Concurrence of the UPSC has been sought on this Department's proposal refixing the direct recruitment quota in the grade of Dy. SP in the CBI from the existing 20% to 10% in the new Recruitment Rules, which became necessary pursuant to the acceptance of the report of the Fifth Pay Commission by the Government.

(c) and (d) No. representation raising this specific issue has been received by the CBI.

[Translation]

Oil Processing Units

3301. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the places where the soyabean and mustard base processing of Oilseed plants in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have been set up by the Oilseed Association with the assistance of National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and National Dairy Development Board;

(b) if so, the time by when these have been set up;

(c) whether all these plants are functioning at present; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) have not provided financial assistance to the oilseed Association for setting up of Soyabean and Mustard base processing plants in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Fund for Tamil Nadu

3302. DR. SAROJA V : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds for various developmental schemes of Tamil Nadu are not released by the Government during the last three years;

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

(c) the reasons for non-release of the funds; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Governments to release the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Crop Diseases

3303. SHRI JAYARAMA I.M. SHETTY :

SHRI U.V. KRISHNAMRAJU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that crop diseases are increasing in the country day by day;

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

(c) the strategy formulated by the Government to check increase in crop diseases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) Regular surveys of crops are undertaken by various Central and State Government organisations in the country to monitor incidences of crop diseases and also to formulate strategies to check the crop diseases. As per results of these surveys crop diseases are not increasing in the country.

Integrated Disease management is being promoted which includes use of resistant cultivars, quality seeds, cultural methods including good sanitation, biocontrol and only need based use of pesticides.

Command Area Development Programme

3304. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present fixed ceiling of per hectare for construction of field channel under the Command Area Development Programme;

(b) whether the ceiling is applicable to each State;

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

(d) whether the Government of Kerala has requested the Union Government to raise this ceiling; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) to (c) The present ceiling of cost per hectare for construction of field channel in different states is as follows :-

States	Cost
(i) North-eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and Indira Gandhi Nahara Pariyojana of Rajasthan	Rs. 10,000 per hectare to be shared equally between the State and Centre.
(ii) Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, and Centre, Punjab, Rajasthan excluding Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana, Tamilnadu and Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal excluding hilly areas.	Rs. 6000 per hectare to be shared equally between the State and Centre.

The higher rate than Rs. 6000 per hectare has been approved by Government of India in respect of States mentioned at (i) above, in view of the difficult terrain and other specific problems in the areas.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala has requested to raise the cost of construction of field channels to Rs. 10,000 per hectare in July, 1996 and now (March, 1999) to Rs. 15,000 per hectare. In the matter, no decision has been taken by Government of India.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

3305. SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI U.V. KRISHNA RAJU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government has requested for setting up of some more Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) There are 16 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) functioning in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The State Government has requested for setting up of KVKs in seven districts viz., Nellore, Prakasam, Adilabad, Krishna, Khamam, Nizamabad and Cuddapah.

(d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has a proposal to strengthen the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) to take up the additional functions of KVK in Nellore, Prakasam, and Adilabad districts during the IX Five Year Plan. The establishment of KVKs in the remaining four districts will depend upon the availability of additional financial resources to the Council for the purpose.

Fund for Assam

3306. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam for the development of backward areas of Assam during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) There is no proposal pending with Planning Commission for development of backward areas of Assam. However, Planning Commission supplements the efforts of the State Government in ameliorating the special problems faced by certain areas through special Central Assistance under Special Area Programmes, including Hill Area Development Programme, Border Area Development Programme, North Eastern Council and Tribal Sub-Plan.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Burning of Indian Flag

3307. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian National Flag was burnt during the Republic Parade celebrations of India in U.K.;

(b) if so, whether the Union Govt. has received any report about this incident;

(c) if so, whether the U.K. Police did not take any action while Indian National Flag was burnt in their presence;

(d) if so, whether India lodged any protest to British Govt. in this regard; and

(e) if not, main reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The British Police upon being queried have informed the Indian High Commission in London that "unfortunately the burning of a national flag is not an offence in the U.K."

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Agricultural Production

3308. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a considerable drop in agricultural production during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) if so, the extent to which the production decreased during the above period;

(c) the target fixed/achieved for agricultural production of the above period; and

(d) the efforts being made to increase the agricultural production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) There is a general trend of increase in agricultural production, though there are fluctuations due to climatic conditions. The production of agricultural crops during 1996-97 had increased by 9.3 percent but exhibited a decline of 5.8 percent during 1997-98 due to adverse weather conditions. The production in 1998-99 is again up by about 3.9 percent.

(c) The targets/achievements of various crops during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given as under :

(in million tonnes)

Group of Crops	1996-97		1997-98	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Foodgrains	193.5	199.4	200.0	192.4
Oilseeds	23.0	24.4	25.5	22.0
Sugarcane	270.0	277.6	280.0	276.3
Cotton*	13.0	14.2	14.8	14.0
Jute & Mesta@	9.0	11.1	9.8	11.1

*Million bales of 170 Kg. each

@ Million bales of 180 Kg. each

(d) In order to increase production and productivity of various crops, the Government is implementing crop specific centrally sponsored/central sector schemes under which incentives are provided to farmers for use of quality seeds and location specific high yielding/hybrid varieties, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements etc. Besides, field

demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further, under the national agenda for governance, the Government has given fresh thrust to double the food production in next ten years through adoption of regionally differentiated growth strategies, creation of farming infrastructure and more efficient use of resources.

[Translation]

Increase in Terrorist Activities

3309. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR CHATURBHUI BISEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing terrorist activities in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the countries which are supporting and patronizing these activities;

(c) whether talks were held with these countries to check these activities;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to check these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (e) Government are aware of the terrorist activities in the North East. Reports indicate that agencies inimical to India's interests, particularly those of Pakistan, are assisting some of the terrorist groups in the North East. These groups are reported to be misusing the territories of neighbouring countries including Bhutan, Myanmar and Bangladesh. Government have been apprising these neighbouring countries regularly about this. These countries have assured co-operation in this regard. The matter has also been taken up with Pakistan.

Steps taken by the Government to deal with the insurgent activities in the north-eastern States include, *inter alia*, sanction of special central assistance; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence; modernisation/upgradation of State police forces; deployment of additional units of central security forces; reimbursement of security-related expenditure; declaration of the most seriously affected areas as "disturbed areas" and notification of the major insurgent groups as "unlawful associations". The situation is kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

[English]

Takeover of ICWA

3310. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take over the Indian Council of World Affairs;

(b) if so, the details indicating the reasons and its objectives;

(c) whether an ordinance in this subject issued in 1990 was struck down by the High Court as *Ultra vires* of the Constitution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI BASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) In its report of July 1990, the Standing Committee of Parliament on External Affairs has expressed the view that "unless ICWA is taken over by the Government, there would be further deterioration in this institution." The Committee recommended that the Ministry of External Affairs should come forward and make efforts to revive the proposal of take over of ICWA by Government. The proposal is under examination of the Government.

(c) and (d) In June 1990, Government promulgated the Indian Council of World Affairs Ordinance on the basis of which, ICWA was declared an institution of national importance and converted into an incorporated autonomous body. By its judgement of 10.09.1990, however, a Single Judge Bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, allowed a Writ Petition declaring the Ordinance *ultra vires* the Constitution, beyond the competence of Parliament as well as violative of Article 14, 19 (i) a and 19(i) (c) of the Constitution.

Delayed Mega Projects

3311. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 60% of mega public sector projects are running behind schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether their costs have been escalated by more than 50%;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on January 1999, out of 39 projects, 23 projects were running behind schedule with respect to their latest approved schedule.

(c) 12 out of 39 mega projects are having cost escalation of more than 50%.

(d) The reasons for delay vary from project to project. However, in general, the reasons include: delay in land acquisition, delay in obtaining environmental and other clearances, inadequate funds, delay in award of work contracts and packages, failure of civil contractors, delay in supply of equipment and law and order problems.

(e) The projects face various types of problems during the course of implementation. The exact measures taken to ensure speedy implementation depend on the nature of the problems being faced by the projects. The important measures being taken, in general, are as follows:

(i) Monthly as well as quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures.

(ii) In-depth critical review of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(iii) Inter-ministerial coordination.

(iv) Setting up of Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages solving of land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Making funds available to complete the projects on schedule.

Indo-Sri Lanka Ties

3312. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pacts signed between India and Sri Lanka during the last three years ;

(b) whether the Government have received these agreements ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) During the last three years, three agreements have been signed between India and Sri Lanka.

- (i) An Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between India and Sri Lanka was signed in January, 1997
- (ii) A Credit Agreement was signed in January 1997 to make available the second tranche of US \$ 15 million to the Government of Sri Lanka.
- (iii) An Agreement to establish a Free Trade Area between India and Sri Lanka was signed in December, 1998.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Shrimp

3313. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the annual production of shrimp during each of the last three years;
- (b) the reasons for sharp decline in the production of shrimp; and
- (c) the steps taken to increase the production of shrimps in view of the increase in demand of shrimp in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The annual production of shrimp during 1995-96 to 1997-98 is given below :

Year	Shrimp production (000 tones)
1995-96	331
1996-97	361 (Provisional)
1997-98	362 (Provisional)

(b) There has been no decline in the shrimp production during the above period.

(c) The steps taken by the Government for increasing the production of shrimp inter-alia include:-

- (i) development of scientific shrimp farming through Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies and providing package of technical, financial and extension support to shrimp growers;
- (ii) encouraging establishment of integrated shrimp farms and support facilities such as seed hatcheries, feed mill,

etc. in the Government/Public/Private sectors;

- (iii) human resource development by establishing demonstration-cum-training centres; and
- (iv) issue of guidelines outlining measures for development and management of sustainable brackishwater aquaculture practices, etc.

[Translation]

Irrigation Facilities

3314. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR :

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA :

COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lakhs of acres of land in the Northern States of the country viz. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan remain unirrigated due to shrinking of water resources, fall in the level of ground water and non-availability of adequate irrigation facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government propose to launch an action plan in those States where the adequate irrigation facilities are not available;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view the need to cover additional areas under irrigation, the Government has taken/proposed to take various policy and programme initiatives. These include revision to National Water Policy (1987). Command Area Development Programme, preparation of National Perspectives for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit area, water management practices, promoting efficient and economic use of water for various purposes, emphasis on water conservation through various methods including use of latest technologies and people's participating in management of water for diverse uses and regulatory measures for controlling over exploitation of ground water through Cen-

tral Ground Water Authority. Besides, the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) recently approved by the National Development Council has one of the strategies of irrigation development to complete all on-going projects, particularly those which were started during pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period as a time bound programme to yield benefits from the investments already made. In Keeping with the strategy, additional areas will be covered under irrigation facilities through expeditious completion of selected on going major and medium irrigation and multipurpose projects for which Accelerated Irrigated Benefits Programme (AIBP) launched by Govt. of India in 1996-97 is being continued in the Ninth Plan. Statewise details of release of Central Loan Assistance under AIBP during the last three years are given in statement attached.

Statement

Central Loan Assistance (CLA) released to various States under AIBP during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State	CLA released during		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (till date)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35.26	74.00	79.67
2.	Assam	5.23	12.40	13.95
3.	Bihar	13.50	14.04	12.03
4.	Goa	—	5.25	—
5.	Gujarat	74.773	196.90	217.71
6.	Haryana	32.50	12.00	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	—	6.50	2.50
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.30	—	—
9.	Karnataka	61.25	90.50	83.50
10.	Kerala	3.75	15.00	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	63.25	114.50	85.50
12.	Maharashtra	14.00	55.00	40.30
13.	Manipur	4.30	26.00	—
14.	Orissa	48.45	85.00	31.25
15.	Punjab	67.50	100.00	—
16.	Rajasthan	2.675	42.00	53.47
17.	Tripura	3.773	5.10	3.05
18.	Tamil Nadu	20.00	—	—
19.	Uttar Pradesh	43.50	78.00	46.50
20.	West Bengal	5.00	20.00	10.00
Grand Total		500.00	952.19	679.43

AIBP was launched by Govt. of India in 1996-97 for providing loan assistance

to the States for accelerated implementation of large irrigation and multipurpose projects.

Scope :

1. Projects costing more than Rs. 500.00 crore or more and beyond the resource capability of the States
2. Projects in the advanced stage of construction and with just a little additional resources could be completed.

Eligibility :

1. Projects which have received investment clearance from Planning Commission.
2. States are to provide matching share from their own resources.

[English]

Agricultural Expertise

3315. SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Africa has sought agricultural expertise from India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Draft Declaration of Intent in the field of agriculture and food processing industry, mainly intending to promote cooperation between the two countries in the field of agriculture, has been received.

Upper Krishna Project

3316. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated cost of the Upper Krishna Project, Stage I and II, separately;

(b) whether the Upper Krishna Project has been completed;

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

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed; and

(e) the total World Bank loan utilised so far under this Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The estimated cost of Upper Krishna Project is as under :-

Stage I — Rs. 1214.97 crores (approved in September, '90)

Stage II — Rs. 2786.17 crores (submitted by the State in April, '96)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The main reasons for delay in completion is due to constraint of funds, rehabilitation, resettlement and inter State problems.

(d) Upper Krishna project Stage-I is likely to be completed by the year 2000 and Stage-II being an unapproved project is likely to be completed beyond IX Plan.

(e) An amount of about US\$292 million of World Bank assistance has already been utilised on the project.

Haj House

3317. SHRI S.S. OWAISI : Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Haj Houses built so far by Government in different States, State-wise;

(b) whether these Houses are not adequate to meet the huge rush of Haj pilgrims;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to construct more Haj House in near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether facilities provided in these Haj Houses are not adequate; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the standard of facilities provided in these Haj Houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Central Government have not built any Haj House anywhere in India. The Haj Committee, Mumbai, has however, built one Haj House in Mumbai. Similarly, State Haj Committees of West Bengal and Gujarat have also built their Haj Houses at Calcutta and Ahmadabad respectively, with some financial assistance from Haj Committee, Mumbai.

(b) The Haj House in Mumbai is quite adequate to meet the requirements of Haj pilgrims leaving for Saudi Arabia and from Mumbai.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The facilities available in the three above-mentioned Haj Houses are reported to be adequate.

(f) Does not arise.

Venture Capital Fund

3318. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to float Rs. 1000 crore Venture Capital Fund to boost the Information Technology Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Department of Electronics is setting up a venture capital fund of Rs. 100 crores. Venture capital has been an important trigger in the growth of Information Technology (IT) industry around the world. The objective for setting up this fund is to promote Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the software and IT sector in India.

Import of Milk Powder

3319. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether milk powder is being imported in the country from the foreign suppliers by the Government and private agencies;

(b) if so, the names of suppliers countries/agencies and the quantum imported during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure that the imported milk powder is of requisite standard quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the concerned Departments and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as the same is received.

Grant of Visa

3320. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether USA action of not to grant the visa to the top scientists of the country have been withdrawn;

(b) if not, whether this matter was discussed during the recent bilateral talks held between the two countries; and

(c) if so, the outcome of talks on this matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) In July 1998, seven Indian scientists working in the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA, were asked to wind up their work and leave the US. Similar action was not taken in the case of the remaining 23 scientists from India working at NIST.

US Spokesman subsequently stated that this action was not an across the board restriction on scientists from India, but on researchers from institutions which, the US believed, were involved with India's nuclear and missile programme.

(b) and (c) GOI position is that coercive and unilateral measures whether in the economic or technology field are counter-productive. Government considers US decision to deny visa and terminate research projects of certain Indian scientists as unwarranted. We do not agree with any targeted policy of denying and revoking visas particularly those which come in the way of scientific exchange and interaction.

The matter has been taken up with the US Government, including in the recent bilateral talks. There is no change in the US position so far.

[Translation]

Setting up of a Review Committee

3321. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up any committee to analyse the reasons for non-completion of the Five Year Plan within the scheduled time and also to analyse the reasons for cost and time over-runs of several important projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the recommendation submitted to the Government and the decision taken by the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) No Committee has been set up to review non-completion of the Ninth Five Year Plan. However, there is a mechanism of Standing Committees of Central Ministries/Departments to go into cost and time overruns of important projects.

The Government have also decided that in every case in which the project cost overrun is of over 20 per cent and is accompanied by time overrun of over 10 per cent (or such other time and cost overrun norms, as may be deemed appropriate by the Planning Commission, for

different types of projects), the Revised Cost Estimates should be brought up for approval of Government only after responsibility is determined for the cost and time overruns. Accordingly, the Planning Commission have devised a mechanism for fixing the responsibility in this regard and have circulated the same to the Secretaries/Financial Advisers of all Central Ministries/Departments for compliance.

[English]

Import of Butter Oil

3322. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import butter oil;

(b) if so, the total quantum of butter oil imported during 1996-1997 and 1998 separately;

(c) the total quantum of butter oil proposed to be imported during 1999-2000;

(d) the countries from which the butter oil is being imported; and

(e) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) The Import of butter oil is under OGL. This Department has no proposal under consideration to import butter oil.

No import of butter oil has been reported for the period April, 1996 to March, 1997. The details of butter oil imported during April, 1997-March, 1998, and April, 1998 September, 1998 are as given below in the table:

Table

Name of the Country	April, 1997-March, 98 Quantity (Kg)	April, 1998-Sept. 98 Quantity (Kg)
1. Australia	289400	211000
2. Netherland	260	—
3. Newzealand	3170200	1791120
4. USA	784	—
Total	3460644	2002120

Support to Iraq and Cuba

3323. SHRI T GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been extending support to the people of Iraq and Cuba; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance extended by India to them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has been extending assistance to Iraq and Cuba under the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme. Details of such assistance given to the two countries in the last three years are contained in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Details of assistance given by India to Iraq and under Cuba the Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

IRAQ

I. Civilian Training

India offered 100 slots during the last three years to Iraq for training of Iraqi candidates in various fields including News Agency Journalism, Computer Software and Hardware, Banking, Production Management, Standardisation, curriculum Design and Instructional Material-Development, Rural Development, Urban Development Management, Human Resource Planning and Management, Management Development for Senior Executives, Fertiliser Quality Control, Auditing, Diplomacy, Small Industry Financing, Training Methods and Skills, Business Advisors Training Programme, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, Textile Testing and Quality Control, Educational Planning and Administration etc.

II. Study Visits

The following visits were financed under India's ITEC Programme in the last three years.

1. A team of two Doctors and one Pharmacist from Iraq visited India to interact with various medical authorities in India from 11.1.96 to 18.1.96. The team visited AIIMS, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi, Leprosy Institute, Agra, Ranbaxy Research and Development Centre-Gurgaon, Dabur Research and Development Centre, Ghaziabad etc.

2. A 4-member Indian team from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, visited Iraq from 30-11-96 to 8-12-96. The team interacted with authorities from the Ministry of Agriculture, Iraq and visited various Agricultural related places.

3. A 5-member delegation headed by Deputy Minister of Agriculture from Iraq visited India from 26-4-97 to 6-5-97 to interact with Deptt. of Agriculture Research and Education, I.A.R.I., New Delhi, NDRI, Karnal, PAU, Ludhiana and CAZRI, Jodhpur etc.

4. A 3-member Indian team of Economist/Statisticians visited Iraq for a period of one week from 11-5-97 to 16-5-97.

III. Assistance for Disaster Relief :

1995-96 (1) Air freight borne by the Govern-

ment of India on relief assistance sent to Iraq by the Indian Humanitarian Initiative—Rs. 10.82 lakhs.

(2) 56 MT of tea — Rs. 50 lakhs.

(3) Medicines and pharmaceuticals — Rs. 2.85 lakhs.

(4) 1000 MT of Wheat—Rs. 65.75 lakhs.

1996-97

(1) Milk powder, baby food—Rs. 50 lakhs

(2) Medical equipment and appliances—Rs. 150 lakhs.

1998-99

School stationery—Rs. 50.67 lakhs.

CUBA

I. Civilian Training :

India offered 60 slots during the last three years to Cuba for training of Cuban nominees in various fields including Diplomacy, Fluid Control Research, Mill Management, Computer-Software, Standardisation, Bio-Medical Equipment, Rural Development, Urban Development Management, Production Management, Human Resource Planning and Management, Textile Quality Control, etc.

II. Study Visits :

A four-member delegation from Cuba led by Mr. Aldo Blanco, Executive Secretary and Advisor to the First Vice-Minister of Sugar, visited India from 13 to 25th February, 1994 to undertake study in the field of sugar production and its machinery.

III. Projects and projects-related assistance :

In 1995-96 a 10 KW Solar Photovoltaic Power plant was set up at a cost of Rs. 58.65 lakhs the Central Electronics Limited, Sahibabad (U.P.). In 1997 spares worth Rs. 1.42 lakhs were also supplied.

IV. Military Training : One NDC slot was utilised in 1995-96.

V. Aid for Disaster Relief : In 1996-97 medicines worth Rs. 5 lakhs were supplied.

Bill on Cyber Crimes

3324. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bill on cyber crimes gives enough power to go about the cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any case has been booked in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The proposed Information Technology Bill 1999 lays down the legal framework for electronic-commerce. The Bill also provides for penalties for computer crimes, unauthorised access to computer network, computer database and offences such as tampering with the computer source documents, electronic forgery and other types of computer crimes.

(c) and (d) Action would be possible when the Bill becomes law.

North Korean Assistance to Pakistan

3325. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China, North Korea aided Pak. : CIA" appearing in the 'Pioneer' on February 12, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Pakistan's Ghauri missile is a version of North Korean Nodong missile having a range of 800 miles; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the government to inform North Korea not to transfer missile related technology to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have seen press reports cited above, based on a report by the Central Intelligence Agency of the USA, that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) assisted Pakistan's ballistic missile programme.

(c) It is widely believed that the Ghauri missile is a Pakistani version of the DPRK's 'Nodong' missile.

(d) Government have drawn the attention of the DPRK Government to these reports and conveyed India's concerns over DPRK's involvement in a programme that has an adverse effect on India's security.

Nuclear War

3326. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an 'independent' task-force of the

United States Council of Foreign Relations has in a report warned that both India and Pakistan are heading for a nuclear war; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) The Report of the Independent Task Force on "US policy towards India and Pakistan" co-sponsored by the Bookings Institution and the Council on Foreign Relations published in September 1998, recognises India as the potential strategic partner of the US and States that India has the potential to become a major power in Asia in the next century. The report refers *inter alia* to an "increased likelihood" that nuclear weapons could be used in a conflict in South Asia either by design or by accident. It has stated that this assessment is not universally shared, as nuclear deterrence could contribute to stability as it did between US and the Soviet Union. The co-sponsors of the Task Force Report are independent think tanks.

(b) Governments has repeatedly made clear that India has no aggressive designs. Through the historic Lahore Declaration signed between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on February 21, 1999, both countries have agreed to take immediate steps for reducing the risk of accidental or unauthorised use of nuclear weapons and for confidence building in the nuclear and conventional fields aimed at prevention of conflict.

Sarkaria Commission

3327. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sarkaria Commission has made recommendations to the Union Government to transfer some Agriculture Departments to the State Governments;

(b) if so, the salient features of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cryogenic Engine

3328. DR. RAVI MALLU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first of six cryogenic stages contracted from the Russian Space Agency Glavkosmos has arrived in India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the cryogenic engine will produce 12 tonnes of thrust in the third and crucial stage of GSLV;
- (d) whether this 49 metre 402 tonne GSLV will allow India to launch satellites weighing 2.5 tonnes in the orbit at a height of 36,000 kms; and
- (e) if so, the time by which other cryogenic engines are expected to arrive from Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) :

(a), (b) and (e) As per the modified agreement between ISRO and Glavkosmos, Russia, Glavkosmos, has to supply a technological mock-up for ground use, a propellant filling mock-up for cryogenic stage filling trials before launch and 7 flight stages.

So far technological mock-up and propellant filling mock-up and one flight stage have been received in India. The first flight stage has been received in September 1998. The remaining stages are expected to be ready every 6 months.

(c) Cryogenic engine carried about 12 tonnes of propellant in the third and crucial stage of Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and produces a thrust of 7.5 tonnes.

(d) GSLV in the initial development flights will carry spacecrafts of mass of about 1600 kg. to geostationary transfer orbits (175×36000 km.). This capability will progressively improve to 2000 kg class in operational flights.

[Translation]

Funds under MPLADS

3329. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether funds are being made available by the Union Government to MPs under the MPLADS are not adequate for carrying out developmental work in their constituencies;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to prescribe any separate fund for Members of Parliament in implementing the Employment Assurance Schemes, and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the said fund is likely to be announced; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) As per announcement made by the Government in the Parliament, the allocation of Rs. 1 crore per year of MPLADS funds stands increased to Rs. 2 crore per year per M.P.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Visa Policy

3330. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any uniform visa policy regarding issue of visa to the peoples of neighbouring countries;
- (b) the number of neighbouring countries with whom India has free entry without visa;
- (c) whether the Government propose to add some more countries in the list of free entry to give boost to trade and commerce:
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the countries with whom negotiations are going on in this field; and
- (f) the response of those countries to the proposals of Indian Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The Government formulates the visa policies vis-a-vis individual neighbouring countries taking into consideration all the relevant requirements including reciprocity.

- (b) India has visa free entry with two neighbouring countries – Bhutan and Nepal.
- (c) At present there is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.
- (d) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Hike in Prices of Potato and Onion

3331. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI :

SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have set up any Committee or Commission to identify the reasons for sharp hike in the prices of potato and onion during the last three years and to punish the guilty persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have any scheme for estimation on fruit, vegetables and minor crops;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the funds earmarked for the Ninth Five Year Plan for the purpose; and
- (f) the extent to which it is likely to help in collecting the information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) and (b) The prices of potato and onion during 1995-96 and 1996-97 were normal. However, their prices during the lean period of the current year increased on account of fall in production due to unfavourable weather conditions. No Committee has been set up.

(c) to (f) The Government of India is implementing a scheme of Crop Estimation Surveys for Fruits, Vegetables and Minor Crops on a pilot basis in 10 States covering 14 crops. The coverage being limited in terms of States/crops, it has not been possible to generate all-India estimates of fruits and vegetables.

During 9th Five Year Plan, it is envisaged to implement the scheme in all States/UTs covering all important crops at a proposed outlay of Rs. 32.75 Crore.

The scheme once implemented comprehensively, would help generate estimates of area, yield and production of fruits, vegetables and minor crops at all India basis.

[English]

Delhi Milk Scheme

3332. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to non-availability of milk of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS), people find it very difficult to meet their needs;

(b) if so, the specified reasons for not being able to supply the required quantity of milk;

(c) the present installed capacity of the plant in Delhi Milk Scheme and the percentage of the utilisation of the installed capacity;

(d) the reasons for which the plant of DMS does not function at its full capacity; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to increase the supply from present level of supply to its production capacity level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The milk in Delhi is being supplied by various organisations including Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy. Though the Delhi Milk Scheme is supplying 4 lakh litres of milk per day, the demand of the consumers is being met by other organisations. The capacity of Delhi Milk Scheme alone is far below the demand of citizens in Delhi.

(c) The present installed capacity of the plant is 5.00 lakh litres per day and its present utilisation is about 80%.

(d) The DMS operates at a production capacity in accordance with the budgetary support made available to.

(e) Question does not arise in view of (d) above.

Kashmir Issue

3333. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

SHRI H.P. SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Africa and France endorsed India's position on Kashmir in a separate statement recently;

(b) whether both the visiting speakers of France and South Africa have pointed out that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan and should be solved under the Simla Agreement, 1972; and

(c) if so, whether this is the first time that both these countries agreed to support India's view on Kashmir and expressed their views against the third party interference on J & K affairs?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) South African and French leaders have recently stated that Jammu and Kashmir is a matter for bilateral discussions between India and Pakistan. This view has been expressed by them in the past as well.

Jabalpur Quake Fund

3334. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has in a recent report revealed misappropriation of crores of rupees from the Jabalpur Quake Fund;

(b) if so, the details of the financial irregularities and the amount misused from the said quake fund, indicating the total quake relief fund given by the Union Government; and

(c) the steps taken in the light of the CAG's report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1997-98 is awaited.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Delhi Milk Scheme Crates

3335. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the crates in which milk of Delhi Milk Scheme is being supplied are so dirty that any time any disease can take an epidemic situation in Delhi;

(b) the reasons for which the crates in which the milk is supplied are not being cleaned;

(c) the action the Government propose to take against those who are responsible for this; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to clean the crates in which milk is being supplied on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) and (b) The crates are cleaned by using crate washers. The crates with harder deposits of milk are segregated and separately cleaned by manual pressure/using high-pressure water nozzle. Some times due to mechanical failure in the process, some crates may escape with the deposited milk solids. But however, there is no possibility of spread of an epidemic through milk crates, which are basically used for storage of milk pouches and milk does not come in contact with the surface of the plastic crates at all.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) The process for introducing crate washer with the latest technology has been initiated.

Fund for Bihar

3336. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount out of the total funds allocated to Bihar under the Ninth Five Year Plan spent along with the heads under which it has been spent;

(b) whether the Bihar Government have furnished necessary figures to the Union Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the efforts made to obtain these figures from the State Government; and

(d) whether the balance amount is likely to be added to the amount proposed to be allocated under the Ninth Five Year Plan in case the amount provided in the Ninth Five Year Plan has not been spent in full?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) An outlay of Rs. 16,680 crore (at 1996-97 prices) for the Ninth Plan (1997-98 to 2001-02) of Bihar has been approved. This comprises Rs. 6512.65 crore of State's Own Resources and Rs. 10167.35 crore of Central Assistance.

(b) Against the approved outlay of Rs. 2268.42 crore for Annual Plan 1997-98, it has been reported by the Government of Bihar that expenditure incurred during this period is of the order of Rs. 1663.87 crore. The expenditure was incurred under the heads of Agriculture & Allied Activities, Rural Development, Irrigation & Flood Control, Energy, Industry & Minerals, Transport & Communication, Science & Technology, General Economic Services and Social Services.

(c) As per the existing procedure, the State Government is required to furnish necessary information on plan expenditure after the close of the corresponding financial year.

(d) No, Sir.

Tirade by Pakistani Foreign Minister

3337. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

SHRI RAMKRISHNA BABA PATIL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani foreign minister had recently launched a tirade against India at a luncheon briefing for the visiting Indian Parliamentarians in Islamabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Foreign Minister of Pakistan addressed Indian Parliamentarians during their recent visit to Pakistan on 12-13 February 1999 to participate in an Indian-Pakistan Parliamentary Conference organised by the Jang Group of newspapers. The Foreign Minister made a number of allegations against India. He was critical of India's policies with regard to issues that are being discussed as part of the composite dialogue process.

The composite dialogue process is aimed at building trust and confidence, exploring avenues of mutually beneficial cooperation and addressing outstanding issues. During the course of the first round of the dialogue process, India presented reasonable, practical and realistic proposals on all the subjects under discussion. Government hope that the Government of Pakistan will respond constructively to these proposals.

Development Board for Vidharbha Marathwara

3338. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Development Board for Maharashtra was set up by the Union Government in 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have noticed any developmental backlog in the State at the time of setting up of Board;

(d) if so, the details of developmental backlog removed out of the total backlog; and

(e) details of developmental backlog to be removed in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra State at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (e) Three Development Boards for Vidharbha, Marathwada and Rest of Maharashtra were set up in 1994 under Article 371 (2) of the Constitution to ensure equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole; and to provide an equitable arrangement for adequate facilities for technical

education and vocational training and adequate opportunities for employment in services under the control of the State Government. The Indicator and Backlog Committee constituted by the Governor of Maharashtra to identify Regionwise/sectorwise imbalances has estimated the financial backlog at Rs. 6961.02 crore as on 31.3.1994 for the Vidharbha Region of the State of Maharashtra.

Detention of Indian Envoy

3339. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on August 14, 1998, the Indian envoy and his son were detained in Islamabad;

(b) if so, whether India has lodged a strong protest with Pakistan authorities;

(c) the main reasons of their arrest;

(d) whether Pakistan had also earlier detained Indian envoy; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to see that Pakistan does not indulge in such activities which are against the international law?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. There was no incident on 14.8.1998 of abduction and unlawful detention of any official of our Mission in Islamabad, nor was there any case of abduction and unlawful detention of any family member of our Mission officials.

There have been incidents in the past of abduction and unlawful detention of officials of our Mission in Islamabad by Pakistani official agencies. On these occasions, Government have lodged strong protests and asked Pakistan to abide by the provisions of the bilateral Code of Conduct and international conventions relating to treatment of Mission personnel by taking all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of our Mission personnel in Islamabad.

Sea Water Intrusion

3340. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Study blames industry for sea water intrusion" appearing in the Times of India dated February 6, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether there is large scale impact on the agricultural areas on coastal belts and also in Kutch District of Gujarat resulting migration of farmers; and

(d) if so, remedial measures taken by the Government to handle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report published in the paper indicates sea water intrusion due to overdrawal of ground water by Industries in Kutch district.

(c) Yes, this has been noticed in the coastal areas of Saurashtra and Kutch districts.

(d) Government of Gujarat (Narmada Water Resources and Water Supply Department, Gujarat) appointed high Level Committees I and II in the year 1976 and 1978 respectively, to study and recommend measures to counter problems of ingress of Salinity in the coastal areas of Saurashtra and Kutch. As recommended by these committees, the salinity ingress prevention works were taken up since the year 1980. Under the Salinity control Techniques, the construction of Tidal Regulators, Bandharas and Static barriers have been taken up. So far an expenditure of Rs. 214 crore has been incurred to recover an area of 13942 ha.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 12 noon.

11.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till twelve of the Clock.

12.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will give you a chance.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. Hon. Members, I will hear you. You may kindly go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will hear you. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Demands for grants of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for 1999-2000. Annual Report alongwith Audited Accounts and review by the Government of the working of Paschim Banga Rajya Prarthmik Shiksha Unnayan Sanstha, Calcutta for 1997-98 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2694/99]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paschim Banga Rajya Prathamik Siksha Unnayan Sanstha, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Paschim Banga Rajya Prathamik Siksha Unnayan Sanstha, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2695/99]

Demands for grants of the Department of Electronics for 1999-2000

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : On behalf of Shri Jaswant Singh, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Electronics for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2696/99]

Demands for grants of Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for 1999-2000.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2697/99]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2698/99]

Demands for grants of the Department of Atomic Energy for 1999-2000 and the Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report/Audited Accounts of ECI Hyderabad 1997-98

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2699/99]

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report/Audited Accounts of the Electronics Corporation of India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2700/99]

.....(Interruptions)

Annual Report along with Audited Accounts and Review by the Government of UP Projects and Tubewell Corporation Limited Lucknow now for 1994-95 and 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : I beg to lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (a) Review by the Government of the working of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96.
- (b) (i) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (ii) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2701/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 1997-98.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2702/99]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year, 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperative Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1997- 98.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2703/99]
- (7) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 1999-2000.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2704/99]
- (8) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1999-2000.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2705/99]

Demand for grants of Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and pensions and UPSC for 1999-2000

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : On behalf of Shri Kadambur M.R. Janarthanan, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Union Public Service Commission for the year 1999-2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2706/99]

....(Interruption)

12.04 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 rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on

the 15th March, 1999 agreed without any amendments to the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Repeal Bill, 1999 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th March, 1999".

12.04½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Third Report

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR) : I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.05 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Reports**

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS): I beg to present the following Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee :-

- (1) Sixth Report on Infructuous expenditure of Rs. 29 crore—Communication Network.
- (2) Seventh Report on Action Taken on 13th Report of Public Accounts Committee (Eleventh Lok Sabha) on Union Government Appropriation Accounts (1994-95) Defence Services.
- (3) Eighth Report on Action Taken on 102nd Report of Public Accounts Committee (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Assessment of Religious and Charitable Trusts.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is here to reply. I appeal to you to please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is ready to reply. Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 P.M.

12.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BUTA SINGH (JALORE) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have asked the hon. Speaker to adjourn the business of the House so that we can take up this issue. But unfortunately, we have not been able to impress upon the Speaker and nobody is listening to us.....(Interruptions). This cannot be allowed to go on indefinitely....(Interruptions). We have already suffered for years(Interruptions)

14.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Buta Singh and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the Table.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Presentation of Reports.

14.01½

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOUR AND WELFARE

Ninth Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD) : Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the Ninth Report and minutes of the sitting of the Committee (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare on the 'National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability Bill, 1999.

14.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS

Seventh and Ninth Reports

[English]

SHRI P.S. GHATOWAR (DIBRUGARH) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals :

- (1) Seventh Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants—1998-99 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- (2) Ninth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants—1998-99 relating to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Department of Fertilisers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You go back to your seats. I will hear you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you please go back to your seats? I will hear you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Prime Minister is coming. Please go to your place.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your place. I will hear you. The Prime Minister is going to come. I will give chance to one or two Members from every party and then the Prime Minister will respond.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I request you to please go to your seats? I will hear you. The Prime Minister is also coming.

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are senior Members. Please go to your place.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your place. I will hear you. You are senior leaders. Do not disturb like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will hear you. But please go to your seats first.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : May I request the hon. Members to please go to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 hours.

14.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 18, 1999/Phaguna 27, 1920 (Saka)

Corrigenda to
Lok Sabha Debates (English Version)
Wednesday, March 17, 1999/Phalgun 26, 1920(Saka)

Col/line	For	Read
48/6(from below)	340.88	304.88
49/15(from below)	DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL	DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL
63/23	1748.1	1748.0
99,100/22	3.04	.034
111-112,	Last three columns under item No.4 should be read as follows: 0 209.67 28.47	
125/12	SRI U.V.KRISHN RAJU;	SRI U.V. KRISHNARAJU.
133/23	35.26	35.25

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