

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fifth Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XVI contains Nos. 11 to 17)

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Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates (English Version)
Wednesday, August 13, 1997/Shravana 22, 1919 (Saka)

Col./Line	For	Read
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245/4	SHRI SHARAD YADAV	SHRI SHARAD PAWAR

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 13, 1997/Shravana 22,
1919 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagadh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we want to know, about the action being taken in respect of the Bill providing reservations to women...(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is nothing which can be called administration in Bihar. This thing has been raised in High Court there. That is why President rule should be imposed in Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is question hour, not zero hour.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : I agree this is not a zero hour...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Whatever you want to say, say in zero hour.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a notice has been given for the suspension of zero hour...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have called Shri Nawal Kishore Rai.

[Translation]

Whatever you want to say, say in zero hour.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, High Court have said...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Lodha, you are a senior Member. This is question Hour. You raise it in the Zero Hour.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I have given a notice for suspending the proceedings of the House for discussing the recommendation of the Patna High Court for imposition of President's Rule in Bihar under Article 356 of the constitution of account of failure of constitutional machinery there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let the hon. member ask his question.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.02 hrs.

[Translation]

Restructuring of Planning Commission

+

*301. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Plan panel to swing in tune to market economy" appearing in Observer dated July 19, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to restructure the Planning Commission in the changed economic scenario;

(c) if so, the details of the draft proposal; and

(d) the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No restructuring of the Planning Commission is being contemplated. The role of the Planning Commission continues to remain the same as given in the Resolution of the Cabinet Secretariat dated 15th March, 1950 setting up the Planning Commission. The process of formulation and implementation of the Ninth Plan will take into account the existing economic scenario and the spirit of Cooperative Federalism as articulated in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan. The internal arrangements of the Planning Commission are from time to time reviewed by the Commission to make the administrative functioning of the Commission more effective.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply that hon'ble Minister has given in response to my question. It is evident from the programmes that have been prepared since first plan till date that the Planning Commission is working systematically as an advisor but did not have the hold on the monitoring of the schemes. That is why many such schemes are still pending since the first plan. For example the two schemes in the Irrigation Department according to the Government report which should have been completed much earlier are still pending. In reply it has been stated that the Planning Commission was constituted on a resolution of Cabinet Secretariat on 15.3.1950.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Prime Minister is present here and we would like to express our gratitude to the Government and the Prime Minister for taking many friendly and revolutionary steps such as providing the foodgrain at half the price for the welfare of the poor through the Common Minimum Programme of United Front Government. But I would like to ask whether he would provide statutory status to the Planning Commission and would consider to constitute a body and thereby make such a fresh provision which would enable the officers of Planning Commission to keep an eye on the monitoring and execution of all the schemes formulated so that the schemes at Planning Commission could be formulated in a democratic manner and implemented within its timeframe.

SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOOR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is no question to provide constitutional status to the schemes because in that case they will lose their flexibility. I will read out some reasons for this.

[English]

The issue of making the Planning Commission a statutory body has been examined at length in various stages and it was decided not to give statutory powers to the Planning Commission due to the following reasons :

1. The Planning Commission in its present form has been performing functions for more than four decades, without any practical difficulty.
2. Due to the federal character of the Indian polity, a certain degree of flexibility is needed in dealing with the status, which may be lost if the Planning Commission is given a constitutional status.
3. The Planning Commission also plays an important role in the policy formulations of the Government.
4. Secretary, Planning Commission and the Deputy-Chairman, Planning Commission attend several meetings and express views on behalf of the Planning Commission, which may or may not be accepted.
5. The Commission is also generally consulted by various Central Ministries on major issues or public policy.
6. It is felt that the Planning Commission will not be able to play this role if it is given a constitutional status and its advice binding on the concerned Central Ministries.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whatever hon'ble Minister has explained, I have

discussed it earlier also and we are aware of the functioning of the Planning Commission, the schemes taken up earlier for the execution are still not completed and their cost goes on multiplying. Even then if the Government does not intend to reconstitute the Planning Commission I would like to know what will be the fate of the Projects such as Project Baghmata of Bihar which was initially started at the cost of Rs. 32 crores and on which till now Rs. 200 crores have been spent and it is still pending. Then there is Adaware group Project which was initially started at the cost of Rs. 5 crores. Till now Rs. 200 crores have been spent on it and it is still pending. It had done no good to the farmers and the rural people. Will the Government make some improvement in it. That's why I seek reconstitution of the Planning Commission where professionals having specialized qualification should be included as member so that it could become competent and could be able to complete the scheme formulated there within their time frame. Till now, experienced and specialised professionals had certainly been the members of the Planning Commission but it lacked Industrial experts, agricultural experts and other specialists. Would you please include the specialists with better understanding of agriculture and the people of village in the Planning Commission. We want to know this from you.

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : The hon. Member has examined at length the implementation dimensions. The Planning Commission does not implement programmes, it is involved in the allocation of resources, transfer of resources, identification of the projects. Ultimately, implementation is done by the State Governments in the State sector and in the Central sector, it is done by the Central Government and Central Ministries.

So far as a particular or specific issue is concerned, I am quite willing to look into it. If the hon. Member let me know what he is aiming at, I would be happy to get the details.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have raised this question because there was a news-item in 'The Observer', namely, "Plan panel to swing in tune to market economy." It was published on 19th July. I have asked this question on the basis of this news-item. The Government have negated it, but it was very clearly written in that news-item.

[English]

"It has, therefore, been suggested in an internal ten-page note that the Commission should be called upon to shed its irrelevant activities and so on."

[Translation]

This is quite long. If this type of news regarding restructuring of the Planning Commission to make it relevant to the market economy, are published in the news papers, it's but natural that many questions would be raised against it, the Government has very clearly stated that there is no such thing under consideration. But it requires negation, If the newspapers publish this type of news, the Planning Commission or the Government should negate them, otherwise it raises many apprehensions and questions like we severing Planned economy and leaving the whole economy to the market? The Government should have done so just now the Prime Minister gave an appropriate reply and from the Government. I would like to know one thing that he said that the Planning Commission will do its work, but he could not review the aspect of implementation in the same manner. Although, you have the role of reviewing all the centrally sponsored schemes or the schemes of central sectors, you review them. I don't want to comment on it.

I would like to state that we are marching towards decentralisation. We believe in decentralisation which includes decentralisation of power as well as economic structure. In such a situation schemes should be chalked out on large scale at district, state as well as grass-root levels. What is the Government's attitude in this regard? Today, our planners talk of micro planning while sitting in Planning Commission or in the Ministries of Union Government Micro Planning is done at higher level and that too sitting in 'Yojana Bhawan' or in Ministry. I just cite one example of watershed project. One should know as to how a watershed can be useful in any particular area.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nitishji, please ask the question.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am citing an example but without giving background in this regard, he would not be able to respond. Therefore, I need your protection. I am coming to the question directly. Thus, such a tendency has developed that detailed planning of micro level is done while sitting here. Whether the Government contemplate to start planning process at grassroot level after abandoning this tendency and whether half or one third amount earmarked for Planning is likely to be allocated to District Planning and Development Agencies existing to plan the schemes as per the requirements of the district and implement them at district level. Whether the Government contemplate to march in this direction? I would also like to know the approach of the Government regarding co-operative federalism during 9th Five Year Plan?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am thankful to my hon. friend because he has the background and a great deal of knowledge, particularly while managing the Ministry of Agriculture. Also he had initiated a discussion here in the past on this very subject.

The points that he has made are well taken. As the hon. Member would have seen in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan, a great deal of emphasis has been laid on micro planning. That is why, we are not only transferring resources but also transferring planning to the Panchayati Raj level. That is why, I have fully met his point of view.

At the same time, since this Approach Paper has been discussed here, I think that is a very good forum for my hon. friend to give us more ideas on this. One thing, I can tell you that the Planning Commission and myself — we are always open — are open to new ideas.

The main approach, the main thrust of the Ninth Plan is decentralisation. Also by decentralisation, I do not mean only decentralisation of resources. It also means, decentralisation of micro planning because, after all, a person in a village or in a Panchayat knows better whether he wants a school or a well. This is something which he should decide. That is what we have been saying and the Ninth Plan, particularly its Approach Paper emphasises this dimension.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I through you, would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister since he has stated that planning is done by the Planning Commission and State Governments implement it. He has also stated in reply that the Planning Commission has undertaken certain important experiments in the States like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka regarding Panchayati Raj, the development of women and children in rural areas etc. But it seems to me that so far as the benefits are concerned the women and the children are not getting the desired benefits. Whether the Government have come to know about it? I want that the Planning Commission should formulate plan with the objective that helpless women and children may get its benefit. It is my question.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I endorse the anxiety of my hon. friend. It means, in effect, our emphasis should be more on the plight of the women and the girl child. As a matter of fact, my hon. friend might have noticed, we are now working on actual plan about the fate and future of the girl child. I am one of those who firmly believe in this. Unless the lot and

the plight of the women in this country is improved, the country will not move forward. That is why I am now emphasising on the girl child a great deal. In the Plan also, we are keeping this in focus.

Also we might keep in mind that ultimately the overwhelming population of India lives in the villages. That is where the plight of the girl child and the women has to be improved considerably more than what it is today.

As she might notice that the Plan Approach Paper, if she kindly have a look at it, emphasizes this thing. But in this context, I repeat what I have told my hon. friend earlier, that is, if she has some specific ideas also she is most welcome to give them to me and I will be happy to look at them.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister about the Planning Commission, whether there is restructuring or not, definitely there is a requirement to have a second look at it.

I represent Barmer which is one of the most backward regions. There is a provision to allocate separate funds for some programmes like Border Area Development Programme, Desert Area Development Programme, etc. Sir, certain funds are allocated directly to the State Governments and certain funds are allocated through the Ministry of Home Affairs for programmes like the Border Area Development Programme. But most of the funds are not being spent as per the guidelines.

I have been fighting for it for the last one year and I have written letters to the Deputy-Chairman, Planning Commission and the Minister concerned but the bureaucracy, whether it is at Delhi or at Jaipur, is so powerful that whatever they want they do it. I have given a suggestion that elected representatives should be there in these committees, but nothing has happened so far. I give you an instance that last year most of the funds which were supposed to be spent within the 50 km. range of border district of Barmer were being spent in Jaipur.

I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister that the funds which are allocated are very meagre for these underdeveloped and desert districts.

I would like to know whether the Prime Minister ensure that these funds are spent on those programmes wherever these are supposed to be spent as per the guidelines of the Planning Commission. Secondly...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only one supplementary is allowed.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Members of Parliament and Assemblies should be nominated in the Steering Committees or the Empowered Committees

which are there at Delhi and Jaipur. Why can they not be made members of those committees? I have been fighting for this for the last one year but nobody bothers to listen to me in the Ministry.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Well, I regret if that is his experience. I would only say this thing to my hon. friend that the point that he has made is well taken. This is a good point the local representatives, be they in Panchayati Raj institutions or be they in any administration, are the people who should really be associated with the micro level planning, as I have said just now. I have taken note of this point.

In the specific case of Barmer. I may not be able to reply just now but I have taken note of it and I will look into this and write back to him.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, is the hon. Prime Minister aware that the time and cost overrun of centrally infrastructural projects, as given in the *Economic Survey* as reported in the Ministry of Programme Implementation report, has caused a burden of Rs. 31,000 crore extra?

Sir, if the non-infrastructural projects are included, the cost and time overrun will cause extra burden of Rs. 45,000 crore on the people. What is the type of planning that we are having which does not take into consideration the capacity of various organisations to whom the work is entrusted? Why is so much time, so much of energy, and so much of resources being wasted, of which we have a great deal of shortage? What is the use of midterm appraisal of the Plan, if so much of time and cost overrun have to be borne by the nation?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I share the anxiety and the comment that my hon. friend has made. He has been in Governments longer than I have been and I think, he has been on the implementing side more than I have been.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : But not a single project has been recommended by me.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : He has been in the Government for quite a long time not as a politician but as an administrator.

Anyhow, the issue basically is that he is absolutely right that this is a big burden on our economy; cost overrun, the delays, the bureaucratic delays particularly, and that is the anxiety of the entire nation. I share that concern because if we are able to save on that, our plans would go much higher. One of the things that we have thought of is that if we decentralise it more and if we let it go to local levels more perhaps this would be implemented more speedily. I entirely agree with my hon. friend that this is something which we have to look into it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Thank you very much. My claim to this question arises from the fact that I was associated with the real planning exercise

while drafting the Second Five Year Plan and also very recently I sat with the District Planning Committee and the Block level Planning Committee.

I have two kinds of questions. One is that despite the statement why it cannot be made a statutory or a constitutional body, the problem is that we had two midterm appraisals guided by political approach. Politics is important for planning because the objectives have to be laid down. An expert body is necessary to see consistency among the contradictory objectives and try to find out a path. This can only be done if an independent authority, apart from the Government, is established. That independence can either be assured in terms of the Constitution or in terms of a statutory body. To that question, I want an answer; whether or not such independence is a necessary condition for further development.

Now, I come to part (b) of my question. I was raising this question in all the Standing Committee meetings that cooperative planning is in an absurd situation. My ideas about planning had been shattered after I sat with the District Planning Committee. They do not have any staff. There are no whole-timers in the District Planning Committee. There are not even whole-timers in the State Planning Boards. I do not say that they should plan everything. The short-term needs should be reflected at those levels and the long-term ones should be at the Centre. For the Centre, this is independence. For the local needs, short-term needs, is the Planning Commission or the Government prepared to provide funds to establish whole-time cadre for District Planning and the Block level Planning?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : So far as part (a) of the question is concerned, *viz.* whether this should be a statutory body or not or the Planning Commission should continue as it is, I would like to say that it was examined at length by the Sarkaria Commission also, and this House had also discussed it. The consensus in the Parliament was that the present system was better. I am not saying that this is better or not but I am only saying that Parliament had expressed it so; Parliament, in both the Houses, had said that the Sarkaria Commission's Report was to be accepted. Once it is accepted, it has obvious implications. That is one point.

The second point that you have said is that there is a need for bureaucratic support at the rural and at the city level *viz.* particularly at the district level. Well, there is a suggestion, which I can look into. My only apprehension is that — off the cuff just now — that we may not again start using most of the funds for salaries and allowances and, therefore, there may be a problem. I for one feel — this is again just an off the cuff remark — that particularly when you decentralise the resources and the policy-making, as my friend, Shri Nitish Kumar has just now suggested, on the micro-level, probably, it is much easier because a person sitting in the Panchayat does not need the bureaucratic support, he knows whether he wants a well or not...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Thousands of suggestions have come but there is no one at the district level to collate them.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am willing to look into the validity of this suggestion. The only thing that I would like to guard is that the money is not lost again in this.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after independence of the country several schemes were formulated for the progress and development of the country and we started claiming that we have made progress and development but the interests of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Five Year Plans have not been protected and the allocation which should have been made could not be made. Moreover, it has not been implemented practically. Therefore, I, through you, would like to ask the hon. Prime Minister whether he contemplates to give representation to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Planning Commission for protecting their interests.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the question is not whether a particular tribe or a caste is represented in it or not. The main issue is, I do not whether it is...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Planning Commission has been constituted.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : My hon. friend, the Minister is from that community itself. She is from the Scheduled Caste. Is there any other member also?...*(Interruptions)* Shri Hashim is from the minority community. This composition is kept in mind. The main point that has to be kept in mind is whether the funds are allocated for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and minorities or not.

I think I can say this with a degree of satisfaction. Therefore, while we want to achieve more, while we want a transformation of their status more speedily, it is not lack of will but it is lack of social resources and very often at the implementation level, the type of funds that we should receive, sometimes, does not get received.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Government have been declaring that the planning will be decentralised at the grassroot level but so far it has not been like that. But at the very same time, in Kerala, the Government have now evolved a new grassroot level planning, known as the 'People's Planning' taking into Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat into consideration and preparing the plan according to their norms and their perception. That is a very popular scheme and that is even an innovative idea. Even the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission, Prof. Madhu Dandavate

has complimented the Government of Kerala. But there is a total participation of all sections of the people at the district, State and grassroot levels. All sections of society have taken part in it. I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the Government of India will also make this plan which has been now prepared by the Kerala Government to be a model to the other States. I would also like to know whether the schemes and the projects that we have prepared now at the grassroot level will be supported and helped by the Government of India or not.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I appreciate the efforts that the Kerala Government is making and I want to compliment them. I think that is the experience in the planning processes that some States are more dynamic than the others. That is why, we find some sort of a development vacuum that is growing that more dynamic States are able to utilise the funds more effectively or even to involve the people more courageously thereby - I think it is not only Kerala but some other States are also doing that - achieving good results. I appreciate it and there is a need to...(Interruptions)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister should address the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Question No. 302, Shri Rameshwar Patidar.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : For this Question, we have taken about 27 minutes.

[Translation]

Do you want to ask some other Question or not?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, in his reply, there is a sense of achievement...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Question is important and everyone wants to ask. Therefore, have a Half-an-Hour discussion on it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have moved on the next Question. Shri Rameshwar Patidar please.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

[Translation]

Only one Question has consumed half-an-hour's time.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, Question Hour should be defined as an hour where only one question will take one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Is Half-an-hour discussion held or not...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That discussion takes place.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I take one Member from each section.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I also ask the people. Everybody cannot be called.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are still some parties which could not ask any Question.

[English]

Satellite Communication

*302. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has carried out several Pilot programmes to demonstrate the use of satellite communications for education and training;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes launched so far; and

(c) the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) ISRO in co-operation with many other educational and developmental agencies has organised a Training and Development Communication Channel using one transponder on the INSAT System. A number of demonstrations were organised to familiarise the users with the network.

Some of the important users of the network have been as follows :

- Gujarat Government: Panchayati Raj, Development of Women and Child in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Khet Talawadi, Watershed Development, Jalsewa.
- M.P. Government : Panchayati Raj (Women), Health and Family Welfare, Auxilliary Midwife's (AM's) and Watershed Development.
- Karnataka Government : Panchayati Raj (Women), Health and Family Welfare (AM's) and Watershed Development.
- National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT): Primary teachers training (School Orientation of Primary Teachers (SOPT) in Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh.
- Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU): Orientation programmes for academic councillors, educational programmes for registered students in various disciplines like management, health and nutrition, distance education, etc.
- All India Management Association (AIMA): Management education programmes and update seminars for students and working managers.
- Institution of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers (IETE): Distance education programmes in various technology and science subjects for award of professional degrees.
- Department of Women and Child Development: Training Programmes for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) (Anganwadi) functionaries. Tele-conferencing between policy planners and field level implementing officials to discuss the frame-work strategies and difficulties of Indira Yojana (IMY) programmes.
- Self Employed Women Association (SEWA): Programme for women organisations.
- Safai Vidyalaya: Programmes for safai karmacharis of various municipalities of Gujarat.
- National Open School (NOS): Orientation programme for traditional teachers (tutors) to make them realise the change of their roles under the Open School system.

The channel has now reached an operational stage. Several users have found the network very useful for their training needs and have set up exclusive receiving networks. The potential of its application in very

important areas like primary school teachers training, panchayati raj training, training of health and ICDS anganwadi workers, training of trainers, etc. is great. Currently two uplinks are available, one at IGNOU and the second at ISRO, Ahmedabad.

To demonstrate the efficacy of a satellite based development communication and training network for rural development a Pilot Project viz, Jhabua Development Communications Project (JDCP) is also being carried out by ISRO in the Jhabua District of Madhya Pradesh. This 'end-to-end' Project would demonstrate the effectiveness of the communications support to the developmental activities in the district and also in providing interactive training to the field officials and the people in general. It will also provide inputs for planning and establishing of operational systems on a wider scale in the country.

The Project started regular transmissions on November 1, 1996. It has been realised at the project planning stage itself that a proper evaluation of the Project of this nature and magnitude can be obtained only over a period of time. The Project therefore, is planned for a duration of two years. Over the past nine months, the implementation of the project is being carried out as planned. Development programmes are being broadcast regularly in the evenings for reception in villages. Inter-active sessions for training rural development functionaries are being conducted on regular basis by the concerned district officials. Most of the teething problems have been sorted out and the network is getting stabilised. Preliminary evaluations indicate satisfactory working of the network. More detailed and periodic evaluations will be carried out over the course of the Project.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the question from the hon. Prime Minister because my question pertains to chalking out programmes for the development of villages and farmers through Indian Space Research Organisations INSAT-Satellite and Satellite T.V. In those remote areas where T.V. has not reached programmes are telecast through Satellite T.V. in regional, particularly tribal languages for tribal people on their problems, like the development of agriculture, irrigation, family planning and health and even on day to day issues. I would like to thank the Government for selecting Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh for this purpose. Satellite T.V. in almost one hundred and fifty villages of Jhabua district is managed by ISRO Satellite Centre of Ahmedabad and ISRO itself produces its programme in studio. The programme is produced and telecast in tribal language. The programme of training Panchayats are also organised in one hundred and fifty villages which have undergone training programme in this regard. The interested persons are also imparted training. I would like to know the number of persons imparted training

through it? This scheme is going on since November 1, 1996. What are the details of its assessment during 9-10 months and the response of the tribals?

Secondly, whether the assistance of non-Governmental organisations are also likely to be taken for this scheme?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN : Sir, ISRO has carried out several pilot projects using the INSAT system for training, education and development communication. These are covered under two main programmes. One is the Training and Development Communication Channel (TDCC) and the other is the Jhabua Development Communication Project (JDCP) which the hon. Member just now mentioned.

Jhabua district is one of the most backward districts in the country. Eighty-four per cent of the population are tribals and the literacy rate is low. It is only 14 per cent. The female literacy rate is just six per cent.

So, after evaluating everything, this project was started on 1st November, 1996. One hundred and fifty villages are covered through direct reception sets which receive television programmes from Ahmedabad. There are also talk-back facilities at each of the 12 block headquarters to enable an inter-active learning process. This project has been found to be very useful and for the past nine months it is progressing well.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : I would like to know as to how many people have been imparted training and what has been the assessment in this regard?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN : There is no figure as to how many people have been trained. We will assess after two years.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my question number is 302. It should not be treated as IPC 302. The Spirit of my question should not be nullified and the information should not be stifled. The ISRO had taken up this project with the help of Planning Commission and Doordarshan in 1975-76. It was launched in 240 villages across six States. The programme was launched simultaneously in six languages which was a record. In spite of this being a good programme, it was abandoned and when Shrimati Indira Gandhi came to power in 1980 it was once again telecast on Television. I would like to know whether it would be abandoned again? It is a pilot project. Would it be taken up as a regular project?

Secondly, my district Khargone is in the neighbourhood of this district. It is an Adivasi district. Eight out of ten assembly segments are inhabited predominantly by Adivasis. Would this project be

implemented there? How much funds have been allocated for this project in the Five Year Plan?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN : Sir, Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) was conducted in 1975-76 using the application technology satellite, that is, ATS 6 satellite of U.S.A. S.I.T.E. and other projects of the 1970s are not included in the answer because we have taken programmes using INSAT so that it is totally an ISRO project.

The question pertains to programmes which have been launched, not a short-term experiment. Hence, T.D.C.C. and Jhabua are the two projects that we have launched.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this project has immensely benefitted the people of the area particularly in the field of education and agriculture. This project was launched in Jhabua in November, 1996. I would like to know how much funds has been incurred on this project and whether the local people have been involved? Jhabua district has 85 per cent Adivasi population and there are many languages. Have the local actors particularly working in the field of education and agriculture been involved in the project so that confidence is created in the common masses of Adivasi society that they can do this work?

[English]

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN : Sir, the total cost involved in the two years' pilot project is Rs. 7.5 crore. The local language, that is, Bhili, has been used.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : That is correct, Sir, but what about the local actors for their cultural programmes, agricultural programmes and other social programmes? That is my point.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the point is that the programmes are made with local assistance. Primarily in such programmes, it is the folklore, the folk legends and the folk idioms that are used. Naturally, you cannot send artists and actors from Delhi for doing this because they would not know the folklore. So, I think if my hon. friend has watched the programmes, he would have seen that it is the local talent that is being involved more than anything else.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Sir, the question relates to communications for education and training. We have, in this country, the programme of distance education through Indira Gandhi National Open University. I would like to know whether this Open University is making use of the satellite programmes and, if so, in what form and in what way. We only hear about these things but I have not seen any instance of what is being done.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the open universities are using the TV channels via satellite and they are using them in different dimensions. This particular programme

that my hon. friend has asked about, pertains to the blessed ISRO programmes. The ISRO programmes have been focussing on particular sectors of our community. But the other open universities are utilising it separately.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Through the Satellite Communication Channel, there has been progress in the field of rural development Panchayat Raj and training of women. We have only two uplink centres. One is IGNOU and the other is ISRO in Ahmedabad. Keeping in view the importance of media does the Government propose to set up more uplink centres particularly in remote areas in rural region so that women and Adivasis could be trained!

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the entire communications policy, and that includes the TV, is in review. You know that there is one Bill which is coming before the House, which is going to talk about the new system. Prasar Bharati has already come in. I, for one, am strongly of the view that all the Government channels should mostly be utilised for the upliftment of the society. The private channels are coming in and I think the other things of entertainment should mostly be left to them. But things of public interest like public education, backwardness, upliftment, etc. should be the primary concern of the official channels. I think as we come out with a new policy, this will be kept in mind.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, this educational channel through satellite uplinking, will not be covered by the Prasar Bharati. That is my concern.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : It will not be. Sir, if I am not wrong, what I understood from the hon. Member was that he was emphasising the programmes directed towards a particular segment of society.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Yes.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : So, it can be both ways. Uplinking is a technical problem, with its merits and demerits. Programming software is the most important thing. Therefore, programming, I think, should be expanded because, after all, we have vast communities in this country which need this type of programmes.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, in 1976, the Department of Space had also a pioneering project known as SITE Experiment, 1976, which was being received by direct receiving sets in the schools. It was abandoned after two years. The reply says that the Jhabua experiment is only for two-years. Then, are these educational and extension programmes for the Panchayati Raj and others going to be abandoned after two years?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, my hon. friend himself was incharge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. So, naturally, he knows much better than I do. But, all the same, let me try to clarify, two things. The first experiment was made when I was Information and

Broadcasting Minister myself. We had taken a satellite on loan from Americans from one year. Till then satellites were not available to us on a national basis. Now they are available. Therefore, the main challenge before us is this. Why do we use satellites, and what type of programmes do we see? The experiments are being made primarily to collect data as to what type of programmes sell better, and what type of language and idiom should be used which are more persuasive. That is how the experimental projects are made. But I am certain that as we go into the next phase not only it should spread more but also we should learn from the data as to what type of orientation and what type of innovation is called for.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, in the reply it has been stated that the particular project, JDCP project, was started to demonstrate the effectiveness of the communications, support to the developmental activities in the district. It will take more than two years to gain the experience. But the Space Application Centre, long back had made a very important experiment known as KHEDA. That is a participatory form of communication and interactive media, and a lot of reseach has been made on this participatory form of media.

May I know from the hon. Minister, whether while this project is being studied, the lessons derived from the KHEDA experiment will be taken into consideration, particularly, with regard to the effectiveness of the participatory form of communication and interactive media?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Yes Sir.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, the Government has been providing education and information about women and child welfare programmes through Satellite Communications and ISRO and thereby creating awareness among the Adivasis and also providing training to them. I would like to know which areas in Rajasthan and which category of people would benefit from these programmes? The (b) part of the question is:

[English]

"syllabus based course for engineering students using distant tele-education techniques in collaboration with Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers".

[Translation]

So far, no programme has been started through the Satellite Communication System or ISRO in this regard? I would like to know when such a programme would start?

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, if I have understood correctly, what my hon. friend is asking me - and correct

me if I am wrong - is that whether this programme will be extended further or not. Am I right? Did you ask this?

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The pilot project has started. Besides smaller programmes related to women, child welfare, awareness among Adivasis, distance education have also started but our objective was to provide technical courses, engineering courses through the pilot project.

[English]

Syllabus-based courses for engineering students using distant tele-education techniques in collaboration with Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers-

[Translation]

Why has this programme not been stated? What are the reasons? Part (b) of the question is which are the areas being benefitted from this project?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, the point is that so far as other dimensions of knowledge are concerned, as has been spelt out in the reply, the main idea is not only ISRO but there are other channels which are also being used. This particular one is only meant for this type of thing. But we are having workshops just now on the expansion of this programme ISRO may not be able to take all the programmes. We have to involve other satellite organisations, the entire dimension, in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, into this. That is where new orientation as I said just now is being made and this data will be very useful to us for this.

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY : Sir, in most of these programmes, the receiving sets in the villages do not function. To my knowledge, 90 per cent of them do not function with the result that the very purpose of the programme is defeated.

We all know that the family planning is a very important programme. Why is it that they have taken up a pilot programme in Madhya Pradesh? They do not concentrate on such programmes and instead diversify the funds to engineering colleges, medical colleges etc.

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN : Sir, it is a continuous process. Actually, they are all utilising this uplink.

Contraceptive Vaccine

*303. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that an Indian scientist has developed the World's first contraceptive vaccine for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check its efficiency and make use of it in the family planning sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir. The contraceptive vaccine for women is being developed by a team of scientists at National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi.

(b) Phase-I and II human clinical trials with the vaccine have been completed. The vaccine has been found safe but the response to the vaccine amongst recipients is unpredictable and not sustained.

(c) Considerable research work is still required to establish its effectiveness in a genetically diverse population in a predictable manner for pregnancy protection before it can be considered for use in National Family Welfare Programme.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : The contraceptive vaccine for women was being developed by our research institutes. However, after the first and second human trials that had been conducted successfully, we found that the results were not stable. They did not sustain themselves and varied from person to person. The difficulty that we are facing about this is that it needs, at present stage, multiple shots which will not be feasible for us to execute. The research continues so that we can compress this programme into a one shot vaccination. But it will take some time before we can achieve the target.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : In part (b) of the reply, it has been mentioned that Phase-I and II human clinical trials have been completed. I would like to know how many such trials have been conducted and whether they are conducted on eligible persons or non-eligible persons.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I am sure the hon. Member will appreciate that such experiments are conducted on voluntary couples.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : How many MPs are involved?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : It was conducted on 100 women. Since the hon. Member has asked, I would also mention that no Member of Parliament is involved in this as yet. This was done on short-term safety parameters so that there were no after-effects. Phase-II was done at the same centres, AIIMS, New Delhi and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir, Part (c) of the reply mentions that considerable research work is still required to be done. I would like to know whether it is being done at ICMR. Since this programme is first of its kind, I would also like to know whether the concurrence and approval of the World Health Organisation is required or not.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Initially, this was started in the ICMR and the funding was also done

by us. Subsequently, we have asked for other funding sources. The World Health Organisation makes several recommendations and keep a stringent eye on our various other programmes. But we do not require WHO approval for what we are doing here.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : I would like to know from the Government when was this vaccine developed? Was this experiment done in Delhi alone or elsewhere also? In Adivasi areas people use herbs. Has the Government made any effort to do some research in the use of these herbs.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : It is a fact that there are several types of family planning methods. We are doing intensive research into alternative. Indian System of medicine.

[Translation]

Where we are making use of these herbs. This experiment was done in PGI, Chandigarh, AIIMS and Safdarjung in New Delhi and we are hopeful that in near future we would be able to find an alternative in Indian System of medicine which would scientifically compute.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Many of these herbs are being used in Adivasi areas, but is the Government making any effort to identify and conduct research in this field...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Sir, we are conducting research in Ayurvedic contraceptives and the results would be known in the near future.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these experiments are very expensive. I would like to know whether there is any scheme of the Government to make available these experiments at low cost in rural areas?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Scientific documentation is very essential so far as efforts in villages are concerned because whatever experiments of medicines are made it would be done on human beings and the side effects can be dangerous.

[English]

We cannot compromise on the quality of human life and care. So whatever money is being spent is never going to be enough when you take into consideration human safety factors.

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Minister is speaking about contraceptives, several such incidents have already occurred in Maharashtra and other rural areas of the country. Several times, operations are performed and they prove failure. When operation of men prove failure, big social and family problems

arise. In such cases great injustice is done to woman and if even after taking contraceptive a woman gets pregnant it creates great problems for her. Do the Government propose to take any steps in such cases?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Whatever the hon. Member said is true. I agree with her...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Since you are a woman, you should agree...(Interruptions)

[English]

It is a fact that family planning operations which are being done have to be handled sensitively and any kind of failure will cause a severe setback in our national programmes. That is why, judicious caution is being exercised before we release any kind of vaccination or any drug which has remained in the pipeline. It is because we have taken such factors into consideration.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, this is a very serious issue, which should not be taken lightly...(Interruptions) Family Welfare Programme should be implemented effectively to control population of the country. It is very necessary for our country. But if this programme is implemented at the cost of the health of women, it is not just and desirable. Today, fortunately a woman is Health Minister of the country. Through you, I want to tell her that this issue is related not only to this vaccine only, but the contraceptives or measures being taken for family planning at present cause great hardship to women. Very often complaints are being received of Uterus cancer caused by the use of copper T. So, you say it is safe but it is not predictable. At present precaution is needed. It has to be ascertained as to how safe the methods are which are already in use. Will the hon. Minister try to undertake a review of these methods?

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Sir, I would like to inform the House that absolute care and utmost jurisprudence is used in our facilities for contraceptives.

[Translation]

This question does not arise.

[English]

that utility of Copper-T is causing cancer. There were other intra-uterine devices which contributed to this and a ban has been put on these devices and a continuous vigilance continues so that the people are not affected.

[Translation]

You have raised a very basic question that male participation in family planning is very less. In the entire country only three per cent men participates in family

planning. For the knowledge of the House. I want to tell that male hormone develop... *(Interruptions)* so that men are also given injection. This arrangement is being made.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will this injection be given to all the MPs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, I am neither amused nor cynical about it. The question of growing population is a serious one. As my hon. colleague has pointed out, this is a serious concern that men must know and respect the womanhood in the family. Men must learn that this country can be developed only if men play their roles. As she said, if men go on shouting, without involving in the family planning, that the population should not increase, then I do not know how the country can be developed.

Corruption in ICCR

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*304. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "culture of corruption in ICCR" appearing in the Pioneer on July 15, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of irregularities committed by the officials and others in ICCR;

(c) the action taken against these persons;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of ICCR during each of the last three years;

(e) if so, the outcome of the review; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to revitalise ICCR?

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

(b) There is no such "culture of corruption" in the organisation.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The functioning of the ICCR is monitored by the Governing Body and the General Assembly consisting of persons of high standing, including representatives of Parliament. Besides, there are Sub-Committee looking after programme, administration and finance of the ICCR. The accounts of the organisation are annually audited by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India. Further, reviewing of the functioning of the Ministry of External Affairs, including the ICCR— an autonomous body under its overall jurisdiction— is on-going process.

Each year the functioning of the ICCR is reviewed as a part of the Annual Report of the Ministry of External Affairs. Additionally the Standing Committee of Parliament for External Affairs had set up a Special sub-committee to study the functioning of the ICCR and its report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19th December, 1995 and to the Rajya Sabha on the same day.

(e) The functioning of the ICCR as a whole has been guided by the recommendations of the various bodies and committees mentioned at 2(d) above. The Review of the Ministries Annual Report by Parliament becomes the guideline for ICCR's working. The Standing Committee's report has been examined and acted upon by ICCR with full care. First Action Taken Report on certain clarifications sought by the Committee was placed before the Committee on 22 December, 1995. The Committee's comments and suggestions thereon were responded to by the Ministry 22.7.97.

(f) As a matter of general policy, the Government is continuously attempting to revitalise the working of various sections of the Ministry, including the ICCR, and the suggestions emanating from the Hon'ble Members and the Standing Committee are carefully pursued for compliance. Moreover recommendations on improvement suggested by its own bodies and committees continuously guide the ICCR's working.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, it is such a long reply that it will be completed only by 12 noon. He may himself ask one or two supplementary questions and let the question hour be over.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Just listen please... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : You will read the reply in question hour and I will come and listen it later on.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : You may ask the supplementary.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Indian Council for Cultural Relation is an important and prestigious organisation functioning for the last 50 years. Except one or two exceptions, Vice President has been its president. Charges of corruption against such a prestigious institute or making such allegations against it is not a good thing and nobody wants it. But the reply given by the Government is a disappointing one. The Government may have used the words 'Culture of Corruption' but it doesn't signifies development, it rather signifies distortion of culture. But on the issue of this council, Members of Parliament... *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : You are taking too much time.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Why are you worried about my time... *(Interruptions)* Members of Parliament

have made allegations. So I want to tell the hon. Minister that a committee was constituted to look into the charges of corruption and irregularities made against Upendra ji and Sharda Prasad ji, the two Vice President of this very Council. The Committee has submitted its report and has suggested action in this regard. After all these happenings, on what basis is she saying that 'corruption does not exist here'. Is she aware of the existence of this Committee?

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue was raised before the Standing Committee on External Affairs and the Standing Committee had set up a small committee to know all things in this regard.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am talking about I.C.C.R.'s Upendra and Sharda Prasad Committee...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : I am also taking about this committee. After through enquiry the complete Report was submitted. We have also received the report of the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Hon. Upendra and Sharda Prasad ji. According to this report it was found that allegations appearing in 'Pioneer' newspaper are not correct.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am not talking about pioneer newspaper. I want to know whether action was recommended or not on the basis of the allegations made?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are two things in it. Long term standing committee had submitted the report two years ago. It was a very lengthy report. It was totally implemented. You might have noticed that prior to that the Vice President was not its Chairman. We revived this institution. The Vice President is its Chairman even today and will remain so in future also. Second thing is that

[English]

You have referred to those particular personal allegations. Those allegations will be looked into. I have before me a paper which can reveal that those two gentlemen are very honourable in public life and in Parliament. They have said that the allegations are incorrect.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Extension of National T.B. Control Programme

*305. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the name of states which have been brought under the revised National T.B. control programme;

(b) details of the schemes being implemented under this programme;

(c) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested the Union Government to approve extension of Revised National T.B. Control Programme for all other districts of the State which are not covered under scheme as on date;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have given its approval; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Under the World Bank funded TB Control Project, it is proposed to cover 102 districts in next 3 years under RNTCP in 15 States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) In order to achieve a cure rate of 85% under the Revised National TB Control Programme, the Government is providing :

- (i) 100% requirements of Anti-TB drugs in patient wise box in Multi Blister combipacks.
- (ii) Additional funds for implementing DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Short Course)
- (iii) Improved uninterrupted supply of drugs for better sputum examination.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. A request was received from the Governor of Uttar Pradesh for inclusion of 30 Short Course Chemotherapy districts of U.P. in the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, Phase-III. The Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme is being implemented in four districts of Uttar Pradesh covering a population of 96.4 lakhs. In addition the remaining 39 SCC districts of the State will be strengthened for subsequent introduction provided they are able to meet the appraisal criteria.

[Translation]

Hormone Disorder Related Diseases

*306. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing number of diseases related to hormone disorder;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken for the diagnosis and treatment of the hormone disorder related diseases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) There is no reliable information to suggest that there is an increase in hormone-related diseases. A programme for control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders, a nutrition-related disorder caused by the imbalance of hormones has been taken up which, inter alia, comprises surveying the population, propagating the use of iodated salt and building awareness in the community. A scheme for creating awareness about the primary prevention of diabetes is also receiving attention. Facilities for diagnosis and treatment of hormone-related disorders have also been built up in selected hospitals in the Government and private sector.

[English]

Indo-Bangladesh Talks

*307. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 2281 on March 10, 1997 regarding Indians in Bangladesh and state :

(a) the main points discussed in the third meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Working Group held in Delhi during January, 1997 and final outcome of the point discussed;

(b) the number of survey teams working for completion of the demarcation of land boundary till January, 1997 and number of teams increased till date; and

(c) whether the increase in number of survey teams has helped the Government in demarcation of land boundary, if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) With reference to answer given on March 10, 1997 regarding Indians in Bangladesh, the main points discussed in the 3rd meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Working Group held in Delhi during January, 1997 were security related issues, cross border movements, repatriation of Chakma refugees, review of existing visa regime, Director-General level meetings between Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles activating the mechanism of nodal officers, and border demarcation. In regard to border demarcation, both sides recognised the need for early completion of demarcation of land boundary between the two countries. In this connection, both sides agreed on the need to increase the number of survey teams for early completion of the work. The Indian side also explained that the exchange of enclaves could take place only after the demarcation is complete, and necessary legal and constitutional formalities are completed as per Indian laws.

(b) and (c) There is one survey team each jointly deployed by each country on the Indo-Bangladesh boundary in West Bengal sector, Meghalaya sector, Assam sector and Tripura sector till January, 1997. The number of teams has not been increased since then. However, in the West Bengal sector, where bulk of the boundary demarcation work is going on, the composition of the survey teams jointly deployed for demarcation work from December, 1996 onwards was increased to two surveyors, four Amins and two computers. During the Boundary Conference for the West Bengal sector held in Dhaka from July 18-21, 1997 both sides agreed to further strengthen the survey teams to a strength of two surveyors, seven amins and two computers from each side.

As a result of the strengthening of the survey teams in West Bengal sector during the field season 1996-97, the instrumental work by theodolite traverse was completed along the undemarcated portion of the boundary including those along the periphery of adversely possessed areas. In addition, instrumental observations have been completed for accurate calculation of areas of adverse possessions in South Beruberi, Khudipara and Singpara areas.

Sino-Indian Relationship

*308. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has made it clear that they are not going to support and aid the rebel groups from North East India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether China has also decided not to support the self-determination of Kashmir issue;

(d) if so, to what extent India has welcomed this move; and

(e) the fresh initiatives taken by both the Governments to strengthen the ties in the field of trade, investment and other areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (e) The Chinese Government have denied that they are extending assistance to separatist movements. China maintains that it has never interfered in the internal affairs of other countries and would never do so.

China has said that the Kashmir question is a legacy of history. China has expressed the hope that India and Pakistan would seek a settlement of this question through patient consultations and peaceful negotiations. It is the consistent position of Government that Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India and will remain so.

India and China have agreed to work towards development of mutually beneficial relations in all areas and to focus on imparting greater economic and technological content to bilateral relations. Bilateral trade has reached US \$ 1.4 billion in 1996. There are more than 50 joint ventures between the two sides. In recent years, India and China have expanded functional cooperation exchanges in diverse fields. The next meeting of the Joint Economic Group and the Sub Group on Science & Technology between India and China is expected to be convened later this year.

Harassment of Maid Servants

*309. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of maid-servants from India working in gulf countries;

(b) whether Government have received complaints of physical, mental and even sexual torture of these maid servants;

(c) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last one year;

(d) the action taken by the Government on these complaints; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to ensure the safety of these maid servants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e) The exact number of Indian maid servants working in Gulf countries at any given moment would be difficult to calculate, as after obtaining emigration clearance, they neither register themselves with Missions/Posts on arrival nor on departure from the country of employment. However, the exact number of house maids who were given emigration clearance by the Ministry of Labour over the last three years is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Mission-wise number of complaints received from maid servants working in Gulf countries during the last one year is given in the attached statement. The complaints mostly relate to non-payment or delayed payment of wages, long and arduous hours of work without adequate compensation, denial of leave to come to India, withholding of travel documents by sponsors, non-fulfilment of contractual obligations, ill-treatment, etc. There have been a few complaints of sexual harassment also.

Whenever Missions/Posts receive complaints from maid servants, they promptly take up the matter with the sponsor/employer to settle the matter. Wherever necessary, the matter is taken up with the concerned authorities of the foreign Governments to persuade the

employer to redress the grievances. When no solution is possible despite the best efforts of the Missions/Posts, all assistance is given to facilitate repatriation of the aggrieved maid servants.

To prevent possible abuse, those below of the age of 40 years are not given emigration clearance to take-up jobs abroad as house maids. Moreover, it is also obligatory that agreements pertaining to the recruitment of house maids be duly attested by the concerned Indian Mission for getting emigration clearance.

Statement

Number of Complianis received by Missions in Gulf countries during last one year

Mission in	No. of complaints
1. United Arab Emirates	24
2. Iraq	Nil
3. Bahrain	74
4. Saudi Arabia	190
5. Oman	97
6. Kuwait	850
7. Yemen	4
8. Qatar	216

Hepatitis-C

*310. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued notification for making the screening of Hepatitis-C mandatory for all blood donations from July 1, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government had adequate stock of kits for supplying to all Central, State and other non-Governmental organisations who are maintaining blood banks in the country before the issues of the notification;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the further steps the Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The feasibility of inclusion of mandatory screening of blood for Hepatitis-C requires an indepth deliberations among experts from the field of Transfusion medicine and Administrators, to have a technical and economic analysis and to work out a time schedule. Till such time HCV testing of blood will remain voluntary.

[Translation]

Diabetes

*311. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the incidence of diabetes is increasing alarmingly in the country at present;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the effective steps taken by the Government to check the disease;

(c) whether the Government propose to launch a campaign for awareness about this disease; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No reliable nationwide data is available on the incidence of Diabetes.

(b) to (d) The 9th Plan allocation for the Department has not yet been finalised.

An amount of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated under this Programme for the year 1997-98 for carrying out awareness and other activities related with this disease.

[English]

Drug Research Programme for AIDS/HIV

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

(a) the details of the drug research programmes carried out in India for the treatment of AIDS/HIV;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided by the Government for the purpose;

(c) whether any research is being sponsored by the Government to find Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic/Unani cure for AIDS in Government/Private Institutions; and

(d) the steps taken to encourage research on finding a cure of AIDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) To promote and encourage research on finding a cure for AIDS, Indian Council of Medical Research has set up an 'Expert Group' to critically examine proposals on research under various systems of Medicine. The Council has recently established facilities at National AIDS Research Institute, Pune to study anti-retroviral properties of some traditional medicines for HIV infection. These studies have just been initiated. Indian Council of Medical Research has allocated Rs. 6.42 lacs for this facility.

Research in the field of drug treatment of HIV/AIDS is being taken up in various systems of medicines in our country.

Allopathic System of Medicine

In Maharashtra three drug regime trials of reverse transcriptase inhibitors have been undertaken at AIDS Research and Control Centre, Mumbai in collaboration with Government of Maharashtra. The preliminary findings show an increase in CD 4 counts. The final outcome of the study is awaited.

Homoeopathic System of Medicine

The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy has undertaken a research study since 1989 to evaluate the role of homoeopathic medicine. The study is being carried out at the Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy, Mumbai and clinical research unit of Homoeopathy, Chennai.

The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy has also carried out an independent randomized placebo controlled trial of homoeopathic medicines in HIV infection at Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy, Mumbai. The final outcome of this study is awaited. The Governing Body of the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy has recently approved establishment of Central Research Institute of Homoeopathy exclusively for research in HIV/AIDS.

The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy have spent Rs. 67.89 lacs since 1989. This includes Rs. 25.25 lacs provided by the National AIDS Control Organisation during 1995-96.

Research on Siddha Drugs

Research on the role of Siddha drugs in the management of HIV/AIDS is carried out at Government Hospital of Thoracic Medicine, Tambaram, Chennai. But the final outcome of these studies is still awaited. Funds to the tune of Rs. 8 lacs for carrying out this trial has been provided by NACO.

[Translation]

Hepatitis

*313. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the types of Hepatitis detected in the country;

(b) whether the deadly Hepatitis epidemic is spreading in the country rapidly;

(c) if so, the number of persons affected and died due to this disease during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government are unable to procure the vaccine used world wide for the treatment of this disease as it is very expensive in India; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken to check the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Viral Hepatitis of types A, B, C, D, E & G have been detected in the country. The endemicity

in the vulnerable pockets of the population has not shown a spread of the disease in epidemic proportions.

(b) and (c) According to available data collected by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the number of persons reported to have been infected and died due to Viral Hepatitis (all types) during the last three years is given below :-

Year	No. of Persons infected	No. of Persons died
1994	98880	1183
1995	98940	943
1996	116031	799

(d) and (e) No vaccine is available for the treatment of Hepatitis. The vaccine for prevention of Hepatitis-'B' is available commercially in the market. Steps have been taken to encourage indigenous production and permission for commercial production has also been accorded to an indigenous manufacturer recently. Initiating a programme for vaccination against Hepatitis-'B' would depend on the availability of additional resources as the present outlays are inadequate for taking up such a programme.

Following measures are being taken to prevent viral Hepatitis :

- (i) Screening for Hepatitis-'B' is mandatory for all blood donations.
 - (ii) Awareness building for promoting safe sex has been undertaken.
 - (iii) Guidelines have been issued for the use of a separate sterile syringe and needle for each injection.
 - (iv) Directions have been given for the immunisation of Central Government hospital personnel, who are at high risk, against Hepatitis-'B'.
- State Governments have also been advised to take similar steps.
- (v) Intensive Health Education measures have been promoted inter-alia conveying message for use of safe drinking water and maintenance of environmental sanitation.

[English]

Satellite Usages

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

(a) whether the Union Government have ended state monopoly on satellite usage and ownership by allowing private firms to use INSAT transponders and permitting them to own satellites;

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

(c) the commercial terms likely to be offered to non-Governmental users subject to capacity availability; and

(d) the manner in which the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) will facilitate allocation of frequencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Satellites are used extensively for telephony, data, T.V. and Sound broadcasting and Mobile Services. Satellite Communications systems have become a fundamental infrastructure of the communications network in the country and hence needs to be properly regulated for orderly growth. Further, Indian Satellite Systems have to comply with the various United Nation and International Telecommunications Union treaties and other international agreements to which India is a Party. With this in view, the Government has decided upon a policy framework for satellite communications in India. The salient features of this policy are; (a) transponder capacity on Indian National Satellite (INSAT) system would be offered to non-Governmental users also on commercial terms subject to capacity availability; (b) Indian private parties will be permitted to establish commercial communication satellites and the parties will be assisted in registering such satellite systems and networks with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) as Indian Satellites; and (c) operations from Indian soil will be allowed with both Indian and foreign satellites in accordance with the norms and conditions to be evolved, but Indian satellites will be accorded preferential treatment. In so far as satellite based broadcasting is concerned, the various provisions of the Satellite Communications policy framework would conform to the proposed Broadcasting Law. It is expected that the enunciation of the policy framework will lead to the development of a healthy and thriving communications satellite and ground equipment industry as well as satellite communications service industry in India. This will also open the INSAT system for wider usage.

(c) and (d) Provision of capacity for Broadcasting purposes will conform to the proposed Broadcasting Law. INSAT capacity is already being made available on a commercial basis to licensed private VSAT service providers and Closed User Groups through the Department of Telecommunications. A licensed VSAT service provider also gets to use the frequency at which the transponder operates.

The annual space-segment charge for one full extended C-band transponder of 36 MHz bandwidth and 34 dBW satellite Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP) is Rs. 275 lakhs at present. The space-segment is kept reserved on pre-emptive basis from the date of

signing the licence agreement and payment of space segment reservation charges @ 25% of annual space segment rental charges on the date of signing the licence agreement. The spot frequency is allotted after following the established procedure of Standing Advisory Committee for Frequency Allocation (SACFA) and INSAT Network Operation and Control Centre (NOCC).

[Translation]

Banned Medicines

*315. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some banned medicines including 'Queena Crine' are again being used as contraceptive in major cities of the country;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received by this Government in this regard; and

(c) the details thereof and the action taken by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) No banned contraceptive is allowed to be used in the country. The drug Quinacrine is not a banned drug as it was never introduced in the country. The Indian Council for Medical Research had initiated limited trials in 1993 with due approvals which were discontinued in the year 1994 when trials on 8 selected women indicated an unacceptable failure rate for prevention of pregnancy. Recently it was reported in the press that the drug was administered by some doctors/agencies in Calcutta, Delhi and Bangalore. In three cases which were enquired into, it has been reported that the drug is not in use at present. Investigations on the use of Quinacrine are continuing and action as considered necessary would be taken to protect the interests of consumers.

[English]

Peace Treaty with Pakistan

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

(a) whether the Indo-Pakistan people's forum has urged both the countries to sign a peace treaty to mark the Golden Jubilee of Independence of both the countries;

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

(c) whether the dialogue is proposed to be resumed in the matter; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government are committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan peacefully, through bilateral discussions as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. The Joint Statement issued in Islamabad on 23rd June, 1997, on the conclusion of the second round of resumed Foreign Secretary level talks, identified the various issues to be discussed between the two countries and established a mechanism under which these discussions would take place. The Joint Statement also prescribed that the next round of talks would be held in Delhi in September, 1997. Government are committed to establishing a relationship of trust, friendship and cooperation with Pakistan.

Trade with Myanmar

*317. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Mizoram approached the Union Government for reopening border trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh along river and surface routes;

(b) if so, Union Government's reaction to these proposals;

(c) whether the Government have made an adequate survey to assess the growth potential of trade and tourism for this land-locked State; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government have received requests from Government of Mizoram for reopening border trade with Myanmar and Bangladesh through land routes from Champhai and Demagiri respectively.

(b) Government have approached the Government of Myanmar for opening of Border trade through the Champhai-Rih route. The Government of Myanmar, have not agreed to operationalising this route for border trade at present, mainly on the grounds that adequate infrastructural facilities are not available. In case of Bangladesh, the Government of Mizoram had proposed border trade through Demagiri. Government have conveyed to Bangladesh their interest in reopening border trade inter alia from Mizoram and other states in the north-east of the country. During the 5th Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission held in March 1997, the two sides decided to set up a Group of Experts to make recommendations by the end of 1997 for operationalisation of the arrangements for border trade between the two countries.

(c) and (d) The Government in the Ministry of Commerce have commissioned the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade to conduct a study of the export potential of the north-east region including Mizoram state. The terms of reference for the proposed study include inter alia : (i) identification of products of the region having export potential; (ii) assessment of the present level of infrastructural and support facilities and their deficiencies; (iii) analysis of the present level of industrialisation and the possibility of strengthening the industrial base with specific focus on export orientation; (iv) feasibility of setting up of Export Promotion Industrial Parks; (v) study of land and water routes to Bangladesh and Myanmar; (vi) bamboo exports to Bangladesh through the riverine route; and (vii) analysis of the present status and steps required to augment border trade from north-east.

A task force set up by the Deptt. of Tourism for development of tourism in the North Eastern region of India has assessed the tourism potential inter alia of Mizoram. In its report submitted in April, 1997, the task force has identified tourist attractions of Mizoram and the infrastructure required for the development of tourism in the State.

CGHS Dispensaries

*318. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of CGHS allopathic, Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries functioning in the country separately as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of CGHS allopathic, Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries out of them opened

separately during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have received several requests for opening of more CGHS allopathic, Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries in various parts of the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) CGHS dispensaries are not sanctioned state-wise but according to norms of concentration of Central Government employees/pensioners in a city, subject to other provisions. The city-wise information is enclosed as statement.

During 1994, two Allopathic dispensaries were opened in Delhi and one in Jabalpur. During 1995, one Allopathic dispensary was opened in Delhi. During 1996, three Allopathic dispensaries each in Guwahati and Trivandrum were sanctioned which have since been opened. One Unani dispensary in Bangalore was also sanctioned in 1994-95.

(c) and (d) Requests from various parts of the country e.g. Delhi, Cochin, Vijayawada, Chandigarh, Jodhpur, Shillong, Bhopal etc. have been received mainly for opening of more allopathic CGHS dispensaries. The requests for establishment of ISM&H dispensaries have generally been received in places where allopathic dispensary is already functioning.

(e) CGHS facilities are provided keeping in view the need, availability of resources and fulfilment of CGHS norms.

Statement

S.No	Name of City	No. of Dispensaries			
		Allopathic	Ayurvedic	Homoeopathic	Unani
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Delhi	87	13	13	04
2.	Ahmedabad	05	01	01	-
3.	Allahabad	07	01	01	-
4.	Lucknow	06	01	01	01
5.	Kanpur	09	01	02	-
6.	Meerut	06	01	01	-
7.	Bangalore	10	02	01	01
8.	Bhubaneswar*	01	-	-	-
9.	Mumbai	28	02	04	-
10.	Nagpur	11	02	01	-

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Pune	07	01	02	-
12.	Calcutta	17	01	02	01
13.	Hyderabad	13	02	02	02
14.	Jabalpur	03	-	-	-
15.	Jaipur	05	01	01	-
16.	Chennai	14	01	01	-
17.	Patna	05	01	01	-
18.	Ranchi*	01	-	-	-
19.	Thiruvananthapuram	03	-	-	-
20.	Guwahati	03	-	-	-

* For AGs employees only

Supreme Court Ruling on Employment

*319. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ruled that the restrictions imposed by the Central and State Governments for filling up vacancies solely through employment exchanges was unconstitutional;

(b) if so, whether the Central and the State Governments are still filling up the vacancies through employment exchanges; and

(c) if so, the reasons for flouting the ruling of the Supreme Court and the steps taken to implement the ruling of the Supreme Court immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in their order passed in Civil Appeals filed by Excise Superintendent Malkapatnam and some others have directed that while the requisitioning authority/establishment should continue to compulsorily inform the employment exchange who in turn should sponsor the names of suitable candidates for selection, at the same time, such requisitioning authority/establishment should in addition call for names of suitable candidates by publication of vacancies in newspapers and through other such means. Government are in the process of filling a Review Petition before the Hon'ble Court.

Peace Treaty

*320. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any efforts have been made to renew the twenty-five year treaty of friendship, cooperation and peace signed between India and Bangladesh in 1972, which has expired;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (c) The Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Peace between India and Bangladesh was signed in 1972 in the particular context of that time. India and Bangladesh have developed friendly and cooperative relations and bilateral ties are progressing satisfactorily. In the present context Government did not consider it necessary to seek renewal of the treaty.

Employees on Muster Roll

3340. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons have been appointed against hand receipt in some categories after banning the appointment of employee on Muster Roll in Central Public Works Department;

(b) if so, the number of such persons appointed after the ban;

(c) whether these employees are being regularised;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the cases of regularising some employees working on hand receipt ignoring seniority have come to the notice of the Government; and

(f) if so, the grounds on which these employees have been regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by CPWD about 657 such employees have been engaged after imposition of the ban on engagement of daily rated workers.

(c) and (d) Regularisation of these workers would be as per the extant rules/guidelines on the subject.

(e) and (f) No such case has been brought to the notice of the DG(W), CPWD.

Illegal Mining

3341. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations of the Committee constituted by the Government on illegal mining in 1979;

(b) whether any action has been taken to execute the recommendations;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Economic Co-Operation Agreement with Ocean Rim Countries

3342. SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE :
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has entered into any trade and economic co-operation agreement with Indian Ocean Rim countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the Government expects the trade and economic co-operation among these countries to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. India has joined the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC) consisting of fourteen countries.

(b) The objectives and purpose of IOR-ARC include :-

(i) To promote the sustained growth and balanced development of the region and of the Member States, and to create common ground for regional economic cooperation;

(ii) To focus on those areas of economic cooperation which provide maximum opportunities to develop shared interests and reap mutual benefits. Towards this end, to formulate and implement projects for economic cooperation relating to trade facilitation, promotion and liberalisation; promotion of foreign investment, scientific and technological exchanges, and tourism, movement of natural persons and service providers; and development of infrastructure and human resources;

(iii) To encourage close interaction of trade and industry, academic institutions, scholars and the peoples of the Member states;

(iv) To strengthen cooperation and dialogue among Member States in international fora on global economic issues;

(v) To promote cooperation in development of human resources, particularly through closer linkages among training institutions, universities and other specialised institutions of the Member States.

(c) The Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation has been operationalized with the adoption of its charter and the Work Programme of cooperation projects at the first meeting of IOR-ARC Council of Ministers held in Mauritius in March, 1997.

Primary Health Centres in Kerala

3343. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres and Family Planning Centres functioning in Kerala as on March 30, 1997;

(b) whether any amount has been provided to these centres by the Union Government during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As per the available information as on 31.12.96 there are 959 Primary Health Centres functioning in Kerala. Family Planning Services are also provided in the State through network of Rural Family Welfare Centres and Post Partum Centres. In Kerala, there are 163 Rural Family Welfare Centres and 82 Post Partum Centres.

(b) and (c) Primary Health Centres are established and maintained by the State Government under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme. Central assistance is provided to the State for Rural Family Welfare Centres and Post Partum Centres. The amount provided to these Centres in Kerala during last three years is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Rural Family Welfare Centres	394.50	495.00	495.00
Post Partum Centres	257.00	257.00	255.00

[Translation]

ESI Hospitals

3344. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Kam vetan pane valo ko bhi bade asapatal ki suvidha" appearing in the Hindustan (Hindi), dated June 21, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the matter reported therein and the reaction of the Government therefo;

(c) the number of ESI dispensaries, I.M.P. Clinics and Hospitals functioning in the country alongwith their bed capacity, State-wise;

(d) whether the labourers under the E.S.I. scheme

are likely to be provided free treatment facility in other big hospitals; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a), (b), (d) and (e) Yes Sir. The matter reported in the Hindustan (Hindi) relates to provision of super speciality treatment of ESI beneficiaries in the renowned medical institutions, full reimbursement of medical expenses, provision of modern equipments in the ESI hospitals etc. Except in Delhi and Noida the responsibility for providing medical care under the ESI Scheme vests in the concerned State Government/U.T. Administrations. The State Governments have been delegated full powers to refer the cases to any renowned medical institutions for facilities not available in the ESI hospitals.

(c) A Statement showing number of ESI hospitals/ dispensaries etc. State-wise is annexed.

Statement

Statewise position of Dispensaries, IMP Clinics, Hospitals & Beds Commissioned as on 31.3.96

S.No.	State	No. of ESI Dispensaries	IMP Clinic	ESI Hospital	*Beds Commissioned	Beds in ESI Hospital
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	135	1	9	872	823
2.	Assam	26	-	1	126	50
3.	Bihar	56	-	6	458	362
4.	Chandigarh Admn.	2	-	-	42	-
5.	Delhi	47	-	3	905	800
6.	Goa	5	48	1	53	20
7.	Gujarat	121	161	9	2126	1345
8.	Haryana	69	-	4	666	405
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	-	1	60	50
10.	Karnataka	145	-	7	1735	1095
11.	Kerala	136	-	13	1304	1274
12.	Madhya Pradesh	64	1	6	826	615
13.	Maharashtra	78	1523	12	4458	3870
14.	Meghalaya	1	-	-	-	-
15.	Orissa	53	-	4	263	225
16.	Pondicherry	13	-	1	107	75
17.	Punjab	70	26	7	729	465
18.	Rarjasthan	65	-	3	582	280
19.	Tamil Nadu	158	-	8	2344	1855
20.	Uttar Pradesh	145	-	16	1988	1656
21.	West Bengal	36	1364	13	3826	3262
22.	Jammu & Kashmir	8	-	-	-	-
Total :		1440	3124	124	23470	18527

This includes Beds in ESI Hospitals, Annexe & Reserved Beds.

Self Financing Scheme

3345. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA propose to restart Self Financing Scheme in the National Capital Territory of Delhi; and

(b) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Model Civil Charter

3346. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the Model Civil Charter (Adarsh Nagrik Charter) in the Central Government Hospitals to ensure proper care of the patients; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The draft Model Citizens Charter for Central Government hospitals had been circulated to all Central Government hospitals for obtaining their views. The objectives of the charter include making available medical treatment and related facilities and redressal of grievances in this regard. The charter seeks to make a commitment, inter-alia, to provide access to available facilities without discrimination; to provide emergency care, if needed on reaching the hospital; and to record complaints round the clock and designate Medical Officers to respond to such complaints.

Funds for Hospital Project

3347. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the loans/financial assistance provided by the Union Government to hospital projects in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years,

(b) the terms/conditions on which these allocations have been made;

(c) whether Union Government have received any further request from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for financial assistance for the expansion and development of medical colleges and hospitals in the State during the above period;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The financial assistance provided by the Ministry to the hospitals in Uttar Pradesh for the development of Oncology Wings in Medical Colleges; and purchase of equipments for Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad for Cancer Research during the last three years is given in the attached statement.

The assistance was given subject to observance of General Financial Rules like submission of Utilisation Certificate etc.

(c) and (d) A proposal has been received from the State Government for inclusion of Uttar Pradesh State under the State Health System Development Project for strengthening secondary level health infrastructure with World Bank assistance.

(e) The State proposals are processed through detailed discussions with the external agencies and generally take time upto 24 months for finalising depending upon the time taken on the design and formulation of the project by the State.

Statement

Years	Institutions	Amounts in lakhs	Purpose
1994-95	1. JLN Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.	100.00	Development of Oncology Wings.
	2. Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, Regional Cancer Centre.	50.00	Purchase of equipments.
1995-96	1. S.N. Medical College, Agra.	75.00	Purchase of Cobalt Therapy Units.
	2. Kamala Nehru Memo. Hospital, Regional Research Centre	50.00	Purchase of equipment.
1996-97	1. JLN Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.	50.00	Development of Oncology wings.
	2. S.N. Medical College, Agra.	25.00	Cobalt Therapy Unit
	3. Kamala Nehru Memo. Hospital, Allahabad, Regional Cancer Centre.	50.00	Purchase of equipments.

Posts Reserved for SC/ST

3348. SHRI N.J RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of appointments made in the departments/undertakings under his Ministry during the last three years and the SC/ST candidates appointed amongst them;

(b) whether some posts for SC/ST are lying vacant in the departments/undertakings at present;

(c) if so, the details thereof, post-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for filling up the reserved posts and the reasons for delay in filling up these post?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Mental Health Act

3349. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Lunacy Act 1912 is still in force in many States of the country whereas the Mental Health Act passed in the year 1993 is still dormant piece of legislation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the names of the States which have not yet adopted the latest Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The Mental Health Act, 1987 passed by Parliament received the assent of the President on 22nd May, 1987 and came into force in all the States and Union Territories of the country from the 1st day of April, 1993 vide the Gazette of India Extraordinary Notification No. 35 dated 11th January, 1993.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Fifth Pay Commission

3350. SHRI K.P. NAIDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission had recommended for payment of at least half of the minimum of the revised scale to pensioners;

(b) if so, the reasons for not agreeing to the recommendation;

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the implementation of the above recommendation; and

(d) 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 PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendation of Pay Commission for the consolidation of pension in respect of all pre-1.1.1996 retirees, in accordance with the formulation given by it, has been accepted. In the case of pre-1986 retirees, the Government has also accepted the recommendation that before such consolidation, their pension may be updated by notional fixation of their pay as on 1.1.1986 by adopting the same formula as for the serving employees. The Government considers that the above measures will provide adequate relief to the pensioners.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of answer to part (b) above.

ESI Corporation

3351. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are planning to overhaul the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);

(b) if so, whether the Government has called for views from all State Governments on this issue;

(c) if so, the salient features of the views expressed by the State Governments;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating the change in view of the facts that insured persons are not getting their dues promptly; and

(e) if so, the reasons ascertained by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) The ESI Scheme provides for medical care and payment of cash benefits in the contingencies of sickness, maternity and employment injury. While the cash benefits are being administered by the ESIC, the provision of medical care except in Delhi and Noida is being administered by the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. There have been complaints about non availability of doctors, shortage of medicines, equipments etc. in the ESI Hospitals and dispensaries. In order to bring improvement in working of the ESI medical care one suggestion that has been made is setting up State level subsidiary corporations of the ESIC. State Governments and UT Administrations views on this suggestion have been sought.

India Habitat Centre

3352. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the Rules and Regulations of association of the India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, together with composition of its Board of Directors/Governors and Managing Committee;

(b) whether any assistance has been provided by the Government to the IHC;

(c) the criteria for entrance and enrolling in the said centre as a Associate Member;

(d) the details of persons enrolled as its Associate members alongwith enrolment fees paid by each member and the total amount collected from them so far;

(e) the number of persons applied for Membership and the number out of them rejected alongwith the reasons therefor;

(f) whether India Habitat Centre is functioning satisfactorily; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) A copy of the Rules and Regulation of India Habitat Centre (IHC) is enclosed as statement. The present constitution of Governing Council is as under :

1. President (In selection)
2. Shri V. Suresh, CMD, HUDCO.
3. Shri B.S. Minhas, Joint Secretary, M/o UA&E
4. Dr. R.K. Pachauri, Director TERI
5. Shri P.P. Vora, CMD NHB
6. Dr. D.P. Chadha, President All India Bricks & Tiles Manufacturers Association.
7. Shri Rajat Nandi, Executive Director AIMA
8. Shri N. Srinivasan, Executive Director CII
9. Shri T.N. Gupta, Executive Director BMTPC
10. Prof. R.N. Iyengar, Director CBRI Roolee

(b) Since IHC is a registered society no funds or grants-in-aid are given to the India Habitat Centre by the Government of India. However, the Government land was leased to the Centre at institutional rates.

(c) The Governing Council of the IHC had constituted a Screening Committee to screen the applications received for membership. Application of persons seeking membership of the IHC were received from public in general and the membership offered to persons who, in the opinion of the Governing Council for IHC, can be expected to contribute to the objectives

for which the Centre is set up. However, the membership is now closed.

(d) A total of 5625 persons have been enrolled as Associate Members. 4882 members have paid entrance fees @ 5,000/- each amounting to Rs. 24410000 and 495 members paid entrance fee after revision @ 10,000/- each (w.e.f. 7/5/94) amounting to Rs. 4950000/-. 248 members are yet to pay the entrance fee. The total amount collected so far is Rs. 29360000/-.

(e) Total number of 14309 individuals applied for membership, out of which 8162 applications were not accepted for membership by the Governing Council.

(f) and (g) Institutional members are already functioning from the IHC. Some facilities of IHC are ready but have not become functional due to pending litigation.

Statement

India Habitat Centre Rules and Regulations

1. DEFINITION :

In these Rules and Regulations unless the context otherwise requires :

- (a) 'Centre' means the INDIA HABITAT CENTRE.
- (b) 'President' means the President of the General Body and Governing Council of the Centre.
- (c) 'Councils' means the Governing Council of the Centre.
- (d) 'Director' means the Director of the Centre.
- (e) 'General Body' means the General Body of the Centre.

2. MEMBERSHIP :

(a) INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS :

All allottees of built areas or spaces in the Centre will be admitted as Institutional Members of the Centre.

Provided that if the Council is of the view that the admittance of any allottee may not help the Centre in the furtherance of the objectives of the Centre, it may not admit it as a member with the approval of the Ministry.

(b) CORPORATE MEMBERS :

Any other organisation or institution which has interest in the proper development of human settlements can be admitted as Corporate Member on such terms and conditions as the Council may determine.

(c) INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS :

Any person interested in the proper habitat related environmental issues may be admitted by the Council as an individual member in any one of the undermentioned specified class of individual

membership on such terms and conditions as the council may determine.

- (i) Founder Members
- (ii) Life Members
- (iii) Ordinary Members
- (iv) Associate Members
- (v) Temporary Members
- (vi) Long Term Temporary Members (Foreign National)
- (vii) Long Term Temporary Members (Indian National)
- (viii) NRI's and Individual Overseas Members
- (x) Research Associate

Provided, however that the number of persons who may be admitted as Ordinary Individual Members shall not exceed 500 for the time being.

(d) No institutional members shall transfer his membership to any other persons except with the previous permission of the Centre. Membership in all other categories is non-transferable.

(e) In the case of individuals nominated by institutional and Corporate members to use the facilities of the Centre, no charges can be made without the prior permission of the Centre.

(f) The Centres shall keep a roll of all members giving their addresses and occupations.

(g) The Centre will send a copy of its Annual Report to all its members.

(h) The financial year of the Centre shall be from the 1st day of April until the last day of March in the following year.

3. SHARING OF COSTS BY MEMBERS :

(a) The cost of land, development, construction and maintenance shall be distributed among the allottees determined by the Council in proportion of the space allotted to them in accordance with the formula laid down by the Council. In the event of default in payment resulting in dislocation and/or delay of work, the Promoter Member may be requested by the Council to provide the funds required for the continuance of the project undertaken by the Centre and the membership of the defaulting member shall stand suspended until the member clears all the dues together with the additional levy as may be imposed by the council. Further if the dues are not paid within the specified time, the allotment of space of the defaulting member and its membership of the Centre shall be cancelled after giving one month notice by Regd. Post on the address as in sub-para 6 of paragraph 2 above and allotment of space made to another institution as may be approved by the Governing Council.

(b) The allottees shall also pay to the Centre, the maintenance and other charges as may be determined and demanded by the Council from time to time.

(c) The Ordinary, Associate and Individual members shall pay such Entrance and Annual Membership fees as may be decided by the Council.

4. PATRONS :

The Union Minister and Minister of State for Urban Development shall be patrons of the Centre. The Centre may invite any eminent person to be patron of the Centre.

5. VISITORS :

The Council may invite persons of eminence not exceeding five at any time as Visitors for a period not exceeding three years at a time. A visitor shall not be required to pay any membership fee.

6. PRESIDENT :

The Institutional members shall select a person of eminence to be the President of the Centre for a term of two years and he shall be eligible for re-appointment. Till such time as such selection is made, the Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development shall remain President of the Centre.

7. DIRECTOR, TREASURER AND SECRETARY :

(a) The Director, Treasurer (Honorary or full time as required) and Secretary shall be appointed by the Council.

(b) The Director will be the Chief Executive of IHC and responsible to the Governing Council for all financial, administrative functions and duties delegated to him from time to time.

8. GENERAL BODY :

(a) The General Body shall consist of the following :

- (i) The President
- (ii) All Members of the Council
- (iii) Two nominees of each of the institutional members
- (iv) All Founder members
- (v) All Corporate members who will be represented by their Chief Executives.
- (vi) All Life Members
- (vii) All Ordinary Individual Members.

(b) There shall be held an Annual General meeting of the Centre once in every financial year at such date, time and place as may be decided by the President.

(c) The President may, whenever he thinks fit and also shall upon the requisition of not less than one third of the members of the General Body supported by not less than the one third of the Institutional members and

one third of the Life members, call a Special General Meeting.

(d) The director shall send information of the date, time and place of the meeting to all the members at least fifteen days before, the date of the meeting. Provided that the President may call a meeting at such shorter notice as he may direct for the transaction of any urgent business.

(e) A copy of the agenda with notes, if any, shall be circulated by the Director to all the members at least seven clear days before the date of meeting. Provided that in the case of a meeting called for the transaction of urgent business, the agenda and the notes thereon shall be sent alongwith the notice of the meeting.

(f) Notwithstanding that any member has not received the notice or the agenda, the meeting may proceed to transact the business on the agenda.

(g) Notwithstanding anything contained in Clause (5), any matter of an urgent nature which has not been included in the agenda of the meeting may with the approval of the person presiding, be placed before the meeting for its consideration.

(h) Every meeting shall be presided over by the President and in his absence, the members present and entitled to vote at the General Body meeting shall elect a Chairman of the meeting from amongst themselves and who shall preside over the meeting.

(i) All questions coming up before the meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and in the case of equality of votes, the person presiding over the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. The nominee of an Institutional Member shall carry a letter of authority from the Institution he is representing.

(j) An Institutional Member who desires to move a proposition shall send notice of such proposition together with a brief note setting out the reasons in support of the proposition to the Director. Such proposition shall be included in the agenda of the next meeting to be held on a date not earlier than 15 days after the receipt of the notice. Provided that the President may in his discretion allow such proposition to be included in the agenda of an earlier meeting.

(k) A member desiring to ask any question in order to obtain any information concerning the affairs of the Central shall give seven days notice of such question.

(l) A Corporate/Individual Member who desires to move a proposition shall send notice of such proposition to the Director. Such proposition shall be included in the agenda of the next meeting. Provided that at least 15 days notice have been given for the inclusion of the proposition. Provided however, that such proposition has been seconded by at least two Institutional Members.

(m) The person presiding shall decide on the admissibility of the proposition or question and shall

dis-allow the same, if in his opinion, it contravenes these Regulations or is, otherwise, inadmissible and his decision thereon shall be final.

(n) When a question is put to vote, the person presiding shall call for a show of hands and shall count the vote thus cast for or against the proposition and declare the result.

(o) The quorum for a meeting shall be one-third of the members in the General Body. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting if called on the requisition of members shall be dissolved. In any other case, it shall stand adjourned to such time and date as may be determined by the person presiding. The adjourned meeting shall proceed to transact business even if there be no quorum.

(p) The minutes of the proceedings of each meeting shall be drawn up by the Director and on approval by the persons presiding shall be circulated to the members of the Centre. After such circulation, the minutes shall be taken up for confirmation at the next meeting and shall be deemed confirmed unless any member present objects to the minutes as having been incorrectly or incompletely recorded; in which case, the person presiding after taking consensus of the members present at the meeting may make such amendments in the minutes as may be necessary and the amended minutes shall then be confirmed and signed by the person presiding.

9. GOVERNING COUNCIL :

(a) The Centre shall be controlled by and the management of the affairs shall be entrusted to a Council consisting of the following :

- (i) The President of the Centre.
- (ii) The Director of the Centre.
- (iii) One nominee of the Ministry of Urban Development.
- (iv) Chairman and Managing Director, HUDCO.
- (v) Nominees of the Institutional Members to be elected as follows :
 - (a) two members from amongst the institutions holding super built area upto and including 250 sqm.
 - (b) two members from amongst the institutions holding super built area above 250 sqm. but upto and including 1000 sqm.
 - (c) one member from amongst the institutions holding super built area above 1000 sqm. but upto and including 2500 sqm.
 - (d) one member from each of the institutions holding super built area above 2500 sqm

except HUDCO which finds, place in clause 4 above.

The nomination from each groups (a) and (d) will be held by the institutions in rotation in alphabetical order of the institution's name.

Provided that one Institutional Member may be represented on the Council by one individual only.

- (vi) Two members to be nominated by the President from amongst the Corporate Members according to the procedures laid down in this regard by the Council.
- (vii) Two members to be co-opted for their attainments in the habitat related fields or in the fields of education, science, culture, art or other areas by the Council who are persons active in public life.
- (viii) Two members to be nominated by the President from amongst individual Members in accordance with procedure, laid down in this regard by the Council.

The nomination of Governing Council should ensure that there should be atleast one lady member in the Council.

The tenure of Govern.ng Council will be for a period of two years.

(b) The Secretary of the Centre will be the Secretary to the Council.

(c) The Council shall ordinarily meet once in every six months. The President shall preside over the meeting of the Council and in his absence, the members present shall elect from amongst themselves, a person who shall preside over the meeting.

(d) Six members shall form the quorum for the meeting.

(e) The President of the Centre may, in such cases as he may consider necessary, direct that any business may be circulated among the members and any resolution so circulated and approved by a majority of members signing shall be as effectual and binding as if such resolution had been passed at a meeting of the Council.

10. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL :

(a) The Council shall be responsible for the management and administration of the affairs of the Centre in accordance with these rules and regulations and bye-laws made thereunder for the furtherance of its objects, and shall have all powers which may be

(b) Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by the foregoing clause, the Council shall have the power to :

- (i) take decision on applications for membership subject to Rule 2(2).
- (ii) prepare and execute detailed plans and programmes for the furtherance of the objects of the Centre.
- (iii) receive, have custody of and expend the funds of the Centre and manage the properties of the Centre.
- (iv) appoint and control such staff as may be required for the efficient management of the affairs of the Centre and regulate their recruitment and conditions of service.
- (v) provide for the welfare of the employees or ex-employees of the Centre and the wives, widows and families or the dependents or connections of such persons in the form and manner as may be decided by the Council.
- (vi) enter into agreement for and on behalf of the Centre.
- (vii) sue and defend all legal proceedings on behalf of the Centre.
- (viii) appoint committees for disposal of any business of the Centre or for advice in any matter pertaining to the Centre and make, adopt and vary from time to time bye-laws for the functioning of and for the purpose connected with the management and administration of the affairs of the Centres and for furtherance of its objects.
- (ix) pay all expenses incurred in the formation and carrying out the objects of the Centre.
- (x) hear and deal with complaints.
- (xi) purchase or otherwise acquire for the Centre any property including office equipment furniture, furnishing, etc. rights or privileges at such price and generally on such terms and conditions as it consider proper.
- (xii) secure the fulfilment of any contracts or engagements entered into by the Centre.
- (xiii) authorise any person to enter into negotiations and execute contracts and to rescind and vary all such contracts.
- (xiv) purchase or otherwise acquire lands, building, etc. to construct buildings, godowns, sheds, parks, parking spaces, quarters for the staff etc.,
- (xv) purchae machinery and stores etc.,
- (xvi) sell such portion of the lands or buildings of the Centre which are in excess of its requirements.
- (xvii) rent or lease the premises or assets of the Centre.

- (xviii) mortgage the property or assets of the Centre,
- (xix) open accounts with banks and authorise officer (s) of the Centre to operate on them as well as draw, accept, endorse and execute cheques, bills of exchange, promisory notes etc., on behalf of the Centre,
- (xx) lay down rules for the affixation and custody of common Seal of the Centre,
- (xxi) consider and approve Annual Report, Statement of Accounts for placing before the General Body for approval,
- (xxii) appoint Auditors and decide their remuneration,
- (xxiii) borrow with or without security and accept donations, deposit for the use and propose of the Centre,
- (xxiv) invest any money of the Centre not immediately required for any of its objects with any Nationalised Bank or HUDCO and deal with it,
- (xxv) appoint and pay to consultants, advisors and construction management design consultants etc.,
- (xxvi) delegate from time to time all or any of its powers to the Executive Committee or any other Committee which it may form for the purpose, to the Director or any other officer of the Centre as may be found necessary for the efficient administration of the affairs of the Centre,
- (xxvii) do all such other acts and things as are incidental to or which the Council may think conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Centre or any of them.

11. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :

(a) An Executive Committee shall be constituted with delegation of powers relating to finance, administration, construction, payments, maintenance, facilities management, allotment and renting of space, legal affairs, matters relating to membership and other day to day matters for running of the Centre, constituted as follows :

- (i) President, IHC - Chairman
- (ii) CMD, HUDCO - Member
- (iii) Director, IHC - Member
- (iv) Three persons to be elected by Governing Council from amongst themselves, of which two persons should be representing institutional members.
- (v) The nominee of the Ministry of Urban Development on the Governing Council will also be member.

The Director IHC shall be the Convenor of the Executive Committee.

(b) The powers and functions of the Executive Committee will be as are delegated to it by the Governing Council from time to time.

(c) Three members will constitute the quorum, one of them necessarily being either the President or the Director.

(d) The Executive Committee shall meet as often as considered necessary by the President, but not less than four times in a year.

(e) The Executive Committee will function till such time as a fresh Committee is constituted.

(f) The Executive Committee may co-opt any persons as deemed fit for transaction and disposal of any matter considered by it. Such co-opted member will not be entitled to vote.

12. COMMITTEES :

The Council may constitute committees and sub-committees for performing such functions as it may deem necessary. Every Committee shall have convenor and such other members as the Council may deem fit. The Council shall have power to issue such directions to any committee as it deems fit and the committee shall abide by such directions.

13. FUNDS, BUDGET, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT :

(a) The Centre will have its own funds and all receipts of the Centre will be credited to the said fund.

(b) All moneys belonging to the said funds shall be deposited in any Nationalised Bank or Banks or HUDCO as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

(c) All transactions of the above funds shall be carried out in the name of Executive Committee by the Director or any other officer authorised by the Council in this behalf.

(d) All sums received shall be credited to the above in the first instance. No receipt shall be directly appropriated towards expenditure.

(e) All payments out of the fund shall preferably be made through cheques by such officer or officers as may be authorised by the Council. Provided that petty payment of amounts below Rs. 5000 may be made in cash.

(f) Any moneys lying at the credit of the Centre in the fund and not immediately required by it for the purpose of the business of the Centre may be invested by the Director in accordance with guidelines given by the Council.

(g) The Director shall prepare and submit to the Council for approval, as far as may be possible, in the month of December every year, a budget for the following financial year showing the estimated receipts and expenditure during the financial year.

(h) The budget so framed shall be scrutinised and approved by the Council which may make such modification as it deems necessary.

(i) The Director shall be responsible for proper maintenance of accounts of the Centre.

(j) The principal books of accounts shall consist of ledger, journal and cash book. These shall be maintained in accordance with such instructions as may be issued from time to time by the Council. Besides, these principal books, such other subsidiary books as are necessary to show details of all assets such as land, buildings etc., and also for clearance of suspense transactions shall be maintained as deemed necessary.

(k) The income and expenditure of the Centre shall be classified under various heads of accounts as the Director may deem necessary for purposes of information and control.

(l) All payments shall be made by the Director or any officer authorised by him.

(m) At the end of each financial year, the Director shall prepare an Annual statement of Accounts.

(n) The Annual Accounts so prepared shall be subject to audit by the Auditors appointed by the council. The Director shall produce all accounts registers, documents and subsidiary papers which may be called for by the Auditors.

(o) The audit report shall be submitted to the Council. The council shall then place the audit report before the General Body with its remarks.

14. BYE-LAWS :

The council may from time to time make bye-laws for carrying out the purpose of these Rules and Regulations.

15. ALTERATION AND INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS :

(a) Rules and Regulations shall be altered, extended abridged only with the approval of the Governing council and the General Body.

(b) Amendments to the Constitution and the Rules and Regulations of the Centre may be made by the Governing Council by 2/3rd majority of members present and voting at the meeting convened for the purpose provided further that not less than four nominees of institutional Members voting in favour of the amendment.

16. ANNUAL LIST OF GOVERNING COUNCIL :

Once in every year, a list of the members of the Council shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, Delhi as required under Section 4 of the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

17. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS :

The Centre may sue or be sued in the name of the Director of the Centre.

18. AMENDMENT OF MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION :

Any kind of amendment in the Memorandum of Association shall be made as per provision of Section 12 and 12(A) of the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable to the Union territory of Delhi.

19. DISSOLUTION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AFFAIRS :

If the Centre needs to be dissolved, it shall be dissolved as per provisions laid down under Section 13 and 14 of the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable to the Union territory of Delhi.

20. APPLICATION OF THE ACTION OF THE ACT :

All the provisions under all the Sections of the Society Registration Act, 1860 as applicable to the Territory of Delhi shall apply to this Centre.

Certified that this is the correct copy of the Rules and Regulations of the Centre.

Sd/-
President

Sd/-
Director

Subletting of Garages

3353. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation through Office of the Prime Minister regarding unauthorised construction and subletting of garages in Sector D, Type II, Mandir Marg, DIZ Area and other areas where Government accommodation has been allotted in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the total number of such cases detected so far; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In Sector-D Mandir Marg 15 garages were inspected. 6 garages were found locked. In 8 garages there was no subletting. In one case misuse of the garage as a tailoring shop was detected. 3 cases of unauthorised constructions were also detected in this Sector (Type II). Show Cause Notices have been issued to all these allottees.

Oceanarium

3354. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "India's first

Oceanarium to come up at Goa" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated July 25, 1997;

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

(c) the total cost likely to be incurred thereon;

(d) the time by which the work on this Oceanarium is likely to be commenced;

(e) whether the Government propose to set up some more Oceanarium in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Oceanarium is an under water world in which marine flora and fauna are kept and maintained in living condition in a large sized shore based tank with walk through acrylic tunnel. The Department of Ocean Development is involved in the promotion of setting up of oceanarium in the country to create awareness among the public on marine life as in the natural habitat and facilitating Research and Development activities. With these objectives, the Department took steps for establishing an oceanarium at Goa on Build, Own, Operate and Maintain (BOOM) basis. The Government of Goa expressed its willingness to get this facility in Goa. Through a Global tender, an Indian Company, namely M/s Bharath Oceanic Recoveries Pvt. Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram which bided in consortium with Studio "C" and M/s. Oceanic Underwater World Private Limited, Australia was selected to establish this facility. The consortium has formed a company, namely Goa theme Park Ltd., which has signed an implementation agreement with the Government of Goa in December, 1996. The Government of Goa has provided land measuring 32,000 sq.mt. at Miramar, on a lease basis for establishing the oceanarium and the associated attractions. The Oceanarium complex consists of main tank with under water tunnel, micro-world, touch pool, toy train, musical fountain, research and educational facilities, aquaria, cafeteria, theatre, souvenir shop etc. Additional facilities to be provided are -

(a) Maritime research and display facilities, (b) Internet connectivity and communication systems, (c) Hall of fame (educational), (d) Amphi-theatre for public performance including art and cultural shows, (e) facilities for thrilling rides on 'water/land' themes and (f) cultural/retail centre for 'Goan/Indian' artifacts and cuisine. About 6,000 animals representing 350 species in the range of sharks, turtles, rays colourful fishes, corals, etc., are proposed for display in live condition.

(c) The project is being established on BOOM basis. The company invests the entire capital cost of Rs. 68

crores (with import duty for capital equipments) and bears the operational cost of approximately Rs. 10 crores per annum.

(d) The work relating to construction is likely to commence in October 1997.

(e) and (f) The Government of India proposes to promote establishment of similar Oceanarium in other places of country preferably on BOOM basis depending on the interest expressed by the State Governments. The Government of Tamil Nadu is considering a proposal to establish a similar type of oceanarium at Chennai.

Inquiry Against Retired Government Employees

3355. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government employees of Andaman and Nicobar Islands against whom enquiry was ordered without obtaining the sanction of the President after their retirement;

(b) the number of officials of Andaman and Nicobar Administration facing departmental enquiries who have neither been sanctioned provisional pension nor paid GPF, even after three months of their retirement;

(c) whether any enquiry could be ordered against a retired Government servant without the sanction of the President; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken against the officials responsible for the lapse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that it is collecting requisite information from the Andaman and Nicobar Administration and the same will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Child Labour

3356. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn towards the news-item appeared in the Dainik Tribune dated July 26, 1997 under the caption, "Haryana mein lagbhag teen hazar bal mazdoor";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the steps taken to eliminate child labour and the directions followed by the Haryana Government out of the above;

(c) the efforts being made by the Union Government to eliminate this evil not only from Haryana but also

from all over the country and the details of the State Governments which are not co-operating in the efforts being made by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government have provided some financial assistance to the Haryana Government for the purpose; and

(e) if so, the amount thereof and the amount earmarked by the State Government of this purpose during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. This news item had appeared in the context of the survey conducted in the State in implementation of the directions of the Supreme Court.

(b) After the first phase of survey, the State Government has initiated action for withdrawal of the children working in hazardous occupations/processes, establishment of Child Labour Welfare-cum-Rehabilitation Funds and recovery of compensation @Rs. 20,000 per child from employer found employing child in contravention of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

(c) For the rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations, 76 Child Labour Projects have been sanctioned so far for coverage of around 1.5 lakh children working in hazardous occupations. The issue was discussed in the Conference of the State Labour Ministers held on 7-8th July, 1997 when all the State Governments reaffirmed their commitment for eradication of the practice of child labour in a phased manner.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 28 lakhs has already been released by the Government of India to 16 districts of Haryana @Rs. 1.75 lakh per district for conducting survey on child labour. The State Government has also earmarked Rs. 5 lakh for the financial year 1997-98.

Funds for Cancer Centre

3357. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received by the Union Government seeking grants for Mehdi Nwaj Jung Institute for Cancer and Shrimati Basavatharak Ramarao Memorial Centre to set up a cancer hospital; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Recognitions of BDS Degrees

3358. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether BDS degrees conferred by different Universities such as Australia, Romania and Russian Federation are recognised in India for higher studies and practice;

(b) if so, the details of such Universities; and

(c) whether the recognition pre-supposes reciprocity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The following dental qualifications awarded by the Universities situated in Australia and Russian Federation are recognised for the purposes of the Dentists Act, 1948, only when granted to Indian Citizen. No dental qualification is recognised in respect of Romanian Universities.

1. University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia.

2. University of Queensland, Australia.

3. Moscow Medical Stomatological Institute, Moscow.

(c) No reciprocity exists with any country.

Illegal Construction

3359. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal construction and renovation works are going on in large scale in the Paras Cinema Complex, Nehru Place, New Delhi despite eviction notice served by the concerned authorities in connivance with corrupt officials;

(b) if so, the relevance of eviction notice; and

(c) steps being taken to safeguard the lives of cinema viewers/employees of various organisations including the nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that in response to the vacation order issued on 25.7.97, some rectification work is going on at the site at present. The owner of the Paras Cinema has also filed an appeal against the eviction order before the Appellate Tribunal of the MCD, which, in turn, has directed MCD to inspect the site and furnish the report before it on 28.8.97. Further, two occupiers of the Complex have filed a case before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and the same is pending.

Further action in the matter depends upon the direction of the Hon'ble Court.

MCD has also initiated action under Section 349 of the D.M.C. Act.

Leucoderma

3360. SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any effective medicine for the cure of Leucoderma have been developed in the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research has been carried out under Indian system of medicine or Homoeopathy for the cure and treatment of Leucoderma; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Various modalities of treatment of Leucoderma are available in the country; such as, psoralen drugs, systemic and topical steroids, placental extract etc. which are effective in a proportion of cases.

(c) and (d) The details of researches done under the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Researches on Leucoderma under ISM and Homoeopathy

UNANI

The Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine is engaged in research on Bars (Vitiligo) with a view to developing a safe, effective and successful treatment of this disorder. Various Unani formulations are under investigations at the Regional Research Institutes of Unani Medicine.

AYURVEDIC

AYUSH-57, a Coded Drug is under the process of trial in cases of Leucoderma under the Council with varying degrees of response.

HOMOEOPATHY

Many cases of Vitiligo/Leucoderma under Homoeopathic treatment have been reported since the discovery of Homoeopathy. The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy had undertaken clinical evaluation of homoeopathic medicine in Vitiligo at its Clinical Research Unit, Surat (Gujarat) in 1985. The study was withdrawn for want of sufficient number of cases. Homoeopathic medicines are, however, prescribed on the basis of individual's constitutional,

both mental/emotional and physical attributes and, therefore, no medicine can be used to specifically treat a disease/disorder.

Declining Standards of Indian Science

3361. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the declining standards of Indian Science;

(b) whether the major science policy decision taken at various high level meetings are not communicated to the working bench-level scientists;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of various official meetings attended by the Chairman of the Department of Atomic Energy and the present Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board during 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) It is not correct that there is a decline in the standards of Indian Science.

(b) and (c) Policy initiatives and decisions taken at various levels are communicated to all concerned levels of scientists for implementation. Inputs received in the process of implementation of policies and programmes are also taken into account.

(d) There have been no official meetins in this context in view of the position stated in reply to part (b) and (c).

Consulate General Office

3362. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 6176 on 14 May, 1997 regarding Consulate General Office and state;

(a) whether all the diplomatic issues have been resolved for permitting opening of an Honorary Consulate General in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the consulate is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (c) There are still certain diplomatic issues which need to be resolved before Government of India can think in terms of permitting the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to open an Honorary Consulate General in India.

Balconies of Government Quarters

3363. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the balconies of some quarters in Type-II, Sector D, Mandir Marg, New Delhi, are in a dilapidated condition and declared dangerous;

(b) if so, whether the funds earmarked for the repair work of Balconies have been diverted by the concerned CPWD Engineers for carrying out other works;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from the Area Welfare Association and Members of Parliament in regard to the misuse of the funds/grants sanctioned by the Government for Type II, Sector D, Mandir Marg Government Quarters; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government against those who are responsible for such lapses and also to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Balconies of some Type II Quarters in Sector D, Mandir Marg are in bad condition. The rectification work is in progress. However, no balcony has been declared dangerous.

(b) No, Sir. No specific budget provision is made for repairs to balconies. Expenditure on balconies repairs is made from the consolidated allotment made under the Head 2216 PW repairs. Question of diversion of funds does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) CPWD has stated that the matter has been investigated and no action is called for against anybody.

Construction of Government Flats

3364. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed by the Government for the construction of Government flats during the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 in the country;

(b) whether some flats are to be constructed in Nagpur City during the above period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) 1078 and 1100 Quarters are targetted to be completed during 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of Quarters under construction in Nagpur are as under:-

Type	Number of Quarters
I	16
II	120
III	112
IV	32
V	24

An amount of Rs. 2.10 crore has been provided during 1997-98 for the purpose.

Action Against Corrupt Employees

3365. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees found prima-facie involved in corruption in the office of External Affairs Ministry in Gujarat during last year;

(b) whether Government propose to initiate necessary action against these employees and to curb such corruptions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Nil, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Medicines in ESI Hospitals

3366. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding supply of spurious sub-standard and expired date medicines for use in ESI Hospital, Basaidarapur, New Delhi and ESI Hospital, Shadara Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) There were complaints about malpractices in purchase of medicines and Non-ISI medical items by the Central Store of the ESIC. The matter was investigated and four departmental officials who were prima facie involved in the alleged malpractices have been charge sheeted. The suppliers responsible for supply of sub-standard drugs and dressing have been debarred from supply to the ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries.

[Translation]

Violation of Human Rights

3367. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether every citizen of any other country in the world is provided visa for coming to India, whereas Indian citizens are deprived of visa to visit countries like the USA, Canada, Japan and European countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any protest has been registered or action taken by the Government through U.N.O. and other international and national agencies against such discrimination and violation of human rights;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) and (b) Grant of visa to any foreigner for coming to India is decided as per Government of India's policy and rule on visa matters and similarly Indian citizens get visas to visit other countries as per the visa policy and rules of the respective countries.

Every foreigner is not automatically entitled to an Indian visa. Grant of visa is sovereign right of any State. In practice, therefore, visas are denied by India as well as other countries to alien applications who are not able to establish their bona fides, or are otherwise considered undesirable.

(c) to (e) Question does not arise.

[English]

Non-Payment of Dues

3368. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of workers of Carona Shoe Company (Ltd.) have not been paid their salary for several months;

(b) whether other dues of these workers such as bonus, medical reimbursements etc. have also not been paid by the company;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure early settlement of their dues; and

(d) the action taken against the company for the default?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The information from the concerned State Governments and Union Territories is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of DDA Flats

3369. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether thousands of DDA flats are lying unallotted for years for want of electricity, water and sewage etc. but when those flats are allotted, the price of them is charged as on date and not that of the time of their construction and made ready for allotment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures taken or propose to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The price of the flats is charged on the date of issue of demand letters calculated on the basis of an approved policy on "No Profit No Loss" basis. Even the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in the case of DDA Vs. Pushpendra Kr. Jain in Civil Appeal No. 6205 of 1994, has upheld that the right to flats arises only on communication of the demand-cum-allotment letter and the price or rates prevailing on the date of such communication shall be applicable.

(c) It has been decided that the demand-cum-allotment letter will henceforth be issued only after the basic services/amenities are made available in the DDA flats. In order to ensure that there is better co-ordination between various agencies, the matter is reviewed at different levels at close intervals.

[Translation]

Corruption Cases

3370. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officials of Delhi Development Authority punished under corruption cases till date;

(b) the number of officials against whom action has been taken by the authorities on account of corruption cases or whose cases are under trial in the courts of law or whose cases are under investigation of the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(c) the details of charges leveled and proved against them; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the menace of corruption in DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) DDA has reported that since 1990 six officials have been penalised on charges of corruption.

(b) and (c) Since 1990 two officials have been issued charge-sheets for major penalty on the charges

of corruption as per details given in attached statement-I and 58 officials are facing trial in Courts, as per details given in attached Statement-II.

(d) The three pronged strategy envisaged under the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel

and Training and the Central Vigilance Commission, i.e. Preventive Surveillance, detective and deterrent/punitive action is being followed by surprise checking of sites and offices and prompt investigation of complaints.

Statement-I

Cases wherein Action being taken against the Officers/Officials during the period W.E.F. 1990 onwards, for Corruption.

S.No.	Name of the officials and Designation	File No.	Charges in brief
1.	Shri Mahinder Singh, UDC	F.25(59)/91/Vig.	Bribery case. Charge sheet was issued for major penalty on 31.3.92.
2.	Shri S.C. Joshi, JE	F.25(17)93/Vig.	Bribery case. Major penalty charge sheet was issued on 8.2.96.

Statement-II

Names of Officials Facing Trial on Account of the Corruption Charges

1.	Shri Rameshwar Dayal, Mate	FIR No. 31/83 PS ACB	Pending trial in the Court.
2.	Shri Dharambir Singh, Mali	FIR No. 34/86 PS ACB	-do-
3.	Shri Sri Kishan Verma, Mate	FIR No. 30/86 PS ACB	-do-
4.	Shri D.K. Goel, AE	FIR No. 30/87 PS ACB	-do-
5.	Sh. Youginder Singh, Surveyor Shri Om Parkash, Khallasi	FIR No. 5/88 PS ACB	-do-
6.	Sh. Sheo Raj Singh, UDC	FIR No. 21/88 PS ACB	-do-
7.	Sh. Subhash Chand Chuhan, JE Sh. Kanti Kumar, Mate	RC 60 A/88 Dli CBI	-do-
8.	Sh. Om Prakash, Peon	FIR No. 27/90 PS ACB	-do-
9.	Sh. Lekh Raj Singh, UDC	FIR No. 9/86 PS ACB	-do-
10.	Sh. Dharambir Singh, JE	FIR No. 10/90 PS ACB	-do-
11.	Sh. Har Swroop Verma, JE Sh. Ashok Kr. Gupta, JE	FIR No. 13/91 PS ACB	-do-
12.	Sh. Vijay Bahadur Singh, JE	FIR No. 23/91 PS ACB	-do-
13.	Sh. Raj Kumar Malhotra, JE	FIR No. 29/91 PS ACB	-do-
14.	Sh. S.C. Joshi, JE	RC 68 (A)/91 DLI	-do-
15.	Sh. Inder Dutt, Patwari	RC 70 (A)/91 DLI	-do-
16.	Sh. Sukh Dev Raj Marhna, Asstt.	FIR No. 5/92 PS ACB	-do-
17.	Sh. Kishore Kr., Kanungo Sh. R.K. Nagpal, UDC Sh. Jagpal Singh, Petwari	RC 50 (A)/92 DLI	-do-
18.	Sh. Narender Parasad, JE	FIR No. 2/93 PS ACB	Pending Investigation with ACB
19.	Sh. Vijay Singh, Supdt. RC Sh. Santosh Kr., Mali	FIR No. 19/93 PS ACB	-do-
20.	Sh. S.K. Gupta, JE RC	RC34 (A)/93 DLI	Pending trial in the Court
21.	Sh. Kartar Singh, Asstt. Collector Sh. J.C. Verma, Kanungo	RC 52 (A)/93 DLI	-do-
22.	Sh. Sri Niwas, Kanungo	RC 56 (A)/93 DLI	-do-

23.	Sh. Om Parkash, P.O. Sh. Raj Singh Mate W/C	FIR No. 56/93 PS ACB	Pending investigation with ACB.
24.	Sh. Mohd. Abbas, JE	RC50(A)/94 DLI	Pending trial in the Court.
25.	Sh. Sanjœev Kr. Gupta, JE	RC 65(A)94 DLI	Case is pending trial in the Court.
26.	Sh. P.K. Sharma, JE Sh. K.C. Verma, JE	RC 68(A)94 DLI	-do-
27.	Sh. Om Kanwar Sharma, AFI	FIR No. 43/94 PS ACB	-do-
28.	Sh. Harinder Pal, AE Sh. Rajinder Kr., JE	FIR No. 49/94 PS ACB	Case is pending for investigation.
29.	Sh. R.C. Keshwani, AE	FIR No. 1/95 PS ACB	-do-
30.	Sh. Panna Lal Garg, JE	FIR No. 35/95 PS ACB	-do-
31.	Sh. N.S. Rawal, Asstt. Collector	RC 94(A) 95 DLI	Pending trial in the Court.
32.	Sh. J.R. Gupta, AO	RC104(A)/95 - DLI	-do-
33.	Sh. Prem Sagar Rai, JE Sh. Prem Narain, Beldas	FIR No. 11/96 PS ACB	-do-
34.	Shri G.S. Parwani, JE Sh. Ashish Kr. Malik, Mate	FIR 13/96 PS ACB	Pending investigation with ACB.
35.	Sh. Baldev Raj, JE Sh. S.K. Katria, JE	RC 53(A)/96 DLI	Pending trial in the Court.
36.	Sh. Bhajan Lal Goel, JE	FIR No. 33/91 PS ACB	-do-
37.	Sh. S.C. Gautam, JE	FIR No. 13/90 PS ACB	-do-
38.	Sh. Mahipal Singh, Steno	FIR No. 27/88 PS ACB	-do-
39.	Sh. Kailash Chand, UDC	FIR No. 10/85 PS ACB	-do-
40.	Sh. Mukesh Kr. Patwari	RC 82(A) 96/DLI	Case is pending investigation with CBI.
41.	Sh. Kiran Pal, Security Guard	RC 2(A) 97 DLI	-do-
42.	Sh. S.C. Verma, AE	RC 18(A) 97 DLI	-do-
43.	Sh. Karan Vir Singh, JE	RC 51(A) 97 DLI	-do-
44.	Sh. Anna Wankhade, UDC	RC 55 (A)/97 DLI	-do-
45.	Sh. K.N. Pujari	FIR No. 32/93	Pending trial in the Court
46.	Sh. K.S. Verma, JE	RC 23(A) 93/DLI Disproportionate Assets	-do-
47.	Sh. S.C. Garg, AE	FIR No. 42/94 PS ACB Disproportionate Assets.	Pending investigation.
48.	Sh. Baldev Raj, JE	RC 63(A) 96 DLI Disproportionate Assets	Pending investigation with CBI.
49.	Sh. K.K. Katria, JE	RC 60 (A) 97 DLI	-do-
50.	Sh. Abhilash Singh, Mate	RC 64 (A) 96 DLI	-do-
51.	Sh. V.K. Jain, JE	RC 25 (A) 96 DLI	-do-
52.	Sh. Nathu Singh, E.E.	FIR No. 427 dt. 19.10.93 reg. bogus payment relating to the work of premixing of 30.5 m and 18 mts. road in Pkt. A and B Sec. Sector 17 Rohini.	
53.	Sh. P.K. Nagpal, AE (C)	-do-	
54.	Sh. M.K. Gupta, JE (C)	-do-	
55.	Sh. Narender Kumar, AAO	-do-	
56.	Sh. Karan Singh, LDC	-do-	
57.	Sh. Ved Pal Singh, UDC	FIR No. 14/82 Appeal filed by him is pending.	
58.	Sh. Churamani, Asstt.	RC 46 (A)/90 DLI	-do-

[English]

Post Retirement Dues

3371. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received regarding non-payment of statutory post-retirement dues to the employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its and present status; and

(c) the reasons for not making the payment and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to cash losses many of the public sector undertakings are not in a position to pay the statutory post retirement dues to the employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings. The position of non payment of wages and other statutory dues by CPSUs was reviewed by a Group of Ministers (GOM) comprising of Minister of Finance, Industry, Textiles and Labour on 5.12.96. The Group of Ministers decided that the consolidated position indicating the past and current liabilities of major CPSUs may be placed before the Cabinet.

In accordance with the above decision, a Note on Non-payment of statutory dues to the employees of CPSUs was considered by the Cabinet on 19.7.97. The Cabinet decided to set up a sub Committee comprising Minister of Agriculture (as chairman) of the Committee, Minister of Finance and Minister of State for Labour as member to further consider the issue.

[Translation]

Funds for Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate College

3372. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Uttar Pradesh Government seeking assistance from France under the Indo-French Assistance Protocol for Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate College, Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Two proposals from Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences,

Lucknow for obtaining assistance under Indo French Protocol have been received. A proposal for supply of equipment and procurement of one Gama Camera with accessories valued at French Francs 3.56 million for treatment of cancer has been recommended to the Department of Economic Affairs on 16-7-1997 for posing to the French authorities. The project has been included in the Indo-French Protocol, 1996 signed on 19-12-1996. The second proposal for upgradation and establishment of Medical facilities at a cost of French Francs 72 million has not been finalized for want of clarifications from State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute.

Dealing of Government Officials with MPs and Legislature

3373. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the directives/instructions issued inconnection with dealing of the Government officials with the MPs and Legislatures;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to seek the opinion of the elected representatives also on the issue; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Indian Territory Occupied by Nepal

3374. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Nepal has occupied Indian territory near Balmikinagar (Bihar) on Indo-Nepal borders;

(b) if so, the acre of Indian territory occupied by Nepal and the circumstances under which and the date on which Nepal occupied the Indian territory;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to recover the land under Nepal occupation;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by when the Government propose to recover the land under Nepal occupation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (e) The issue of encroachment of Indian territory by Nepal in the Susta-Narsahi along the banks of the river Gandak near Balmikinagar of West Champaran district of Bihar near the Indo-Nepal border has been taken up with the Nepalese authorities.

The boundary in this area was originally demarcated in 1902. However, the encroachment problem has continued as a result of shifting of the Gandak river channels. Boundary identification work is currently being jointly undertaken under the guidance of the Joint Technical Level India Nepal Boundary Committee set up in 1981. A programme for joint identification of the boundary in the segment near Balmikinagar was drawn up by the 18th India Nepal Joint Technical Committee meeting. Photogrammitc survey work is likely to be completed during the next field season i.e. December 1997- June 1998. The precise extent of encroachment is also proposed to be determined during the survey.

[English]

Treatment for T.B. Patients

3375. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :
SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times dated July 8, 1997 under caption "Hospital's austerity measures costs tuberculosis patients dear";

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the Rajan Babu Tuberculosis Hospital, Delhi has stopped the second-line treatment to the T.B. patients whereas such cases are on the rise in the city;

(c) if so, the reasons for stopping the treatment; and

(d) the steps being taken or propose to be taken by the Government for resumption of the treatment to the T.B. patients generally belongs to the poor sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rajan Babu Tuberculosis Hospital is a referral Hospital with only indoor facility. Both first line and second line treatment to the T.B. patients who are admitted in the hospital are being given.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Computerisation of Administration

3376. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken series of measures for computerisation of administration both at Centre and States;

(b) if so, details of the programme launched and arrangement made for imparting training to Government personnel and the progress made in this regard as per latest review;

(c) the details of action plan worked out/proposed for total computerisation of Government administration during the Ninth Plan period and phasing thereof;

(d) whether the computers supplied to various offices and Government organisations are scarcely used; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure optimum use of computer network through trained personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had launched National Informatics Centre (NIC) Programme to bring in computer culture amongst various Government departments with a view to improve administrative efficiency. NIC has developed a large number of Data Bases and Information Systems for computerisation of administration both at Central and State level. For information exchange at different levels in the Government across the country, NIC has established a nation-wide computer-communication network, called NICNET, having more than 1000 satellite based nodes. NIC conducts a large number of training programmes for the officials of the Central Government, State Governments and District administrations through its Centre located at these levels.

(c) NICNET has been operational for 10 years now and requires major expansion due to growing demand of services in the country. NIC has proposed to upgrade the existing NICNET infrastructure to cater to this demand and extent it below District level in Ninth Plan.

(d) No, Sir. Computers supplied to various officers and Government organisations are being used extensively. Many of these systems are used 10-12 hours a day. Computers have become an integral part of a large number of Government offices. The existing infrastructure needs to be upgraded to meet the growing demand.

(e) NIC has launched a number of new services like E-mail, Internet, EDI and FTP. A large number of Government and Public Sector organisations have started using these services, apart from the data tariff of regular Central Government, State Governments and district administration applications.

These activities put together have generated very high tariff requiring major expansion of NICNET infrastructure. This has been possible through extensive and intensive training provided by NIC.

Corruption Cases

3377. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of corruption dishonesty and assets disproportionate to the income of civil servants investigated by the Vigilance Department of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare 1995-96;

(b) the number of officers (Gradewise) involved in the above cases;

(c) the number of complaints received for corruption and dishonesty in 1995-96 and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Vigilance initiate action suo moto against the staff suspected to be dishonest and corrupt;

(e) whether the Ministry have made any review of the functioning of powers of the vigilance section under their control; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) As per Vigilance Manual, as a general rule investigation of cases of corruption etc. are to be entrusted to Central Bureau of Investigations for investigation.

(c) During the year 1995-96, 56 complaints were received against Group 'A' officers. During this period 17 Group 'A' officers were charge-sheeted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) A review of the functioning of the Vigilance set-up is taken up periodically so that the disposal of the cases is monitored effectively. The powers are examined under authority of the disciplinary authority.

LAHDC Act No. 1

3378. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) Act No. 1 of 1995 is likely to expire/lapse on September 3, 1997;

(b) whether the LAHDC functionaries have asked the Union and the State Governments several times to effect certain changes/amendments in the Act to make its functionings more effective; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) In terms of Article 357 (2) of Constitution of India as applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, any law made in exercise of power of Legislature of State of Jammu and Kashmir by the Parliament or the President, ceases to have effect on the expiry of period of one year after the proclamation under Article 356 has ceased to operate, unless it is ratified by the State Legislature. Since the President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir was revoked on 9/10/96, the LAHDC Act, 1995 will cease to be operative from 9/10/97, unless ratified by the State Legislature.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) In order to extend the LAHDC Act, 1995, necessary legislation will be introduced in the ensuing session of Jammu and Kashmir Legislature, scheduled to be held in August, 1997. The amendments proposed by the Council are separately being considered by the State Government.

Poverty Alleviation

3379. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world's two most populous countries, China and India, have striven to reduce poverty while the results are remarkable for China and they are mixed for India;

(b) if so, the reasons for successful achievement of removing poverty in China but not in India; and

(c) the extent to which India is lacking behind China in removing poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (c) The percentage of people below the poverty line in India is estimated to decline from 54.88 per cent in 1973-74 to 44.48 per cent in 1983 and then further to 35.97 per cent in 1993-94. These estimates are derived from a poverty criterion based on a minimum level of consumption expenditure which enables people to meet the stipulated calorie norm of 2400 calories per capita per day in rural areas and 2100 calories per capita per day in urban areas out of their food consumption, and certain amount of non-food expenditure like clothing, housing, education, transport etc. Chinese estimates of poverty are generally income based and hence are not comparable to the Indian estimates.

Conditions for Life Saving Drug

3380. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to relax the conditions for life saving drugs for cancer and AIDS in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Customs Duty Execution certificates are issued for life saving drugs only to individual patients recommended by the treating physicians. The Drugs Controller (India) in consultation with experts gives maximum priority on registration of new anti-cancer and new anti-AIDS drugs and such applications are cleared in minimum time for approvals under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder.

[Translation]

Electronics and Information Technology Industry

3381. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electronics and information technology industry is likely to be accorded the status of infrastructural industry;

(b) whether the working group of the Ninth Five Year Plan has given its recommendations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Working Group on Electronics Industry set up for IX Plan by the Planning Commission has, inter-alia, recommended that the Electronics and Information Technology industry should be classified as a basic growth 'infrastructure' industry.

(d) Action on the recommendation of the Working Group has been initiated.

Funds for Development of Hilly Areas

3382. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have decided to provide funds to nine hilly districts (Uttanchal) of Uttar Pradesh at par with Himachal Pradesh for the development of hilly area;

(b) whether Planning Commission has allocated the funds at par with Himachal Pradesh for the development of Uttanchal during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount allocated for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (d) Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for this purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in this regard through the modified Gadgil formula for distribution of Central Assistance and Special Area Programmes. The Hill districts of Uttar Pradesh receive Special Central Assistance under Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) while Himachal Pradesh is a Special Category state and is given suitable weightage in the distribution of Central Assistance. The finalisation of sectoral strategies and allocation for the Ninth Five Year Plan is currently underway in Planning Commission. However, efforts have been made in past to increase the assistance for hill areas of Uttar Pradesh on the basis of requests received from State Government and other quarters. An additional amount of Rs. 7.93 crore as Special Central Assistance has been made available to Uttar Pradesh for hill regions for each year from 1994-95 to 1996-97. Further, during 1995-96, additional assistance of Rs. 10 crore was made available for irrigation facilities in the hill areas of U.P. and an amount of Rs. 5 crore was made available for improvement of Rishikesh-Badrinath road.

Uranium Mining

3383. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the problem of radio-activity arisen due to uranium mining in Jaduguda of eastern Singhbhum district of Bihar;

(b) whether the local residents/tribals are being affected by eye disease, handicappedness of children and cancer as a result thereof;

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

(d) whether the norms laid down for radio activity in the said mining work are being followed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The standards of safety in the mining and milling of uranium in Jaduguda

are specified by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) which also monitors and regulates its implementation. The radiation and environmental monitoring programmes reviewed by AERB and its safety committees has clearly shown that the safety of workers, the public and the environment is adequately ensured at the uranium mine and mills from the point of view of radiation and environment factors. In view of this, any incidence of eye diseases, handicap to children and cancer in the area cannot be attributed to mining activities of Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL).

(d) The standards of permissible radioactive releases prescribed by AERB are complied with by UCIL which operates the mines and mills.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Titanium Industry

3384. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government for permitting foreign companies to enter into the Titanium Industry and also in the field of ilmenite mining in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision 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 PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) There is no specific proposal with the Government for permitting foreign companies to enter into the titanium industry and in the field of ilmenite mining in Kerala.

Renovation of Offices/Residences of Ministers

3385. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any ceiling on expenditure for renovation, addition and alteration of Government bungalows;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on renovation, addition and alteration of office and residence of each Minister during the last five year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Annual monetary ceiling type-wise of the quarters/flats is given below :-

Type of Qtr./flats	Monetary ceiling (Rs.)
C-I, C-II	21000
VII, VIII	31500

(ii) Monetary ceiling in Government residences during the tenure of Ministers/MPs/Judges is as under :-

Category	Monetary ceiling (Rs.)
Ministers	100000
Judges	50000
M.Ps	30000

(c) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Tea Workers

3386. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of pathetic conditions of labourers of sick and abandoned tea gardens in Assam; and

(b) if so, the specific measures being taken to rehabilitate such labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Arms Supply

3387. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia has assured India that it will not sell arms to Pakistan;

(b) whether this guarantee is based on the fact that India is a major customer of Russian arms;

(c) whether Russia is unhappy for the delay on part of India in taking a decision on Russian offer of modern tanks;

(d) whether the absence of Indian orders may compel Russia to supply vital components to Ukraine which may supply the same to Islamabad in a tank deal; and

(e) the Government's reaction to the Russian offer of tanks?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Such offers are received from time to time and duly considered on their merits.

[Translation]

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

3388. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made arrangement for the pilgrims going to Kailash Mansarovar this year;

(b) the facilities made available alongwith the number of pilgrims visiting each place;

(c) the arrangements made for the safety of life and property of the pilgrims during the pilgrimage; and

(d) whether full safety arrangement have been made to counter the rain and storm as it occurred last year?

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

(b) to (d) The facilities provided by the Government include transportation; accommodation; medical assistance; security and escort cover; wireless communication links between Delhi and places enroute on the Indian side as also with China; aerial evacuation of pilgrims in case of emergencies; and; related publicity and other infrastructure of logistics.

In 1996, 435 pilgrims in 14 batches undertook the Yatra. As of 5 August, 1997, 340 pilgrims have proceeded on the Yatra in 10 batches. Another four batches are expected to go before the Yatra concludes in September, 1997.

The Government is taking every possible measure in cooperation with concerned Central and State police and other authorities to ensure the safety of life and property of the pilgrims, including in cases of natural disasters or in life-threatening situations.

[English]

Top Posts in Government

3389. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes appointed to the posts of Directors, Joint Secretaries, Additional Secretaries and Secretaries in the Government during the last three years;

(b) whether any steps have been taken in pursuance of provisions of Article 16(4) (c) of the Constitution to fill up top-most posts under the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) During the three year period from August 94 to July 97, 45 posts of Directors, 29 posts of Joint Secretaries, 9 posts of Additional Secretaries and 5 posts of Secretaries/equivalent posts were filled by appointing officers belonging to SC/ST categories.

(b) to (d) While adjudging the suitability of officers for placement/appointment to senior posts, effort is made to ensure representation of SCs/STs to the extent possible.

Promotion Rules

3390. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry had issued a letter regarding the promotion of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to State Governments including Orissa;

(b) whether the Ministry had revised the letter after recent amendment to the Constitution relating to reservation in promotion under Article 16(4) and subsequent the Supreme Court Judgement on the same line; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the State Governments including Orissa to implement the same while considering the promotions in State Service cadre officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) It was clarified to all Ministries/Departments of the Government vide instructions issued in August, 1993 that according to the directions of the Supreme Court in Indra Sawhney's case, the reservation for SCs/STs in the matter of promotion, would continue for five years from the date of the judgement i.e. upto 15.11.1997. A copy of these instructions was also forwarded to the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments for information and appropriate action. No revision has been made in these instructions.

(c) The subject of reservation in the services under the State Governments is the exclusive concern of the concerned State Governments.

[Translation]

Amarnath Pilgrims

3391. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons missing during Amarnath Yatra in the year 1996-97;

(b) the efforts being made by the Union Government to trace out these missing pilgrims;

(c) whether the Union Government have provided any assistance to the families of those who found missing during the Amarnath Yatra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Dr. Nitish K. Sengupta, in his report submitted to the Government on 2.12.1996, has mentioned about the number of persons who had lost their lives during the Amarnath Yatra in August, 1996 as 243. Of the 243 persons reported dead, 174 were identified. The remaining unidentified bodies were cremated at different places after being photographed. In the Sengupta report details of two missing persons during the Amarnath Yatra in August, 1996 have been mentioned.

The photographs of all unidentified cremated bodies were subsequently sent to all the State Governments and were displayed through Doordarshan and National and Regional Newspapers to enable the family members to identify them. As a result, another 17 bodies have since been identified including one of the missing persons mentioned in the report.

(c) to (e) The ex-gratia relief of Rs. 2 lakhs which is being provided in the ratio of 3:1 from Prime Minister's Relief Fund and the Government of Jammu & Kashmir is being disbursed to next of kin of identified deceased pilgrims. Relief is given to the families of only those pilgrims whose death during the yatra have been established by the concerned State Government.

[English]

Amarnath Yatra

3392. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware about the disturbance created by the terrorists during Amarnath Yatra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for the safety of the pilgrims of Amarnath?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Government have no information about any disturbance created by the terrorists during Amarnath Yatra this year. Yatra has been peaceful. The State Government have reported that every precaution is being taken to ensure safety and security of the Yatris right from Jammu to the Holy Cave and that pickets manned by security forces and J&K Police have been established all along the highway to ensure incident free Yatra.

Infrastructure Facilities

3393. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large percentage of urban population in India has not any access to sanitation and health services;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for Ninth Five Year Plan to provide sanitation and health services to all in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) In so far as sanitation is concerned, based on the information received from the State Governments, it has been assessed that about 50% of urban population in India does not have access to sanitation facilities. Sanitation being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to provide sanitation facilities to the urban areas. However, Union Government endeavours to supplement the efforts of the State Governments through the Centrally sponsored scheme of Urban Low Cost Sanitation for Liberation of Scavengers which has the main objective of converting the existing dry latrines into low cost pour flush latrines and constructing new units where none exist. Under the programme so far 761 schemes covering 1156 towns at a total project cost of Rs. 1062.64 crores have been sanctioned, for conversion/construction of 33,78,879 units.

Regarding health services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has stated that the family welfare services

are being provided through a network of the following institutions in the country :-

- | | |
|--|------|
| i) District level Post Partum Centres | 550 |
| ii) Sub-district level Post Partum Centres | 1012 |
| iii) Urban Family Welfare Centres | 1083 |
| iv) Health Posts | 871 |

Apart from the above, implementation of health programmes is being carried out through resources allocated to the State Governments directly by the Planning Commission. Central Government has also launched the following major National Health Programmes to augment the work being done by the States :-

- (1) National Malaria Eradication Programme.
- (2) National Leprosy Eradication Programme.
- (3) National Tuberculosis Control Programme.
- (4) National Programme for Control of Blindness.
- (5) National AIDS Control Programme.
- (6) National Family Welfare Programme.

(c) and (d) The outlays and targets for the Ninth Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra

3394. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Journey to Mansarovar Kailash from Uttar Pradesh is difficult;

(b) whether the travellers will not have to walk if the journey starts from Laddakh;

(c) if so, the reason for which journey to Mansarovar Kailash is undertaken via Uttar Pradesh instead of Laddakh;

(d) whether the Government propose to arrange the journey through Laddakh for the convenience of the travellers in future;

(e) if so, by when and the scheme and policy of the Government in this regard; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, including the parikramas of Kailash and Mansarovar involves journey by foot or on horseback across mountainous terrain.

(b) Any route used for the Yatra and parikrama will involve journey by foot or on horseback due to the mountainous terrain and the nature of the Yatra.

(c) In terms of the bilateral agreement between India and China in 1981, the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra is conducted through the Lipulekh Pass in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) to (f) Government has taken up the issue of opening additional routes for conducting the pilgrimage, including through Ladakh. These proposals are under discussion with the Chinese Government.

Slum Areas in Chandigarh

3395. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are large slum areas in Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details of total population in slum areas and number of Jhuggies therein;

(c) whether the basic facilities like water, electricity, schools, dispensary etc. have been provided in these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to provide the basic facilities to Jhuggis dwellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) As per the statement enclosed.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

1. Colony No. 4, Industrial Area Phase-I.
2. Janat Colony, Sector-25.
3. Kumhar Colony, Sector-25.
4. Madrasi Colony, Sector-26.
5. Gwala Colony, Near Railway Bridge.
6. Randhawa Colony, Near Railway Crossing.
7. Labour Colony, Sector-31C.
8. Labour Colony, Sector-53, near Village Kajheri.
9. Labour Colony, near village Karsan, Phase-II.
10. Labour Colony, village Palsora.
11. Kuldip Colony, Sector-52.
12. Adarsh Colony, Sector-54.
13. Sukhnagar Colony, Sector-52.
14. Pandit Colony, Sector-52.

Water supply, by the way of drinking water taps has been made in various colonies. The further steps proposed to be taken are :-

- i) Tubewells are to be installed in various colonies.
- ii) Underground reservoirs are proposed to be constructed.
- iii) Sewer line in place of open system is being laid in various colonies.

- iv) Sulabh Sauchalayas are proposed to be constructed in Bapu Dham Colony and Colony No. 5.
- v) Roads in various colonies are being strengthened.

According to the information furnished by TCPO the estimated slum population of Chandigarh was 1.612 lakhs in 1991.

Vigilance Cases

3396. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of vigilance cases are pending for more than five years against officers of his Ministry;

(b) if so, the category-wise breakup thereof;

(c) whether in most cases the officers belonging to SC/ST have been falsely implicated by their colleagues and senior officer so that they are denied promotions and foreign posting; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to mitigate the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total number of vigilance cases on-going for over five years are very few. Cases, as they come up, are not considered on the basis of categories, but on the nature and gravity of the charges.

(c) and (d) Vigilance cases are instituted on the basis of specific prima facie charges against an errant officer, in consultation with the appropriate authorities. There is no question of any category being a factor in the institution of vigilance cases. The aim of vigilance in this Ministry is to take as speedy and constructive decisions as possible, generally with the aim of reform and rehabilitation. To fulfill this aim, all efforts are made to adopt a sympathetic view so that issues are resolved with a sense of justice and fair play towards all concerned.

Smoking Trends

3397. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any country-wide survey of smoking of cigarettes/bidts trends has been carried out;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the results thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to discourage smoking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The National Sample Survey Organisation included questions on tobacco during the 43rd Round of survey on Consumer Expenditure in 1987-88. Based on this survey, it is estimated that approximately 19.4 crore men and 4.5 women above 15 years of age consume tobacco in some form or the other in India. This was only a one time survey and hence no trend analysis is possible. However, indirect estimation suggests that there has been an increase in the tobacco use in India during the last 8 to 10 years.

(c) Under administrative instructions, tobacco smoking is prohibited in Hospitals, dispensaries and other health care establishments, educational institutions, Conference Rooms, Domestic air flights, air-conditioned chair cars and airconditioned sleeper coaches in trains, sub-urban trains and air-conditioned buses under the control of Government of India. Smoking has also been prohibited in public places and public conveyances in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. In addition the following measures have been taken to discourage consumption of Tobacco :

(i) As per the Cigarettes (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act., 1975 it is mandatory to display health warning on all cartons/packets of cigarettes.

(ii) Under the Prvention of Food Adulteration Rules 1955 a warning 'Chewing' of tobacco is injurious to health is mandatory.

(iii) Direct advertisements relating to tobacco or tobacco related products are prohibited on Doordarshan.

(iv) Health Education.

[Translation]

Medical Colleges

3398. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :
SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani medical colleges in the country at present, separately, state-wise;

(b) the number of Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani medical colleges out of them being run by the Union Government and State Governments separately;

(c) the total financial assistance provided by the Union Government to these colleges during the last three years;

(d) whether the Union Government have received proposal/requests from the State Governments to set up such medical colleges in their respective States in public sector as well as in private sector;

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

(f) whether the Government have approved all proposals/requests;

(g) if so, the places where the medical colleges are likely to be set up during 1997-98 and during Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The number of recognised Allopathic medical colleges in the country, state-wise are given in Statement-I. The number of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha medical colleges furnished by Central Council of Indian Medicine is given in statement-II. The number of Homoeopathic medical colleges allowed by the Central Council of Homoeopathy for making admissions during 1997-98 are given in statement-V.

(b) The list of Allopathic Medical Colleges enclosed as statement-III. The colleges which are run by the Government are indicated therein. There are four medical colleges under the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare namely, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. The information relating to Ayurvedic, Unani and Homoeopathic Medical Colleges are being collected.

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

(d) and (e) The names of Trusts/Societies/State Government who have applied for permission under Section 10A of Indian Medical Council Act for setting of new medical colleges are given in the statement-IV. Information relating to Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani colleges is being obtained and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) and (h) As per the provisions of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993 and scheme framed thereunder the proposals received from Societies/Trusts/State Governments for opening of new Medical Colleges would be examined in consultation with Medical Council of India. Information relating to Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani Colleges is being obtained.

Statement-I

Number of Recognised Medical Colleges in the Country State Wise

Name of the State/UT	Name of recognised Allopathic Medical colleges
1. Andhra Pradesh	10
2. Assam	3
3. Bihar	8
4. Chandigarh	1
5. Delhi	4
6. Goa	1
7. Gujarat	6
8. Haryana	1
9. Himachal Pradesh	1
10. Jammu and Kashmir	2
11. Karnataka	19
12. Kerala	5
13. Madhya Pradesh	6
14. Maharashtra	27
15. Manipur	1
16. Orissa	3
17. Pondicherry	1
18. Punjab	5
19. Rajasthan	5
20. Tamil Nadu	13
21. Uttar Pradesh	9
22. West Bengal	7
Total :	138

Statement-II

Central Council of Indian Medicine Statewise List of ISM Colleges I.E. Ayurved, Unani, Siddha

	Ayurved	Unani	Siddha
Andhra Pradesh	4	2	
Assam	1	-	
Bihar	9	4	
Delhi	1	2	
Gujarat	9	1	
Haryana	4	-	
Jammu & Kashmir	-	2	
Himachal Pradesh	1	-	
Karnataka	8	2	
Kerala	4	-	
Madhya Pradesh	7	1	
Maharashtra	21	6	
Orissa	4	-	
Punjab	4	-	
Rajasthan	5	2	
Tamil Nadu	2	1	2
Uttar Pradesh	10	7	
West Bengal	1	1	
	95	31	2

Statement-III*List of Allopathic Medical Colleges recognised by M.C.I.*

S.No.	Name of the College/University/State	Year of Inception	Management
1	2	3	4
I. Andhra Pradesh			
1)	Andhra Pradesh University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada		
1.	Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam (A.P.)	1923	Government
2.	Rangaraya Medical College, Kakinada (A.P.)	1958	Government
3.	Guntur Medical College, Guntur (A.P.)	1946	Government
4.	Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada (A.P.)	1980	Government
5.	Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad (A.P.)	1946	Government
6.	Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad (A.P.)	1954	Government
7.	Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal (A.P.)	1959	Government
8.	Kurnool Medical College, Kurnool (A.P.)	1957	Government
9.	S.V. Medical College, Tirupati (A.P.)	1960	Government
10.	Deccan College of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad (A.P.)	1985	Trust
II. Assam			
2)	Guwahati University, Guwahati.		
11.	Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati (Assam)	1960	Government
3)	Assam University, Silchar Assam. (Previously affiliated to Guwahati University)		
12.	Silchar Medical College, Silchar (Assam)	1968	Government
4)	Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh.		
13.	Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh (Assam)	1947	Government
III. Bihar.			
5)	L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga.		
14.	Darbhanga Medical College, Laheriasarai (Bihar)	1946	Government
6)	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Bihar University, Muzaffarpur.		
15.	Sri Krishna Medical College, Muzaffarpur	1970	Government
7)	Patna University, Patna.		
16.	Patna Medical College, Patna.	1925	Government
8)	Ranchi University, Ranchi.		
17.	Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi.	1960	Government
18.	M.G.M. Medical College, Jamshedpur.	1961	Government
9)	Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur.		
19.	Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Bhagalpur	1971	Government
10)	Magadh University, Bodh Gaya.		
20.	A.N. Magadh Medical College, Gaya.	1970	Government
21.	Nalanda Medical College, Patna.	1970	Government

1	2	3	4
IV. Chandigarh.			
11)	Panjab University, Chandigarh.		
22.*	Medicai College, Chandigarh.	1991	Government
V. Delhi.			
23.	All India Instt. of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.	1956	Government
12)	Delhi University, Delhi.		
24.	Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi.	1916	Government
25.	Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi.	1958	Government
26.	University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi.	1971	University
VI. Goa.			
17)	Goa University.		
27.	Goa Medical College, Panaji	1963	Government
VII. Gujarat.			
14)	Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.		
28.	B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.	1946	Government
29.	Municipal Medical College, Ahmedabad.	1963	Municipal Corpn.
15)	M.S. University of Baroda, Baroda.		
30.	Medical College, Baroda.	1949	Government
16)	Saurashtra University, Rajkot.		
31.	M.P. Shah Medical College, Jamnagar.	1955	Government
17)	South Gujarat University, Surat.		
32.	Government Medical College, Surat.	1964	Government
18)	Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat.		
33.	Pramukhswami Medical College, Karamsad.	1987	Trust
VIII. Haryana.			
19)	Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak.		
34.	Pd. Bhagwat Dayal Sharma Postgraduate Instt. of Medical Sciences, Rohtak.	1960	Government
IX. Himachal Pradesh.			
20)	Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla.		
35.	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla.	1966	Government
X. Jammu and Kashmir.			
21)	Kashmir University, Srinagar.		
36.	Government Medical College, Srinagar.	1959	Government
22)	Jammu University, Jammu.		
37.	Government Medical College, Jammu.	1972	Government
XI. Karnataka.			
23)	Manipal Academy of Higher Education.		
38.	Kasturba Medical College, Manipal	1953	Trust
39.	Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore.	1955	Trust

Note : The College is provisionally recognised for 6(six) months only i.e. from 1.03.97 upto 31.08.97.

1	2	3	4
24)	Bangalore University, Bangalore.		
40.	Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore.	1955	Government
41.	St. John's Medical College, Bangalore.	1963	Society
42.	M.S. Ramaiah Medical College, Bangalore	1979	Trust
43.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Medical College, Bangalore.	1980	Trust
44.	Kempegowda Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bangalore.	1980	Society
45.	Siddhartha Medical College, Tumkur.	1988	Trust
46.	Sri Devraj Urs Medical College, Tamaka Kolar, Tamaka	1986	Trust
25)	Mysore University, Mysore.		
47.	Mysore Medical College, Mysore.	1924	Government
48.	J.S.S. Medical College, Mysore	1984	Trust
49.	Adichunchanagiri Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bellur.	1985	Trust
26)	Kuvempu University, Karnataka.		
50.	J.J.M. Medical College, Davangere (Karnataka)	1965	Trust
27)	Karnataka University, Dharwad.		
51.	Karnataka Instt. of Medical Sciences, Hubli.	1957	Government
52.	J.L.N. Medical College, Belgaum.	1963	Trust
53.	B.L.D.E.A.'s Sri B.M. Patil Med. College, Hospital & Research Centre, Bijapur.	1986	Trust
54.	Al-Ameen Medical College, Bijapur.	1984	Trust
28)	Gulbarga University, Gulbarga.		
55.	M.R. Medical College, Gulbarga.	1963	Trust
56.	Vijaynagara Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bellary.	1961	Government
XII.	Kerala.		
29)	Kerala University, Trivandrum.		
57.	Medical College, Trivandrum.	1951	Government
58.	T.D. Medical College, Alleppey (Allappuzha).	1963	Government
30)	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.		
59.	Medical College, Kottayam.	1960	Government
31)	Calicut University, Calicut.		
60.	Medical College, Calicut	1957	Government
61.	Medical College, Trichur.	1981	Government
XIII.	Madhya Pradesh.		
32)	Rani Durgawati Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur.		
62.	Medical College, Jabalpur.	1955	Government
33)	Jiwaji University, Gwalior.		
63.	G.R. Medical College, Gwalior.	1946	Government
34)	Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore.		
64.	M.G.M. Medical College, Indore.	1948	Government
35)	Barkatullah University, Bhopal.		
65.	Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal.	1955	Government

1	2	3	4
36)	A.P. Singh University, Rewa.		
66.	S.S. Medical College, Rewa.	1963	Government
37)	Ravishankar University, Raipur.		
67.	Pt. J.L.N. Medical College, Raipur.	1963	Government
XIV.	Maharashtra.		
38)	Bombay University, Bombay.		
68.	Grant Medical College, Bombay.	1845	Government
69.	Seth G.S. Medical College, Bombay.	1925	Brihan Mumbai Mahanagr
70.	T.N. Medical College, Bombay.	1964	--do--
71.	L.T.M. Medical College, Bombay.	1964	--do--
72.	Padmashree Dr. D.Y. Patil Medical College, New Bombay.	1989	Trust
73.	Mahatma Gandhi Mission's Medical College, New Bombay.	1989	Trust
39)	Poona University, Poona.		
74.	B.J. Medical College, Poona	1964	Government
75.	Armed Force Medical College, Pune	1962	Government (Ministry of Defence)
76.	Rural Medical College, Lonr	1984	Trust
77.	N.D.M.V.P. Samaj's Medical College, Nasik.	1990	Trust
40)	Bharti Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune.		
78.	Bharati Vidyapeeth's Medical College, Pune (Previously affiliated to Puna University)	1989	Trust
41)	North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon.		
79.	Sri Bhausahab Hire Government Medical College, Dhule. (Previously affiliated to Puna University)	1988	Government
42)	Shivaji University, Kolhapur.		
80.	Miraj Medical College, Miraj.	1962	Government
81.	Dr. V.M. Medical College, Solapur.	1963	Government
82.	Krishna Instt. of Medical Sciences, Karad.	1984	Trust
83.	D.Y. Patil Eduation Society's D.Y. Patil Medical College, Kolhapur.	1989	Society
43)	Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.		
84.	Government Medical College, Aurangabad.	1956	Government
85.	S.R.T.R. Medical College, Ambajogai.	1974	Government
86.	Mahatma Gandhi Mission's Medical College, Aurangabad.	1989	Pvt.
44)	Swami Ramanand Teerth University, Nanded.		
87.	Government Medical College, Nanded. (Previously affiliated to Dr. B.A.M. University, Aurangabad)	1988	Government
45)	Nagpur University, Nagpur.		
88.	Government Medical College, Nagpur.	1947	Government
89.	Indira Gandhi Medical College, Nagpur.	1968	Government
90.	Mahatma Gandhi Instt. of Medical Sciences, Sevargram, Wardha.	1969	Kasturba Health Society

1	2	3	4
91.	J.N. Medical College, Swangi, Wardha.	1990	Trust
92.	N.K.P. Salve Instt. of Medical Sciences, Nagpur.	1990	Society
46)	Amravati University, Amravati.		
93.	Dr. Panjabrao Jais Bhausaheb Deshmukh Memorial Medical College, Amrawati.	1984	Society
94.	Shri Vasant Rao Naik Government Medical College, Yavatmal.	1989	Government
XV.	Manipur.		
47)	Manipur University, Manipur.		
95.	Regional Instt. of Medical Sciences, Imphal.	1972	Society
XVI.	Orissa.		
48)	Utkal University, Bhubaneswar.		
96.	S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.	1944	Government
49)	Berhampur University, Berhampur.		
97.	M.K.C.B. Medical College, Berhampur.	1962	Government
50)	Sambalpur University, Sambalpur.		
98.	V.S.S. Medical College, Burla.	1959	Government
XVII.	Pondicherry.		
51)	Pondicherry University, Pondicherry.		
99.	Jawaharlal Instt of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research, Pondicherry.	1956	Government
XVIII.	Punjab.		
52)	Panjabi University, Patiala.		
100.	Government Medical College, Patiala.	1953	Government
101.	Guru Govind Singh Medical College, Faridkot.	1973	Government
53)	Panjab University, Chandigarh.		
102.	Christian Medical College, Ludhiana.	1953	Trust
103.	Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana.	1963	Society
54)	Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.		
104.	Government Medical College, Amritsar.	1943	Government
XIX.	Rajasthan.		
55)	Rajasthan University, Jaipur.		
105.	S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur	1947	Government
106.	S.P. Medical College, Bikaner.	1959	Government
107.	R.N.T. Medical College, Udaipur.	1961	Government
108.	Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur.	1965	Government
109.	J.L.N. Medical College, Ajmer.	1965	Government
XX.	Tamilnadu.		
56)	Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Madras (T.N.)		
110.	Chennai Medical College, Chennai.	1935	Government
111.	Stanley Medical College, Madras	1838	Government
112.	Kilpauk Medical College, Madras.	1960	Government
113.	Christian Medical College, Vellore.	1942	Trust

1	2	3	4
114.	Chengalpattu Medical College, Chengalpattu.	1965	Government
115.	Thanjavur Medical College, Thanjavur.	1959	Government
116.	Coimbatore Medical College, Coimbatore.	1966	Government
117.	Tirunelveli Medical College, Tirunelveli.	1965	Government
118.	Madurai Medical College, Madurai.	1954	Government
119.	Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College, Salem.	1986	Government
120.	P.S.G. Instt. of Medical Sciences, Combatore.	1985	Trust
57)	Shri Ramachandra Deemed University, Madras.		
121.	Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Instt., Porur, Madras. (Previously affiliated to Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Madras)	1985	Trust
58)	Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.		
122.	Raja Muthaian Medical College, Annamalainagar.	1985	Trust
XXI.	Uttar Pradesh.		
59)	Agra University, Agra.		
123.	S.N. Medical College, Agra.	1939	Government
60)	Allahabad University, Allahabad.		
124.	M.L.N. Medical College, Allahabad.	1961	Government
61)	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.		
125.	J.N. Medical College, Aligarh	1961	University
62)	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.		
126.	Instt. of Medical Sciences, B.H.U. Varanasi	1960	University
63)	Kanpur University, Kanpur.		
127.	G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur.	1955	Government
64)	Bundelkhand University, Jhansi.		
128.	M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi.	1968	Government
65)	Lucknow University, Lucknow.		
129.	K.G.'s Medical College, Lucknow.	1911	Government
66)	Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut.		
130.	L.L.R.M. Medical College, Meerut.	1966	Government
67)	Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur.		
131.	B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur.	1972	Government
XXII.	West Bengal.		
68)	Calcutta University, Calcutta.		
132.	Medical College, Calcutta.	1938	Government
133.	R.G. Kar Medical College, Calcutta.	1916	Government
134.	N.R.S. Medical College, Calcutta.	1948	Government
135.	Calcutta National Medical College, Calcutta.	1948	Government
136.	B.S. Medical College, Bankura.	1956	Government
69)	North Bengal University, Sushrutanagar.		
137.	North Bengal Medical College, Darjeeling (Siliguri)	1968	Government
70)	Burdwan University, Burdwan.		
138.	Burdwan Medical College, Burdwan.	1969	Government

Statement-IV

Request to starting new allopathic medical colleges received from Trusts/Societies/State Governments.

S.No.	Name of the applicant	State/U.T. in which the college is proposed to be started.
1	2	3
1.	President, Governing Council of Mennonite Brethern Church of India, Jadcheria, Mahboobnagar, A.P.	Medical College at Jadcheria, Andhra Pradesh.
2.	Mamta Education Society, Khamman, Andhra Pradesh	Medical College at Khamman, Andhra Pradesh.
3.	Chairman, Anantpur Medical College, Trust, Anantpur.	Medical College at Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh.
4.	Director, Arunachal Pradesh Relief and Welfare (Charitable) Society, Itanagar.	Medical College at Itanagar.
5.	Director Maharishi Shiksha Sansthan, Noida, U.P.	Medical College at Shimla.
6.	Secretary-cum-Commissioner Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.	Medical College at Tanda, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh.
7.	Secretary, Venkatesa Education Society, Bangalore.	Medical College at Bangalore, Karnataka.
8.	Secretary, Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara.	Medical College at Panvel Maharashtra.
9.	Secretary, Hyderabad (Sind), National Collegiate Board, Mumbai.	Medical College at Mumbai, Maharashtra.
10.	Secretary, Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variayar Sundara Swamigal Trust, Salem, Tamil Nadu.	Medical College at Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
11.	President, Manipal Pai Foundation, Manipal.	Medical College at Gangtok, Sikkim.
12.	President, Krishna Hira Nand Memorial Society, Jammy, Tawi.	Medical College at Jammu, Tawi.
13.	Director Principal, Punjab Institute of Medical Sciences, Jalandhar.	Medical College at Jalandhar, Punjab.
14.	Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.	Medical College at Trichy.
15.	Chairman, Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variayar Thiru Sundra Swamigal Trust, New Delhi.	Medical College at Sitapur, U.P.
16.	President, Subharti KKB Charitable Trust, Meerut.	Medical College at Meerut.
17.	Managar, All India Children Care and Education Development Society, Azamgarh.	Medical College at Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh.
18.	Secretary, Moradabad Charitable Trust and Health Research Centre.	Medical College at Moradabad, U.P.
19.	Secretary, Era Education Trust, Lucknow.	Medical College, Lucknow.
20.	Secretary, Sumita Health and Family Welfare Society, Lucknow.	Medical College at Lucknow.
21.	Secretary, Sri Guru Ram Dass Charitable Trust, Amritsar.	Medical College at Amritsar.

Statement-V**Number of Homoeopathic Medical Colleges in the Country State-wise List (recognised by Central Council of Homoeopathy)**

S.No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of Homoeopathic Medical Colleges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Chandigarh	1
5.	Delhi	1
6.	Goa	-
7.	Gujarat	7
8.	Haryana	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-
11.	Karnataka	9
12.	Kerala	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7
14.	Maharashtra	26
15.	Manipur	-
16.	Orissa	4
17.	Pondicherry	-
18.	Punjab	5
19.	Rajasthan	1
20.	Tamil Nadu	3
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10
22.	West Bengal	12
Total :		97

[English]

Chromite Mine Workers

3399. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Chromite mine workers in the State of Orissa;

(b) the details of Chromite mines, location-wise; and

(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government for the Welfare of Chromite mine workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Houses.

[Translation]

Criteria to Determine Poverty Line

3400. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the criteria for determining the poverty line has been revised recently,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated number and the percentage of the rural and urban people living below poverty line at present, State-Wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) and (b) The poverty line is defined as per the report of the Task Force on Projections of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand as monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. The same definition has been adopted by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

(c) The Planning Commission estimates the number and percentage of rural and urban people living below the poverty line in different states on the basis of quinquennial National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure. The latest estimates of state-wise poverty (percentage to number) are available for the year 1993-94 (NSS 50th round). The same is enclosed as Statement.

Statement**Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States-1993-94 (Modified Expert Group)**

S.No.	State	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.49	15.92	74.47	38.33	153.97	22.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.62	45.01	0.11	7.73	3.73	39.35
3.	Assam	94.33	45.01	2.03	7.73	96.36	40.85

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Bihar		450.86	58.21	42.49	34.50	493.35	54.96
5. Goa		0.38	5.34	1.53	27.03	1.91	14.92
6. Gujarat		62.16	22.18	43.02	27.89	105.19	24.21
7. Haryana		36.56	28.02	7.31	16.38	43.88	25.05
8. Himachal Pradesh		15.40	30.34	0.46	9.18	15.86	28.44
9. Jammu and Kashmir		19.05	30.34	1.86	8.16	20.92	25.17
10. Karnataka		95.99	29.88	60.40	40.14	156.46	33.16
11. Kerala		55.95	25.78	20.46	24.55	76.41	25.43
12. Madhya Pradesh		218.19	40.64	82.33	48.38	298.52	42.52
13. Maharashtra		193.33	37.93	111.90	35.15	305.22	36.86
14. Manipur		6.33	45.01	0.47	7.73	6.60	33.78
15. Meghalaya		7.09	45.01	0.29	7.73	7.38	37.92
16. Mizoram		1.64	45.01	0.30	7.73	1.94	25.66
17. Nagaland		4.85	45.01	0.20	7.73	5.05	37.92
18. Orissa		140.90	49.72	19.70	41.64	180.80	48.56
19. Punjab		17.76	11.95	7.35	11.35	25.11	11.77
20. Rajasthan		94.68	26.46	33.82	30.49	128.50	27.41
21. Sikkim		1.61	45.01	0.03	7.73	1.84	41.43
22. Tamil Nadu		121.70	32.48	80.40	39.77	202.10	35.03
23. Tripura		11.41	45.01	0.38	7.73	11.79	39.01
24. Uttar Pradesh		496.17	42.28	108.28	35.39	604.46	40.85
25. West Bengal		209.90	40.80	44.66	22.41	254.56	35.66
26. Andaman & Nicobar		0.73	32.48	0.33	39.77	1.06	34.47
27. Chandigarh		0.07	11.35	0.73	11.35	0.80	11.35
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		0.72	51.95	0.06	39.93	0.77	50.84
29. Daman & Diu		0.03	5.34	0.15	27.03	0.18	15.80
30. Delhi		0.19	1.90	15.32	16.03	15.51	14.69
31. Lakshadweep		0.06	25.76	0.08	24.55	0.14	25.04
32. Pondicherry		0.93	32.48	2.38	39.77	3.31	37.40
All India		2440.31	37.27	763.37	32.36	3203.68	35.97

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- Poverty Ratio of Himachal Pradesh is used for Jammu & Kashmir for 1993-94.

Children suffering from Cancer*[English]*

3401. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether one and a half lakh to two lakh children suffer from cancer in the country every year;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Data on cancer occurrence (including paediatric cancers) is not being routinely collected by all hospitals in India. The data on incidence of cancers is being collected by population based cancer registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of ICMR since 1982. Based on the data from Population Based Cancer Registries located at Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai and Delhi an estimated 30,000 children below the age of 15 years developed cancer in India during 1996.

The major paediatric cancers include leukemias, Wilm's tumors, retinoblastoma, brain cancer, lymphomas, etc. The exact aetiology of these cancers is not known. However, family history is important in retinoblastoma and leukemia. Down's syndrome and other chromosomal abnormalities, exposure to radiation are also important etiological factors for development of leukemias. AIDS and some other immuno-deficiency states have been found to increase the risk of Hodgkin's lymphoma. Epstein-Barr virus infection is considered to be a risk factor for development of Hodgkin's disease.

(c) In order to combat this problem, Government of India has launched the following scheme under National Cancer Control Programme :-

1. Augmentation of Regional Cancer Centres.
2. Development of Oncology Wings in the Medical Colleges.
3. Installation of Cobalt-60 teletherapy equipment.
4. District cancer control projects.

Polio Patients

3402. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of polio patients in each State at present;

(b) whether the number of polio patients have been increased in 1996-97 in comparison to the year 1995-96;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the allocation made for the eradication of polio during Ninth Five Year Plan and the amount released to each State for 1997-98 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The State-wise number of reported polio cases during 1995 and 1996 is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No separate budgetary allocations are made for eradication of polio. However, Expenditure Finance Committee proposed outlay for the 9th Plan period for the Reproductive and Child Health programme is Rs. 5112.53 crores includes allocation for eradication of polio. Fund allocation for 1997-98 would be on similar pattern as was released during 1996-97. The details of State-wise releases for Pulse Polio Immunization made out of the overall cash allocations for Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme for 1996-97 is at enclosed as Statement-II. An amount of Rs. 31.22 crores was allocated during 1996-97 to State/UTs for the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme.

**Statement-/
1995**

State	Polio												Cum
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
AP Andhra Pradesh	7	7	8	6	6	7	11	14	15	1	8	5	96
AS Assam	1	0	11	1	1	4	5	3	0	0	0	1	27
BI Bihar	0	28	4	29	48	150	120	49	35	46	43	3	555
GU Gujarat	10	16	7	0	1	10	7	20	16	8	9	5	109
HA Haryana#	10	3	3	5	5	7	10	21	20	9	22	5	126
HP Himachal Pradesh#0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
JK Jammu & Kashmir 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KA Karnataka#	2	1	1	9	1	2	4	13	7	3	3	2	48
KE Kerala#	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
MP Madhya Pradesh	5	3	0	1	5	16	5	14	13	13	8	3	86
MH Maharashtra#	18	17	13	17	13	10	41	52	30	37	33	13	294
MN Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	4	0	0	0	7
ME Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NA Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OR Orissa	1	0	0	6	5	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	17
PB Punjab#	7	2	5	2	8	6	3	4	1	4	5	2	49
RJ Rajasthan	5	6	3	5	5	5	3	6	6	8	5	9	66
SI Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TN Tamil Nadu#	20	18	25	14	34	20	12	11	40	29	8	7	238
TP Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UP Uttar Pradesh	42	20	25	34	63	79	101	273	60	64	33	35	829
WB West Bengal	23	36	1	13	38	22	25	31	63	1	10	15	278
AN Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AC Arunachal Pradesh#0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CH Chandigarh#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DN Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DL Delhi\$\$	8	11	9	17	12	12	40	99	116	62	41	12	439

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
GO Goa#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
LK Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MZ Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PD Pondicherry#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DD Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	159	168	115	115	159	248	351	392	612	428	285	228	118	3263

1996

Polio

State	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Cum
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
AP Andhra Pradesh	4	3	1	0	1	3	0	3	2	1	1	1	20
AS Assam	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	10
BI Bihar	44	0	9	0	6	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	62
GU Gujarat	2	0	1	1	0	2	1	2	4	2	1	4	20
HA Haryana#	2	4	1	1	2	3	6	7	10	4	2	5	47
HP Himachal Pradesh#1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
JK Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KA Karnataka#	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	7	4	2	9	34
KE Kerala#	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	8
MP Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	8
MH Maharashtra#	16	17	8	8	19	22	26	65	63	5	2	11	262
MN Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ME Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NA Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OR Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
PB Punjab#	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	2	2	14
RJ Rajasthan	1	1	3	3	1	2	2	8	6	2	1	0	30
SI Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TN Tamil Nadu#	4	7	8	9	14	12	11	10	6	3	7	4	95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
TR Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
UP Uttar Pradesh	3	12	3	4	3	5	17	26	36	4	12	10	135
WB West Bengal	15	11	21	4	18	9	10	6	0	3	0	0	97
AN Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AC Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CH Chandigarh #	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
DN Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DL Delhi\$\$	8	10	10	3	1	7	17	34	31	8	15	13	157
GO Goa#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LK Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MZ Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PD Pondicherry#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DD Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	104	65	70	36	66	68	102	171	169	43	48	63	1005

Statement-II

Funds allocated to States for Pulse Polio immunisation 1996-97

Name of the State/UT	Funds for Pol & Transport	Funds for IEC	
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	55.50	113.50	
2. Arunachal Pradesh	35.75	44.00	
3. Assam	57.25	79.00	
4. A&N Islands	5.50	11.00	
5. Bihar	111.50	172.00	
6. Chandigarh	4.00	8.00	
7. D&N Haveli	2.75	8.00	
8. Daman & Diu	5.50	11.00	
9. Gujarat	45.75	67.00	
10. Goa	4.00	11.00	
11. Himachal Pradesh	30.00	41.00	
12. Haryana	32.00	61.00	
13. Jammu & Kashmir	37.75	52.00	
14. Karnataka	45.75	70.00	
15. Kerala	31.50	52.00	
16. Lakshadweep	2.75	8.00	
17. Madhya Pradesh	103.25	145.00	
18. Maharashtra	75.50	100.00	
19. Meghalaya	16.25	26.00	
20. Manipur	22.00	29.00	
21. Mizoram	11.00	17.00	
22. Nagaland	19.25	26.00	
23. Orissa	69.50	100.00	
24. Punjab	34.00	61.00	
25. Rajasthan	71.75	103.00	
26. Sikkim	10.25	17.00	
27. Tamil Nadu	56.00	85.00	
28. Tripura	11.00	17.00	
29. Uttar Pradesh	172.25	214.00	
30. West Bengal	46.00	67.00	
31. Delhi	20.00	37.00	
32. Pondicheery	8.00	17.00	
India	1253.25	1869.50	

Poverty Rising in India

3403. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-report captioned "Poverty rising in India; W.Bank" appearing in the 'Tribune' dated April 4, 1997;

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

(c) whether the Government have failed to achieve the aim to eliminate poverty from the country;

(d) if so, the difficulties being faced by Government in this regard; and

(e) the further plans of the Government to eliminate the poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the newspaper, a World Bank study, entitled "Poverty Reduction and the World Bank - Progress and Challenges in the 1990s mentions that; (a) urban poverty has assumed massive proportions; (b) the Government is not doing enough to encourage the private sector to combat poverty; (c) further success in reducing poverty depends critically on the success of the on-going reforms; and (d) growth alone will not be sufficient to meet the needs of India's teeming millions.

(c) and (d) The percentage of people below the poverty line has reduced from 51.32 per cent in 1977-78 to 35.97 per cent in 1993-94.

(e) A number of programmes are being implemented to improve the quality of life and income of the poor. These include programmes for raising income and generating employment opportunities such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP). The Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan has adopted 7 per cent rate of economic growth which is likely to reduce the level of poverty significantly. Besides, it recognises the need for continuing direct state intervention for poverty alleviation and a re-designing of the self-employment and supplementary wage employment programmes in order to make them more effective instruments of poverty alleviation.

Slum Development Scheme

3404. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme for the development of slums has been formulated by the Government in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the cities in Uttar Pradesh where these has been implemented; and

(c) the stage at which the scheme stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Slum Development Programme was launched in August, 1996 at Kanpur to provide additional Central assistance to the States/UTs for Slum Development. During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 250 crores was allocated to the States/UTs for slum development. A sum of Rs. 330 crores has been provided under this programme for the current year i.e. 1997-98. It is for the State Governments to distribute the funds among the Urban Local Bodies according to their needs and priorities. Uttar Pradesh was allotted Rs. 31.28 crores in 1996-97 and has been allotted Rs. 40.11 crores during the current year under this programme. A copy of the guidelines formulated for the implementation of the programme is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sub. : *Centrally Assisted Slum Development Programme in the States/UTs - Guidelines.*

A provision of Rs. 250 crores for slum development programme in the States has been made by the Ministry of Finance in the budget for 1996-97 as an additionality to the normal Central Assistance to the States/UTs. The State-wise allocation of Rs. 250 crores has been worked out by the Planning Commission on the basis of the estimated slum population in 1991. The following guidelines have been suggested for the utilisation of this amount.

1. OBJECTIVES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAMME :

The objectives of this programme shall be provision of adequate and satisfactory water supply, sanitation, primary education facilities, health care, pre-primary, adult literacy and non-formal education facilities etc. The scheme will also have as an objective, provision of housing, community empowerment, garbage and solid waste management, as well as environmental improvement and convergence of different social sector programmes through creation of sustainable support systems. The focus may be on community infrastructure, provision of shelter, empowerment of urban poor women, training, skill upgradation and advocacy and involvement of MGOs, CBOs, private institutions and other bodies.

2. ROLE OF URBAN LOCAL BODIES :

In keeping with the spirit of 74th Amendment, the existence of elected urban local bodies will be mandatory before funds can be released to new urban area. The programme envisages the urban local body

as the nodal agency for the execution of this programme. Proposals for work to be undertaken under this programme must emanate from the CDSs in the form of a Community Plan, which will be forwarded by the ULB with appropriate comments to the DUDA for sanction. Execution of all works falling under the jurisdiction of the ULB may be done through the ULB as far as possible. The ULBs shall try to involve the CDSs in the execution, to the extent possible. As regards maintenance and repair of works carried out under this programme, the physical responsibility may be that of the CDSs concerned.

3. CONVERGENCE :

This programme may seek to ensure provision of certain identified basic minimum services, within each slum. The Programme may provide for facilities not provided elsewhere in the line department schemes, the absence of which makes effective implementation of these social sector schemes ineffective. In other words, missing links will be provided under this programme. However, this may be clearly subject to the proviso that, funds under convergence will be a source for supplementing line department efforts to achieve better delivery of social sector schemes and under no circumstances will these funds be used to substitute line department schemes or parts thereof.

4. The State Governments should bring in their own funds bearing some proportion to the funds given by the Centre.

5. MONITORING :

At the State level, the programme will regularly be monitored by the State Urban Development Authority (SUDA), which may issue necessary guidance as well as instructions to the District Urban Development Authorities (DUDAs) and ULBs. At the national level, the programme will be monitored by the Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation.

Employment Exchanges in Delhi

3405. SHRI KARIA MUNDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the officials of various Sub-regional Employment Exchanges in New Delhi fail to dispose-off the vacancies within the stipulated time of 15 days;

(b) if so, the details of all such vacancies pending with the concerned Sub-regional Employment Exchanges for more than 15 days; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to streamline the functioning of Employment Exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, action for sponsoring candidates against vacancies is done within the stipulated time.

- (c) (i) Instructions have been issued to Sub-Regional Employment Officers to make submission of names of eligible candidates on merit and seniority to the employers within ten days in case names of 500 candidates are to be sent, and within 15 days in case names of candidates to be sponsored are upto 1000, and within, in any case, one month in the case number of candidates to be sponsored are more than 1000.
- (ii) After the lists of candidates to be sponsored are ready at the Employment Exchange within seven days, the Sub-Regional Employment Officer will inform the employer on telephone to send his authorised representative to come and collect the list. In case authorised official of the employer does not come within two days then on 10th day of receipt of notification of vacancies, the Sub Regional Employment Officer would ensure that the lists of candidates are positively delivered to the employer.
- (iii) To further expedite the preparation of lists of eligible candidates on merit and seniority, the computerisation of Employment Exchanges has been undertaken. At Sub-Regional Employment Exchange (Technical), Pusa, N Delhi, data/record of as many as 60,000 (approximately) candidates have been computerised and a registrant is issued a Computerised Employment Identity Card X-10(b) at the time of registration.

Assistance for Cancer Control Programme

3406. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision to provide Central assistance to Non-Government Organisations and Medical Colleges under the District Cancer Control Programme;

(b) if so, the total number of Non-Government organisations and Medical Colleges who received financial assistance from the Union Government under the said programme during each of the last three years,

State-wise, indicating the amount of assistance provided so far;

(c) the criteria adopted for allocating assistance to such NGOs and Medical Colleges;

(d) whether the Union Government have denied the assistance to some of the NGOs in Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) There is no provision of Central Financial Assistance to NGOs and Medical Colleges under District Cancer Control Project.

(b) and (c) The question do not arise.

(d) and (e) The NGOs are not eligible for assistance under District Cancer Control Project.

[Translation]

Allotment of Government Accommodation

3407. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allotted Government accommodation to several persons in view of threat perception to their lives;

(b) if so, the details of such people till date;

(c) the criteria adopted for making such allotment;

(d) whether the Government have reviewed the criteria being adopted; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Government accommodation has been allotted to several persons in the past in view of threat perception to their lives on case to case basis with the approval of the competent authority. A list of such persons is given in enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) As per the guidelines approved by the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation (CCA) and issued vide Directorate of Estates O.M. dated 10.10.1996, allotment of General Pool accommodation not higher than Type-VI is made on security grounds only to those persons who are in Z+ category on payment of market/special rate of licence fee initially for a period of one year on specific recommendation of Ministry of Home Affairs. Accordingly, those allottees who are not eligible are being served with eviction notices.

Statement

S.No.	Name, Designation and Accommodation No. S/Shri
1.	H.K.L. Bhagat, Ex. M.P., CI/26, Pandara Park.
2.	K.P.S. Gill Ex. D.C. Punjab Police, 11, Talkatora Road.
3.	M.S. Bitta, President, Youth Congress, 14, Talkatora Road.
4.	Smt. Akbar Jahan Begum, Ex. M.P. CI/29, Pandara Park.
5.	Sibodh Kant Sahay, Ex-Minister, CI/2, Lodi Garden.
6.	G.C. Saxena, Ex-Governor (J and K), 68, Lodi Estate.
7.	Smt. Gurbachan Kaur, 16, Windsor Place.
8.	Bishma Narain Singh, Ex-Minister, CI/1, Pandara Park.
9.	K.K. Tewary, CI/24, Pandara Park.
10.	Gen. O.P. Malhotra (Retd.), CI/12, Lodi Garden.
11.	O.N. Srivastava, Governor (Nagaland), CII/19, Bapa Nagar.
12.	Mahant Sewa Das Singh, 21, Mahadev Road.
13.	S.S. Sharma, Former D.G. Doordarshan, 99, Kaka Nagar.
14.	Prof. Bhim Singh, President, J and K Panthers Party, 4, V.P. House.
15.	Smt. Amarjit Kaur, W/o Late Bhai Shaminder Singh, B-2, (MS), B.K.S. Marg.
16.	Shri Buta Singh, CI/6, Lodi Garden.
17.	Sajjan Kumar, 15, G.R.G. Road.
18.	Jagdish Tytler, 10, Lodi Estate.
19.	Smt. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, 35, Lodi Estate.

[English]

Violation of Master Plan

3408. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Open University Campus in Delhi is violating the bye laws of the Delhi Master Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total areas of the Campus in Delhi at present;

(d) the detail. of the area of the Campus which fall under the green belt of Delhi; and

(e) the action taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 100 acres.

(d) and (e) The change of land use from agriculture green belt to public and semi public (University) was notified by the Government on 31.7.89 for any area measuring 100 acres covering Indira Gandhi Open University Campus. This change of land use involves 60 acres of land to be preserved as green including existing plantations.

Survey by National AIDS Control Organisation

3409. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) has conducted a survey in 65 cities for high risk behaviour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the study has identified that street children, sex workers and tribals in the country are the main cause for spread of AIDS;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the report has been published for creating more awareness; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) It was planned to conduct high risk behaviour studies in 65 cities, having population of five lac or more including the capital cities of States/UTs.

However, studies have been initiated in 36 cities. Of these, study reports have been completed in respect of 21 cities.

(c) and (d) The study has been designed to find out pattern of high risk behaviours among female commercial sex workers, men having sex with men, trans-sexual, Hijras or Alis, injecting drug users, frequently travelling men, and slum dwellers. Street children were included in some cities. Tribals as such, however were not included in the study.

The main findings of the study are :

- The female sex workers are found to be brothel based home based, street based as also working on part-time basis. There were significant variations in physical conditions, freedom of mobility, to rates of payment, knowledge of HIV/AIDS, the ability to negotiate safer sex, and access to information and health services.

- Men who have sex with men have cultivated invisibility and are reluctant to share information. However, all appear to have multiple sex partners, most are married, have marked preference for younger men, and do not use condom regularly.
- Trans-sexual/hijras/alis live in tightly knit communities but outside the mainstream, have multiple sex partners, are reluctant to seek health care from recognised sources. They do not perceive themselves to be at risk of HIV/AIDS.
- The truck drivers often have multiple sex partners believing sex reduces heat caused by driving. A positive finding is they care about their health and are not any getting treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. Their knowledge about HIV/AIDS is higher than most others practising high risk behaviours.
- The injecting drug users are largely invisible and difficult to contact. However, it emerges that the problem is growing and it extends to all socio-economic state of society. The sharing of needles and syringes is more frequent among the poor and the less informed.

(e) and (f) The reports of these studies have not been published. However, the findings of these studies have been utilised for preparation of advocacy package

for policy makers, administrators and programme implementors.

In addition, the findings of these studies will be used in designing city specific intervention project.

Scheme for Employment in Gujarat

3410. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes being implemented for increasing the employment opportunities in Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) the amount allocated to Gujarat for this purpose during the said period; and

(c) the target fixed and achieved during the year 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (c) Government of India is implementing schemes such as Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana, Rural Employment Generation Scheme of Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PM's IUPEP), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) for generation of employment in the country including the Gujarat State. Details of plan outlay, physical targets and achievements under these schemes are given below :

Name of Scheme	1995-96			1996-97		
	Outlay (Rs. cr)	Phys. targets fixed (persons)	Actl. Achiet.	Outlay (Rs. cr)	Phys. targets fixed (persons)	Actl. Acht.
1. P.M.'s Rozgar Yojana	145.00	8500	10190	145.00	8500	5765
2. Rural Employment Generation Scheme by KVIC	130.00	-	-	130.00	-	-
3. Nehru Rozgar Yojana	131.92	4397	1777	-	-	1512
4. P.M.'s IUPEP	100.00	-	-	100.00	-	-
5. I.R.D.P.	30.59	-	-	30.59	-	47545*
6. J.R.Y.	147.54	-	-	63.76	109.14\$	105.20\$
7. Employment Assurance Scheme	87.12	-	-	73.12	-	122.98\$

* No. of families.

\$ Lakh mandays of employment.

AIDS Control Centres

3411. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of locations of sixty two surveillance centres and nine referral centres set up in the country for prevention and control of AIDS;

(b) whether the Government are aware that HIV positive patients are refused treatment in some Government hospitals; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that such patients are not neglected by the Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The list showing the details of locations of 62 surveillance centres and 9 reference centres set up in the country is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) Government of India had issued instructions to all Government hospitals that all HIV positive patients must be treated without any discrimination.

Statement*List of Surveillance Centres*

S.No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Name of Surveillance Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Deptt. of Microbiology, Omsan's College, Hyderabad. 2. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.V. Medical College, Tirupati. 3. Deptt. of Microbiology, Andhra Medical College, Vishakhapatnam. 4. Surveillance Centre, Instt. of Prev. Medicine, Hyderabad. 5. Surveillance Centre, Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Kalyani, Vishakhapatnam.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6. Surveillance Centre, Distt. Hospital, Itanagar.
3.	Assam	7. Deptt. Microbiology, Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati.
4.	Bihar	8. Rajendra Memorial Research Institute, Patna.
5.	Goa	9. Deptt. of Microbiology, Goa Medical College, Panaji.
6.	Gujarat	10. Deptt. of Microbiology, B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad.
7.	Haryana	11. Deptt. of Microbiology, Medical College, Rohtak.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12. Deptt. of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla.
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	13. Department of Immunopathology, Sher-e-kashmir Instt. of Medical Science, Srinagar. 14. Deptt. of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Jammu.
10.	Karnataka	15. Deptt. of Microbiology, Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore. 16. Deptt. of Microbiology, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal. 17. Surveillance Centre, National Institute of Mental and Neurosurgery, Bangalore.
11.	Kerala	18. Deptt. of Microbiology, Medical College, Trivandrum. 19. Surveillance Centre, Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Cochin.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20. Deptt. of Pathology, Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal. 21. Regional Medical Research Centre for Tribal Health, Jabalpur. 22. Choitram Hospital and Research Centre, Indore.
13.	Maharashtra	23. Deptt. of Microbiology, Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai. 24. Deptt. of Microbiology, J.J. Hospital, Mumbai. 25. Sion Hospital, Mumbai. 26. B.Y.N. Nair Hospital, Mumbai.

1	2	3
		27. Rajabari Hospital, Ghatkopar.
		28. Deptt. of Microbiology, B.J. Medical College, Pune.
		29. Deptt. of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Nagpur.
		30. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital, Kolhapur.
		31. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Chandrapur.
		32. Deptt. of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Miraj.
		33. Surveillance Centre, Indian Naval Ship Hospital, Ashwini, Mumbai.
		34. Deptt. of Microbiology, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune.
14.	Manipur	35. Surveillance Centre, J.N. Hospital, Imphal.
15.	Meghalaya	36. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital, Shillong.
16.	Mizoram	37. Surveillance Centre, Civil Hospital Aizwal.
17.	Nagaland	38. Surveillance Centre, Naga Hospital, Kohima.
		39. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Dimapur.
18.	Orissa	40. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.
		41. Surveillance Centre, Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubneshwar.
19.	Punjab	42. Deptt. of Microbiology, Government Medical College, Amritsar.
20.	Rajasthan	43. Deptt. of Microbiology, S.M.S. Hospital, Jaipur.
21.	Sikkim	44. Surveillance Centre, S.T.N.M. Hospital, Gangtok.
22.	Tamil Nadu	45. Deptt. of Microbiology, Instt. of Child Health and Hospital for Children, Madras.
		46. Deptt. of Microbiology, Madurai Medical College, Madurai.
		47. Surveillance Centre, Medical College, Chennai.
23.	Tripura	48. Surveillance Centre, District Hospital, Agartala.
24.	Uttar Pradesh	49. Deptt. of Microbiology, K.G. Medical College, Lucknow.
		50. Surveillance Centre, Central JALMA Instt. for Leprosy, Agra.
		51. Deptt. of Microbiology, Instt. of Medical Science, Varanasi.
		52. Deptt. of Microbiology, J.L.N. Medical College, Aligarh.
		53. Surveillance Centre, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad.
25.	West Bengal	54. Surveillance Centre, National Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta.
26.	Delhi	55. Deptt. of Microbiology, University College of Medical Sciences, Shahdara, Delhi
		56. Deptt. of Microbiology, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi.
		57. Surveillance Centre, Armed Forces Command Hospital, Delhi Cantt.
27.	A and N Islands	58. Surveillance Centre, G.B. Hospital, Port Blair.
28.	Chandigarh	59. Deptt. of Immunopathology, P.G.I., Chandigarh.
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haeli	
30.	Daman and Diu	
31.	Lakswdeep	60. Surveillance Centre, Government Hospital, Kavaratti.
32.	Pondicherry	61. Surveillance Centre, Government General Hospital, Pondicherry.
		62. Deptt. of Microbiology, JPIMER, Pondicherry.

List of HIV reference centres

1. National Institute of Communicable Disease, Delhi.
2. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
3. Indian Institute of Immunohematology, Bombay.
4. National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta.
5. School of Tropical Medicines, Calcutta.
6. Madras Medical College, Madras.
7. National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune.
8. Regional Medical College, Imphal.
9. Christian Medical College, Vellore.

The reference centres should be entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out confirmatory test. They should also be made responsible for diagnosis, quality control of HIV kits, guidelines for HIV testing, training in HIV testing and any other activity which may be necessary for standardization of HIV testing.

Vacant Post of Scheduled Tribes

3412. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts belonging to scheduled tribes lying vacant in his Ministry/Departments, category-wise;

(b) whether persons of other castes are working on these posts;

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

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up the backlog; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the backlog is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ayurveda Scam In U.P.

3413. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sought the Union Government's approval for prosecuting some officials alleged involved in multi-crores Ayurveda scam.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in taking decision by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite the decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Cataract

3414. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether introduction of the latest Photo Emulsification technique for operation of Cataract without any stitching would save the people from becoming blind;

(b) if so, the details of the said technique; and

(c) the steps being taken to promote and popularise said technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Phaco-emulsification is a more sophisticated technique for doing cataract surgery in comparison to the conventional one. The recurring costs for maintaining the equipment is high and only limited number of surgeons can use this technique as it requires a relatively longer learning curve. The technique is not used at present for large volumes of surgery and at present it's use should be limited to those who demand early visual rehabilitation and can afford the cost.

[English]

Demand of Medicinal Plants

3415. SHRI SYDIAH KOTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great international demand of medicinal plants from India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The export data of plants and parts of plants used in pharmacy as obtained from the published sources of Director General Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta reflects a growing demand for medicinal plants from India.

The export data is as follows :-

Year	Value of Exports
1992-93	Rs. 109.51 crores
1993-94	Rs. 101.67 crores
1994-95	Rs. 146.87 crores
1995-96	Rs. 206.88 crores

[Translation]

Low Cost Sanitation Programme

3416. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds sanctioned for the rehabilitation of the people of economically weaker section under low cost sanitation programme are being misused in the urban areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the misuse of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No such reports regarding misuse of funds sanctioned for rehabilitation of the people of economically weaker sections in the urban areas under low cost sanitation programme has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The guidelines of the Low Cost Sanitation Scheme for liberation of scavengers prohibit any diversion/misuse of funds released under the programme. Funds are released by HUDCO which acts as nodal agency on behalf of the Central Government, after taking into consideration the physical and financial progress of the scheme to ensure that diversion/misuse of funds under the scheme does not take place. The State Governments are required to constantly monitor and ensure proper utilisation of funds released under the programme.

The Ministry also regularly reviews the progress of implementation of the scheme with representatives of the State Government to ensure that funds released under the scheme are spent for the purpose for which they are released.

[English]

Traditional System of Medicine

3417. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps being taken to revive the traditional system of health care medicines in the country;

(b) whether special types of herbs are grown in different parts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Government of India has taken a number of steps to develop/revive Indian Systems of

Medicines - as follows :

(i) A separate Department of ISM & H has been set up for systematic development of these systems;

(ii) To promote research on various aspects of ISM, Central Councils for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha medicine and Unani have been set up;

(iii) to regulate ISM Education and practice of ISM a central council of Indian Medicine has been set up;

(iv) To strengthen the existing ISM colleges a scheme to provide financial assistance has been started.

(v) To lay down standards on ISM drugs separate pharmacopiel committees in these systems have been set up. A Pharmacopiel laboratory namely PLIM has been established at Ghaziabad.

(vi) To make available raw material used in Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy Medicines, Deptt. has started a scheme for development and cultivation of medicinal plants under which financial assistance is provided to Government/Semi Government organisations.

(vii) National Instt. for Ayurveda has been established at Jaipur. Similarly, National Institute for Unani is being started at Bangalore for advance teaching in this system of Medicine.

(b) and (c) Herbs of medicinal value like Ativisha, Bilva, Shatavari, Guggulu, Yastimadhu etc., are being grown by various organisations in different parts of the country.

Nuclear Power Stations

3418. SHRI K.S. RAYUDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the two nuclear power reactors of 500 MW capacity each are to be set up at Tarapur have been delayed inordinately;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) the time by which the construction is likely to be started; and

(d) the original schedule time of construction and the cost over-run due to delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Main plant construction work of the 2 x 500 MWe Atomic Power

Project at Tarapur in Maharashtra could not be commenced so far due to financial constraints, though administrative sanction for the Project was accorded in January, 1991. Pending commencement of work on the project, environmental and other clearances have been secured, site infrastructure development has been completed and major equipments for the project have already been procured.

(c) Site excavation work of TAPP-3 & 4 is expected to commence in the last quarter of 1997-98.

(d) The original time schedule for the construction of the project envisaged completion in 105 months from the date of project financial sanction. The cost overrun in the base cost of the project is Rs. 2413.5 crore, which is mainly on account of inflation.

[Translation]

Contegious Diseases

3419. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the States from where the reports of the outbreak of contegious diseases have been received;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check the spread of these diseases;

(c) whether there is any provision for extending any help to the victims of such diseases; and

(d) if so, the amount being provided to the victims as well as affected States under this provision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The National Institute of Communicable Diseases have investigated disease outbreaks from the States of Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Lakshadweep during 1997 (upto July).

(b) National Disease Programmes on Malaria, Kala-azar, Tuberculosis, Leprosy etc. are in operation for control of infectious diseases.

In addition following measures have been taken :

- (i) Guidelines have been prepared and distributed for the prevention and the control of outbreak prone diseases such as dengue fever and cholera.
- (ii) Assistance is provided to State Governments as and when requested for in the form of investigation of out-breaks.
- (iii) Training is provided to State/District level health officers on prevention and control of communicable diseases.
- (iv) A National Apical Advisory Committee (NAAC) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Health Secretary to

formulate a nation wide disease surveillance network. The action points envisaged under the disease surveillance scheme are collection and flow of information, strengthening of laboratory diagnostic services, networking of centres and continuous monitoring of disease prevalence.

(c) and (d) There is no scheme for providing financial assistance to victims of such diseases.

[English]

Space-Technology

3420. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation proposes to enter into bilateral agreements with other countries for the development and application of Space Technology for peaceful purposes;

(b) if so, the names of such countries; and

(c) the countries with whom such agreements are existing at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Indian Space Research Organisation has a policy of co-operation with other Space agencies in the area of peaceful uses of Outer Space. Agreements for co-operation with specific countries are taken up for consideration as and when there is mutual interest.

(c) Agreements or Memoranda of Understanding have been signed with Australia, Canada, China, the European Space Agency, France, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Syria, the United Kingdom and Ukraine.

Encroachment on DDA Land

3421. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the encroachments made on DDA land close to various religious places in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether due to these encroachments many through fares have been disrupted; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that no specific survey has been conducted in this regard. However, the detection and removal of various types of encroachments on DDA lands, including those close to various religious places, is a continuous process. As and when such encroachments are noticed, these are removed for clearing the disruptions in thoroughfares.

World Bank Loan for Control of AIDS

3422. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India took some loan in 1992 from the World Bank to combat AIDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the said loan has so far been spent for the purpose for which it was obtained and the achievements made in combating AIDS;

(d) whether a fresh loan is being sought from the World Bank to carry on programme of combating AIDS; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A scheme for Prevention and Control of AIDS in India was launched in September, 1992 with a World Bank credit of US Dollar 84 million. The following are the components of the programme :

(a) Strengthening the management capacity for HIV control;

(b) Promoting awareness and Community support;

(c) Improving the Blood Safety and its rational use;

(d) Building surveillance and Clinical Management capacity; and

(e) Controlling Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

The credit is disbursed on submission of reimbursement claims to World Bank through Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit and as of 31st March, 1997, an amount of US Dollar 52.59 million has been received by Government of India.

The AIDS Control Programme has made significant progress in the country and State AIDS Cells have been established in all the States and Union Territories for implementing the National AIDS Control Project; 815 Blood Bank being modernised; 504 STD Clinics strengthened; Surveillance activities with the help of 62 Surveillance Centres and 55 Sentinel Sites are being monitored; National and State Blood Transfusion Councils have been established; awareness programme

has been launched with the help of Doordarshan, Radio and mass campaigns and all the States/UTs are participating in the implementation of the approved scheme.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The second HIV AIDS Control Project for the Ninth Five Year Plan period is under preparation and is expected to be finalised shortly.

Expansion of Central Homoeopathic Research Centre

3423. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of Central Homoeopathic Research Centres, Sachivothamapuram Kurichy, Kottayam, Kerala and under the consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) an autonomous body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and fully funded by the Central Government, have a proposal for construction of a new building for the Central Research Institute (Homoeopathy) at Kottayam on land allotted by the Government of Kerala at an estimated Cost of Rs. 5 crores. The implementation of the proposal is however subject to and availability of adequate funds and other clearances.

Ukraine Tanks to Pakistan

3424. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Ukraine has begun delivery of its order of 320 and T-80 main battle tanks to Pakistan;

(b) whether Russian Government has refused export permits for Russian components of the tank to Ukraine so that Pakistan order may not be completed;

(c) whether Government of India has taken up this issue with the Russian Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d) In response to approaches made by the Government of India, and on their own initiative, the Russian authorities have given high level assurances of Russia's non-cooperation with Ukraine as regards fulfilling of the Ukrainian-Pakistan T-80 UD tank deal. This commitment has been adhered to by the Russian side.

[Translation]

Benefits to Widow of Government Employee

3425 SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the death of the Government employee his widow is absorbed in the service but his funds such as Provident Fund and Insurance Amount are not paid to her;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The wife of a Central Government employee on his death whether she is given employment or not, is eligible to receive amounts of Provident Fund, Insurance (CGEIS) etc. according to the nomination made by the deceased employee. If there is no nomination, the amounts are payable on the production of a Succession Certificate. Instructions have been issued to the Heads of Department etc. from time to time asking them to ensure that there are no delays in the payment of amounts due to the employee, including family of the deceased Government servant.

[English]

Medical College at Jalandhar

3426. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have sanctioned a Medical College to be set up at Jalandhar in Punjab;

(b) if so, the proposed location thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to execute this project;

(c) the details of the financial allocation made for this purpose and the time by which the funds are likely to be released for the implementation of this project; and

(d) the time by which the said college is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from the Punjab Institute of Medical Sciences for establishment of a new medical college at Jalandhar. The proposal has been referred to the Medical Council of India for evaluation and recommendations.

(c) 'Health' being a State subject, it is for the Government of Punjab to plan their allocations as per priority. However, a request has been received from

Government of Punjab for sanction of Rs. 25.00 crores as Central assistance for starting of above college. Since this Ministry do not have any scheme to assist the State run medical colleges, the request of the State Government has been forwarded to the Planning Commission.

(d) No time frame can be given. It depends on the availability of infrastructure as per norms of Medical Council of India.

Medical Education

3427. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Medical Council of India has been organising medical education programmes;

(b) if so, the number of such programmes arranged during 1996-97; and

(c) the outcome of such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 34 C.M.E. programmes were held.

(c) All such programmes held so far have been educative, useful and beneficial in updating levels of knowledge of medical personnel.

Development of Slum in Orissa

3428. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been submitted by the Government of Orissa to Union Government for Financial Assistance for the Development of slum areas;

(b) whether any financial assistance has been provided by the Union Government for the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Slum Development Programme was launched in August, 1996 to provide additional Central assistance to the States/UTs. During the year 1996-97 an amount of Rs. 250 crores was allocated to the States/UTs for slum development. A sum of Rs. 330 crores has been provided under this Programme for the current year i.e. 1997-98. Under this Programme an amount of Rs. 4.50 crores and Rs. 5.77 crores have been provided to the State of Orissa for the year 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively. A copy of the Guidelines formulated for the implementation of the Programme is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Sub. : *Centrally Assisted Slum Development Programme in the States/UTs - Guidelines.*

A provision of Rs. 250 crores for slum development programme in the States has been made by the Ministry of Finance in the budget for 1996-97 as an additionality to the normal Central Assistance to the States/UTs. The State-wise allocation of Rs. 250 crores has been worked out by the Planning Commission on the basis of the estimated slum population in 1991. The following guidelines have been suggested for the utilisation of this amount.

1. OBJECTIVES AND COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAMME :

The objectives of this programme shall be provision of adequate and satisfactory water supply, sanitation, primary education facilities, health care, pre-primary, adult literacy and non-formal education facilities etc. The scheme will also have as an objective, provision of housing, community empowerment, garbage and solid waste management, as well as environmental improvement and convergence of different social sector programmes through creation of sustainable support systems. The focus may be on community infrastructure, provision of shelter, empowerment of urban poor women, training, skill upgradation and advocacy and involvement of MGOs, CBOs, private institutions and other bodies.

2. ROLE OF URBAN LOCAL BODIES :

In keeping with the spirit of 74th Amendment, the existence of elected urban local bodies will be mandatory before funds can be released to new urban area. The programme envisages the urban local body as the nodal agency for the execution of this programme. Proposals for work to be undertaken under this programme must emanate from the CDSs in the form of a Community Plan, which will be forwarded by the ULB with appropriate comments to the DUDA for sanction. Execution of all works falling under the jurisdiction of the ULB may be done through the ULB as far as possible. The ULBs shall try to involve the CDSs in the execution, to the extent possible. As regards maintenance and repair of works carried out under this programme, the physical responsibility may be that of the CDSs concerned.

3. CONVERGENCE :

This programme may seek to ensure provision of certain identified basic minimum services, within each slum. The Programme may provide for facilities not provided elsewhere in the line department schemes, the absence of which makes effective implementation of these social sector schemes ineffective. In other words, missing links will be provided under this programme. However, this may be clearly subject to the

proviso that, funds under convergence will be a source of supplementing line department efforts to achieve better delivery of social sector schemes and under no circumstances will these funds be used to substitute line department schemes or parts thereof.

4. The State Governments should bring in their own funds bearing some proportion to the funds given by the Centre.

5. MONITORING :

At the State level, the programme will regularly be monitored by the State Urban Development Authority (SUDA), which may issue necessary guidance as well as instructions to the District Urban Development Authorities (DUDAs) and ULBs. At the national level, the programme will be monitored by the Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation.

Eulogisation of Militancy

3429. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6236 dated 14th May, 1997 regarding Eulogisation of militancy and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to remove 1103 hardcore Jamaite-e-Islami activists who have been absorbed as teachers by the Jammu and Kashmir Government during the last seven years of militancy in the State; and

(c) the preventive measures proposed or taken by the Government to ensure no further infiltration of such elements in the services of Jammu and Kashmir Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pakistani Nationals

3430. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Pakistani nationals visited India with requisite passport/visa during 1996-97 and the number of Indian nationals visited Pakistan;

(b) the number of Pakistani nationals returned after the expiry of prescribed period and the number of nationals who got extension of this period; and

(c) the number of Pakistani nationals over staying in India without getting the period of passport/visa extended and reported missing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) The number of Pakistani nationals who visited India during 1996 and 1997 (upto June) is as below :

1996	57,921
1997 (upto June)	45,390

The number of Indians who visited Pakistan is not known since Pakistan does not inform us regarding visas granted to Indian Nationals.

(b) and (c) In 1996 and 1997 (till June), 53,144 and 38,699 Pakistani nationals respectively returned after the expiry of the prescribed period. As of 30.4.1997, there were 2903 Pakistani nationals reported missing.

[English]

Shramik Vidyalaya

3431. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Shramik Vidyalaya operating in the State of Andhra Pradesh alongwith location thereof;

(b) the objectives thereof and the achievements made by these Vidyalayas during the last three years;

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase these institutions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Scheme relating to workers' education is being implemented through Central Board for Workers' Education, an autonomous body set up by the Government of India. The objectives of the Board are promoting effective participation of working class in the process of socio-economic development and creating awareness amongst the working class. In Andhra Pradesh, 3 Regional Centres of the Board are functioning at Hyderabad, Vijaywada and Visakhapatnam. The number of camps organised by these regional Centres are as under :

Name of the Centre	No. of camps and special seminars organised for workers belonging to Rural Unorganised weaker section and small scale industries during		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Hyderabad	95	77	60
Vijaywada	73	71	45
Visakhapatnam	93	96	59

(c) There is no proposal to set up any new centre in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) Does not arise.

Letter from MPs

3432. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued by the Government to all Ministries/Departments to acknowledge letters from Members of Parliament within fifteen days and a final reply to be sent within two months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any check has been exercised to ensure adherence to these instructions by all Ministries/Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The detailed guidelines to deal with the references received from Members of Parliament (MPs) have been issued to all ministries/departments vide paras 57,60 and 122 of the Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure. (MOP).

These guidelines provide that communications received from MPs will be attended to promptly and replied to within 15 days. However, where delay is anticipated in sending a final reply or information is to be obtained from any other ministry or another office, an interim reply will be sent within a fortnight indicating the possible date by which a final reply can be given. There is no provision for sending final reply within two months in the Manual.

(c) All the officers in the ministries/departments of Government of India are expected to observe the guidelines laid down in paras 57 and 60 of the Manual of Office Procedure. They have also been asked to devise a monitoring system to ensure that the replies to the Members of Parliament are sent expeditiously as laid down in para 122 of Manual of Office Procedure. Letters have also been addressed to Minister/Ministers of State by the Minister of State (Personnel).

World Bank Aid

3433. DR. AMRIT LAL BHARTI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any scheme to Union Government for eradication of poverty with World Bank aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of assistance sought and the response of World Bank in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) There is no such scheme under the consideration of the Union Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Pending Cases with Central Vigilance Commission

3434. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending with the Central Vigilance Commission as on date;

(b) whether any guidelines have been issued for early clearance of these cases;

(c) whether the Central Vigilance Commission is competent to advise as to the suitability of a person for appointment/promotion; and

(d) if so, the number of cases advised by the CVC during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) As on the 31st July, 1997 there were 1522 cases with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for advice of these, the CVC has sought clarifications etc., from the administrative Ministries in respect of 385 cases.

(b) As the CVC enjoys autonomy in its functioning, no guidelines are required to be issued by the Central Government, for early clearance.

(c) As a matter of policy it has been decided that the advice of the CVC would be obtained in cases concerned from the view point of the vigilance angle. Further, based on the report of the CVC it is for the competent authority concerned to take an appropriate decision.

(d) During the last three years the CVC received and handled 412 (1994 - 101, 1995-201 and 1996-110) vigilance clearance cases relating to appointments, promotions, etc.

Cadre Review

3435. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cadre review of Group 'C' Ministerial staff of subordinate offices of C.P.W.D. in respect of clerical staff has been accepted by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for not considering the cadre of Group 'C' Stenographers as alongwith on the Group 'C' Ministerial staff;

(c) whether the Cadre review of Class-I engineering services has been accepted; and

(d) if so, the reason for not reviewing the Cadre of stenographers of subordinate offices of C.P.W.D. simultaneously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Cadre Review proposal for Group 'A' Engineering Services of CPWD had not been finalised when the Cadre Review proposal for Group 'C' Ministerial staff were being considered by the Government. Since the requirement of posts of Stenographers in various grades would depend on the number/status of Group 'A' Officers, it was decided to take up the Cadre Review proposals of Stenographers after the Cadre Review proposals of Group 'A' Officers have been finalised and accepted by the Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After implementation of the Cadre Review of Group 'A' Officers in CPWD, a proposal for reviewing Cadre of Stenographers in the subordinate cadre of CPWD has been taken up.

Maintenance of Lawns

3436. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether services of Central horticulture staff are restricted to maintain the lawns and residences of VIPs and officers of the Central horticulture department only in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not maintaining lawns and parks in Central Government colonies such as Laxmibai Nagar and Sarojini Nagar etc?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All the lawns/parks in Central Government colonies in New Delhi including Laxmibai Nagar and Sarojini Nagar etc. under the CPWD are being maintained satisfactorily as per the norms prescribed by the Government subject to the availability of funds.

International Electronics Fair

3437. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an International Electronics Fair was conducted recently in China;

(b) if so, the composition of the Indian delegation including the industrialists visited China; and

(c) the amount of total contracts arrived at the fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) An "Industrial and Technological Exhibition of India" was organised from 7-11 July, 97 at Beijing, China by WISITEX Foundation (India) jointly with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and co-sponsored by China Science & Technology Exchange Centre, Beijing. Among other organisations, CMC Ltd. - a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Department of Electronics, Software Technology Park of India (STPI), Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER) - autonomous societies under Department of Electronics, participated in the Exhibition. Alongwith this Exhibition, a seminar on "Information Technology - India's Capability" was held on 11th July, 1997. The key note Speakers were Secretary, Department of Electronics from Indian side and the President of China Software Technology from the Chinese side.

A number of enquiries have been received for follow-up by the participating organisations under the administrative control of the Department of Electronics. However, no specific contract was signed.

Lapses

3438. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious lapses were found in the Department of Family Welfare during 1995-96;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of those who were held responsible for the lapses and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) CAG of India has made certain observations in respect of the programmes of the Department of Family Welfare during 1995-96 in its report for the year ended 31st March, 1996 (No. 2 of 1997).

(c) and (d) Action Taken Notes on the observations have been submitted to CAG for further necessary action.

[Translation]

Asian Development Bank Assistance to Maharashtra

3439. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for execution of urban development projects in the State with the assistance of Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the details of cities/towns are likely to be covered under the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement. Since ADB Pipeline Projects for 1998-2000 have been finalised in principle and there was no scope for inclusion of the project proposals received from Government of Maharashtra, the project was not posed to ADB.

(c) In view of the position stated at (b) above, question does not arise.

Statement

Urban Water Supply Projects

S.No.	Project	Cost (Rs. in crores)
1.	Nashik and Pune Region, Ahmednagar Jalgaon, Pune, Solapur, Sangli Satara Distt. 24 Towns.	905.85
2.	Konkan Region, 3 Distt. Thane, Sindhudurg, Raigad. 8 Towns.	144.57
3.	Aurangabad Region Jalna, Aurangabad, Beed, Osmamabad, Nanded, Parbhani 18 Towns.	1529.94

[English]

Blindness Control Programme

3440. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank sponsored blindness prevention scheme is being implemented in Andhra Pradesh is to be watered down due to the negligence of the officials;

(b) if so, whether under the said scheme as many as 18, 185 blindness had to be operated upon for cataract disease but only 4,413 have been operated upon so far;

(c) whether only 25% of the set target could be achieved and there is a fear that the rest of funds would lapse;

(d) whether the World Bank has released Rs. 9 lakhs under the scheme so far for the purpose since its implementation and for this year, Rs. 3 lakhs have been sanctioned; and

(e) if so, the reasons for delay in the completion of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the first three years of the Project (1994-97), 7,02,525 cataract operations were performed against the target of 6,50,000 cataract operations. The achievement was 108.08% of the said target.

(d) and (e) So for Rs. 363 lakhs have been released to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh on cash grant for various components under Cataract Blindness Control Project in the first three years of the project (1994-97) and Rs. 151.25 lakhs have been sanctioned as cash grant for the current financial year 1997-98. In addition to it Rs. 372 lakhs have been released to District Blindness Control Societies in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years. All the activities under the project are being undertaken as scheduled except civil works where there was certain delay in the initial stages. The work, however, has now picked up and is progressing satisfactorily.

Scheme in Jammu and Kashmir

3441. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the major schemes likely to be taken up for execution in each region of Jammu and Kashmir during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total allocation made during the Eighth Plan and proposed to be made during the Ninth Plan;

(c) whether the amount has been diverted from plan funds to non-plan projects during Seventh and Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Item-wise allocation during 8th Plan is as follows :

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Item	Approved Outlay
1.	Agri. and Allied Service	429.30
2.	Rural Development	99.60
3.	Special Area Programme	216.50
4.	Irrigation and Flood Control	205.52
5.	Energy	1177.48
6.	Industry and Minerals	194.00
7.	Transport and Communication	280.60
8.	Science, Tech. and Environment	10.70
9.	General Economic Services	120.90
10.	Social Services	1226.00
11.	General Services	39.40
Total		4000.00

For the 9th Five Year Plan for Jammu and Kashmir, preliminary discussions by the Planning Commission were held on 19.6.97 with State Government officials. The above Plan has not yet been finalised however, a plan size of Rs. 9000-10,000 crores for that State has been indicated.

(c) and (d) Plan funds have been diverted to cover the non-plan deficit resulting from lower revenues and increased security expenditure as well as due to lower spending on development works on account of law and order situation in the State. The details are as under :

1992-93	Rs. 200.00 crores
1993-94	Rs. 200.00 crores
1994-95	Rs. 86.66 crores

Allotment of DDA Flats

3442. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons registered with DDA for allotment of plots under MIG and LIG categories under Rohini Residential Schemes during 1981 and 1979 respectively;

(b) the details of persons out of them who have not been allotted plots of MIG and LIG categories under the said scheme separately till date; and

(c) the time by which the plots are likely to be allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As reported by DDA the total number of persons registered with DDA for allotment of plots under MIG and LIG categories under Rohini Residential Scheme during 1981 is 25,889 and 38,105 respectively. No such scheme was launched in the year 1979.

(b) The number of persons out of them who have not been allotted plots of MIG and LIG categories under the said scheme till date is 13835 and 20013 respectively.

(c) No fixed time schedule can be given for allotment of plots to remaining registrants since the process depends on various factors like acquisition of land by Delhi Administration, transfer of the same to DDA, development of infrastructure, availability of funds with DDA, providing of services by connected agencies i.e. MCD, Delhi Yidyut Board (DESU) etc.

Irregularities in CGHS Dispensary

3443. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some serious irregularities have been found in the purchase of local medicines during an inquiry conducted by the higher officials of the CGHS at the CGHS Allopathic Dispensary No. 76, situated at Kali Bari Marg on February 5, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against those who found in the irregularities; and

(d) the action has been taken by the Government against the persons found guilty in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) in October-December, 1996, certain injections indented for a particular beneficiary were collected by an unidentified person. An enquiry was instituted in the matter and the initiation of action as called for in the circumstances is under process.

Light Rail Transmission Project

3444. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have released any fund to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Light Rail Transmission Project, Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh are also participating to the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government of Andhra Pradesh together with Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation had agreed to contribute 15% of the total equity share capital of Urban Mass Transit Company (UMTC), set up to execute Hyderabad LRTS, Project. Government of India had agreed to contribute an equal amount towards the equity of UMTC. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh have so far released only Rs. 15 lakhs against Government of India's contribution of Rs. 7.15 crores towards the equity share capital of UMTC.

(e) It is not possible to indicate at this stage the time frame by which the project is likely to be completed.

[Translation]

MPLADS

3445. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Members of Parliament have complained to the Union Government regarding non-release of rupees one crore under the Members of Parliament Local Areas Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the names of Members who have complained from January 1, 1996 to date and details of the complaints;

(c) the action taken on each complaint;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to release funds in time for the development schemes; and

(e) the amount sanctioned and released to each Member of Parliament in Gujarat since this scheme commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) and (b) Some Members of Parliament have complained regarding non-release of Rs. 1 crore under the MPLADS. The names of Members who have complained from January 1, 1996 to date are given in the Statement-I.

(c) and (d) Funds for the year 1996-97 in respect of all the MPs have been released. Keeping in view the provision of the guidelines that the funds are to be released twice a year on the basis of physical and financial progress of works, it has been decided by the Government to release first instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs for 1997-98 to those MPs whose unsanctioned balance is less than Rs. 50 lakhs. Accordingly, all the District Collectors were requested to send expenditure statement

of the MPs so that Government of India could release the first instalment. Out of 22 complaints received regarding non-release of funds, first instalments has since been released in respect of 11 MPs and for remaining MPs information has been sought from the District Collectors concerned.

(e) The details of amount released to each Member of Parliament in Gujarat since the Scheme commenced are given in statement-II.

Statement-I

List of MPs from whom Representations Regarding Release of Funds for MPLADS have been received since January, 1996

Name of the MP.	Action Taken
1	2

I. Complaints made in 1996.

	Funds released for 1996-97.
1. Birg. K.P. Singh Deo (Lok Sabha)	"
2. Dr. B.B. Dutta (Rajya Sabha)	"
3. Shri Santhosh Gangwar (Lok Sabha)	"
4. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev (Lok Sabha)	"
5. Shri Dawa Lama (Rajya Sabha)	"
6. Shri Nawal Kishore Rai (Lok Sabha)	"
7. Shri Ajit Jogi (Rajya Sabha)	"
8. Shri P.V. Rajeswara Rao (Lok Sabha)	"
9. Shri Jagdambi Prasad Yadav (Lok Sabha)	"
10. Shri Ved Prakash Goyal (Rajya Sabha)	"
11. Shri Rasa Singh Rawat (Lok Sabha)	"
12. Shri O.L. Nongtdu (Rajya Sabha)	"
13. Smt. Ratnamala D. Savanoor (Lok Sabha)	"
14. Shri Ganga Charan Rajput (Lok Sabha)	"
15. Shri N.K.P. Salve (Rajya Sabha)	"
16. Shri Sanat Mehta (Lok Sabha)	"
17. Shri K. Kandasamy (Lok Sabha)	"
18. Shri K.S.R. Murthy (Lok Sabha)	"
19. Shri Mahendra Baitha (Lok Sabha)	"
20. Shri Vijay Sankeshwar (Lok Sabha)	"
21. Shri T.N. Chaturvedi (Rajya Sabha)	"
22. Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot (Lok Sabha)	"
23. Shri Vijay Goel (Lok Sabha)	"
24. Shri Ram Naik (Lok Sabha)	"
25. Shri Ramachandran Pillai (Rajya Sabha)	"
26. Shri Surendra Kumar Singh (Rajya Sabha)	"
27. Shri Sunder Singh Bhandari (Rajya Sabha)	"
28. Shri Naresh Yadav (Rajya Sabha)	"
29. Shri T.G. Venkatraman (Rajya Sabha)	"
30. Shri Shankarrao Kale (Lok Sabha)	"
31. Shri Eduardo Falerio (Lok Sabha)	"
32. Shri Taracharan Majumdar (Lok Sabha)	"
33. Smit. Shiela Irani (Lok Sabha)	"
34. Shri S.R. Bommai (Rajya Sabha)	"

1

2

II. Complaints made in 1997

1.	Shri Chandresh Patel (Lok Sabha)	Funds released for 1997-98
2.	Shri Joyanta Roy (Rajya Sabha)	"
3.	Shri Santosh Gangwar (Lok Sabha)	"
4.	Shri Chhitubhai Gamit (Lok Sabha)	"
5.	Shri Mukesh R. Patel (Lok Sabha)	"
6.	Shri Jayant K. Malhoutra (Rajya Sabha)	"
7.	Shri B.L. Shankar (Lok Sabha)	"
8.	Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee (Rajya Sabha)	"
9.	Shri Shivanand H. Koujalgi (Lok Sabha)	"
10.	Smt. Jayawanti Mehta (Lok Sabha)	"
11.	Shri Vallabhbhai R. Kathiria (Lok Sabha)	"
12.	Shri R.B. Rai (Lok Sabha)	Information sought from DC
13.	Shri P.V. Rajeswara Rao (Lok Sabha)	"
14.	Shri Suresh A. Keswani (Rajya Sabha)	"
15.	Shri Sanat Mehta (Lok Sabha)	"
16.	Shri Srikanta Kumar Jena (Lok Sabha)	"
17.	Shri Ram Gopal Yadav (Rajya Sabha)	"
18.	Smt. Saroj Khaparde (Rajya Sabha)	"
19.	Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao (Lok Sabha)	"
20.	Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo (Rajya Sabha)	"
21.	Shri Jagmohan (Lok Sabha)	"
22.	Shri Govind Ram Miri (Rajya Sabha)	"

Statement-II

S.No.	M.P. Name Constituency	Release by G.O.I. 1993-97 (Rs. Lakhs)	Release by G.O.I. 1997-98 (Rs. Lakhs)	Release by G.O.I. 1993-98 (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
LOK SABHA				
1.	Sh. P.S. Gadhvi (LS) Kutch	305.0	0.0	305.0
2.	Sh. Sanat Mehta (LS) Surendranagar	305.0	0.0	305.0
3.	Sh. K.V.C. Patel (Chandresh) (LS) Jamnagar	305.0	50.0	355.0
4.	Dr. Vallabhbhai R. Kathiria (LS) Rajkot	305.0	50.0	355.0
5.	Sh. Gordhanbhai J. Javiya (LS) Porbandar	305.0	50.0	355.0
6.	Smt. Bhavanaben D. Chikhaliya (LS) Junagadh	305.0	0.0	305.0
7.	Sh. Dileep Sanghani (LS) Amreli	305.0	50.0	355.0
8.	Sh. R.G. Rana Bhai (LS) Bhavnagar	305.0	0.0	305.0
9.	Sh. Ratilal Kalidas Varma (LS) Dhandhuka (SC)	305.0	0.0	305.0
10.	Sh. Harin Pathak (LS) Ahmedabad	305.0	50.0	355.0

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Sh. Vijay Patel (LS) Gandhinagar	305.0	0.0	305.0
12.	Dr. A.K. Patel (LS) Mehsana	305.0	0.0	305.0
13.	Sh. Maheshkumar M. Kanodia (LS) Patan (SC)	305.0	0.0	305.0
14.	Sh. B.K. Gadhavi (LS) Banaskantha	305.0	50.0	355.0
15.	Smt. Nisha A. Chaudhary (LS) Sabarkantha	305.0	50.0	355.0
16.	Sh. Jaysingh Ji M. Chauhan (LS) Kapadvanj	305.0	0.0	305.0
17.	Sh. Somjibhai P. Damor (LS) Dohad (ST)	305.0	0.0	305.0
18.	Sh. Shantilal Parsotamdas Patel (LS) Godhra	305.0	50.0	355.0
19.	Sh. Dinsha Patel (LS) Kaira	305.0	0.0	305.0
20.	Sh. Ishwarbhai Khodabhai Chavda (LS) Anand	305.0	0.0	305.0
21.	Sh. N.J. Rathawa (LS) Chhota Udaipur (ST)	305.0	50.0	355.0
22.	Sh. Satyajitsinh Dilipsinh Gaekwad (LS) Baroda	305.0	50.0	355.0
23.	Sh. Chandubhai Deshmukh (LS) Broach	305.0	50.0	355.0
24.	Sh. Kanshiram Rana (LS) Surat	305.0	0.0	305.0
25.	Sh. Chhitubhai D. Gamit (LS) Mandvi (ST)	305.0	50.0	355.0
26.	Sh. Manibhai Ramjibhai Chaudhari (LS) Bulsar (ST)	305.0	0.0	305.0
State Total :		7930.0	600.0	8530.0

RAJYA SABHA

1.	Smt. Anandiben Jethabhai Patel (RS) Ahmedabad	300.0	50.0	350.0
2.	Sh. Kanaksinh. M. Mangrola (RS) Broach	205.0	0.0	205.0
3.	Sh. Chimanbhai Mehta (RS) Ahmedabad	200.0	0.0	200.0
4.	Smt. Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel (RS) Vadodara	305.0	0.0	305.0
5.	Sh. Rajubhai A. Parmar (RS) Ahmedabad	305.0	0.0	305.0
6.	Sh. Chimanbhai Haribhai Shukla (RS) Rajkot	305.0	0.0	305.0
7.	Sh. Ahmed Patel (RS) Broach	305.0	0.0	305.0
8.	Sh. Madhavsinh Solanki (RS) Kheda	305.0	0.0	305.0
9.	Sh. Dineshbhai Trivedi (RS) Ahmedabad	205.0	0.0	205.0
10.	Dr. Yoginder Kumar Bhagatram Alagh (RS) Vadodara	100.0	0.0	100.0
11.	Sh. Ram Singh Ratwa (RS) Vadodara	5.0	0.0	5.0
12.	Sh. V. Bhai Patel (RS) Sabarkantha	5.0	0.0	5.0
13.	Sh. Bhatta B. Ranchhodlal (RS) Ahmedabad	100.0	0.0	100.0
14.	Sh. Anantray Devshanker Dave (RS) Kutch	305.0	50.0	355.0
15.	Sh. Bangaru Laxmanji B. Narsimha (RS) Surendranagar	100.0	0.0	100.0
16.	Sh. Gopalsinh G. Solanki (RS) Panchmahals	305.0	0.0	305.0
State Total : Rajya Sabha		3355.0	100.0	3455.0
State Total : Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha		11285.0	700.00	11985.0

[English]

Posting Abroad

3446. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has laid down any guidelines for deputing officers on posting abroad;

(b) if so, whether these guidelines cover the posting in Indian Embassies, International Organisations like IMF, World Bank, United Nations and its agencies;

(c) whether these guidelines are strictly followed in letter and spirit; and

(d) the details of IAB officers belonging to SC/ST category selected for postings abroad during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Department of Personnel and Training have laid down guidelines for deputation of Indian experts on assignments abroad against the foreign posts of the Government of India, bilateral assignments to the developing countries, captive posts of the Government of India in International Organisations and international assignments of Indian experts to International Organisations. As regards postings of officers of the Ministry of External Affairs to Indian Missions abroad, they are decided on the basis of suitability in terms of relevant experience and seniority keeping in mind the principle of rotation.

(c) The guidelines are kept in view while processing the cases for foreign assignments and postings to Indian Missions abroad.

(d) The details of the IAS officers belonging to SC/ST categories selected for postings abroad during last three years is enclosed as statement.

Statement

IAS Officers belong to SC/ST Categories Selected for Postings Abroad during the last three Years

S.No.	Name of the Officer	Designation and Organisation To Which Posted	Tenure
1.	Koppula Raju, IAS (AP:81)	Project Coordinator UNDP, Andhra Pradesh	09/96 - 08/97
2.	P.V. Ramesh Babu, IAS (AP:85)	Consultant, WHO	03/96 - 10/97
3.	Mukhtiar Singh, IAS (BH:76)	Project Coordinator, ILO	06/95 - 06/98
4.	P.K. Sivanandan, IAS (KL:72)	Local Consultant World Bank	08/96 - 03/97
5.	Ram Singh, IAS (KL:75)	UN Volunteer, Papua New Guinea	09/94 - 10/96
6.	V.K. Majotra, IAS (MP:66)	Minister (Eco and Com) and Resident Director, Indian Investment Centre, Tokyo	12/92 - 01/96
7.	T.S. Sandhu, IAS (RJ:81)	Project Director, UNICEF, Patna	07/92 - 06/97

Shifting of Government Offices

3447. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to shift some of the Central Government offices from Delhi to other cities/towns to decongest the Capital; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of Central Government Offices proposed to be shifted outside Delhi are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Details to Central Government Offices proposed to be shifted outside the Capital

S.No.	Name of Office to be shifted.
1	2
1.	Cost Guard (HQ)
2.	Research and Development Centre, Postal Deptt.
3.	Directorate of Inspection, N.I., Circle.
4.	National Crime Record Bureau, MHA.
5.	Deptt. of Light Houses and Light Ships.

1	2
6.	Central Instt. of Research and Training in Employment Services, Ministry of Labour.
7.	Commissioner of Payment Deptt. of Industrial Development.
8.	Department of Publications.
9.	National Academy of Customs, Excise and Narcotics.
10.	All India Soil and Land Use Survey, Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation.
11.	National Capital Region Planning Board.

Vacant Properties

3448. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3780 dated March, 19, 1997 regarding vacant properties and state :

(a) the number of times the vacant/unallotted properties were put to auction during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for the vacant/unallotted commercial properties are not being rented out to the retired Government servants and to the educated unemployed youths who opt for them on nominal rent;

(c) whether poor construction, bad planning and the costly prices made DDA properties an unattractive investment in comparison to the private ones; and

(d) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As reported by DDA auction of vacant/unallotted properties have been held 168 times during the last three years, the details of which are as under :

Year	No. of Auctions Held
1994-95	85
1995-96	63
1996-97	20

(b) There is no scheme or policy for allotment of shops to retired Government servants or to educated unemployment youth.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No applicable in view of (c) above.

Shukla Commission

3449. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shukla Commission formed for identification of the infrastructural gap in North-East Region have submitted its report;

(b) if so, the date of submission of its report and the details of the report; and

(c) the action initiated for implementation of its recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) and (b) The High Level Commission (HLC) for the North-East, headed by Shri S.P. Shukla, Member, Planning Commission, submitted its Report to the Prime Minister on March 7, 1997.

The HLC critically examined the backlog in Basic Minimum Services and gaps in important sectors of infrastructure development, such as Power, Communications, Irrigation, Flood Control, etc., and has recommended policy initiatives and programmes to bridge these gaps and rejuvenate local economy alongwith measures for institutional reforms, additional resource mobilisation, and effecting public participation in development activities. The HLC has also estimated total cost for providing Basic Minimum Services to the North-Eastern States and indicative requirement of funds for infrastructure development in the Ninth Five-Year Plan.

(c) The recommendations of the HLC contain programmes, policy initiatives and measures which concern State Governments, Central Ministries and other agencies financed by the Central Government.

In respect of programmes which have to be implemented by State Governments, such as the Basic Minimum Services and some of infrastructural development projects, a team of the Planning Commission headed by Principal Adviser (NE) has been directed to visit each concerned State and to assess realistic requirement of funds year-wise for the Ninth Five Year Plan. The team has already visited two States and the remaining states would also be covered very shortly. Mechanism for locating funds for providing assistance to these States for this purpose is also being worked out.

With regard to the recommendations which concern the Central Ministries, meetings have been/are being held with a view to finding out to what extent these recommendations can be dovetailed in their respective Ninth Plan Programmes.

Report on Bofors Case

3450. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee to vet the Special Investigation Team (SIT)'s report on Bofors case,

(b) if so, the composition thereof; and

(c) the time limit fixed for completion of vetting of the report by the SPI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Government is not required to vet the Investigation report of the CBI. Any recommendation made by the CBI which requires consideration by the Government as per the provisions of law is submitted to the Government. In the Bofors Case, the CBI has submitted a report with its recommendations to the Government. Further action will be as per the provisions of law. A committee of senior officers has been directed to monitor the expeditious processing of the case as also to provide inter ministerial coordination.

Corruption Cases

3451. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of corruption, dishonesty and assets disproportionate to the income of civil servants investigated by the Vigilance Department of Ministry in 1995-96;

(b) the number of officers, grade-wise, involved in the above cases;

(c) the number of complaints of corruption and dishonesty received during 1995-96 and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Vigilance Department initiate action suo moto against the staff suspected to be dishonest and corrupt;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Ministry have made any review of the functioning of powers of Vigilance Section under their control; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Cases of corruption and assets disproportionate to the income of Civil Servants are investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Vigilance Unit of this Ministry does not investigate such

cases. 34 cases of dishonesty involving 55 officers were investigated by the Vigilance Unit of the Ministry in 1995-96.

(b) Grade-wise details of officers involved in the above cases are as under :

Group - A	:	30
Group - B	:	14
Group - C	:	10
Group - D	:	01

(c) During the year 1995-96, 46 complaints alleging corruption and dishonesty were received in the Vigilance Unit of the Ministry. Out of these, 12 complaints were closed after investigation; 2 complaints were referred to the CBI; 10 complaints are at various stages of investigation, 3 complaints were referred to the Central Vigilance Commission for their advice; minor penalty proceedings were initiated in 5 complaints; major penalty proceedings were initiated in 6 complaints; warnings were issued in 4 complaints and Attached/Subordinate Offices were directed to initiate regular Departmental action for major/minor penalty in 4 complaints.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Trade with Central Asian Republics

3452. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India, Iran and Turkmenistan have signed a key transit agreements to propel trade with resource-rich Central Asian Republics;

(b) if so, the main points of the agreement; and

(c) the extent to which the transit agreement has helped in improving the trade relations with the Central Asian countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir. India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed a Trilateral Agreement on International Transit of Goods at the level of Foreign Ministers on 22 February, 1997 in Tehran.

(b) A suo moto statement was made by the External Affairs Minister before the Lok Sabha on 26 February, 1997, a copy of which is enclosed as Statement.

(c) The Trilateral Agreement on International Transit of Goods provides various facilities for Indian traders who use the Iranian transit route for trade with Turkmenistan and other Central Asian Republics. Indian Businessmen have been increasingly using the route.

Statement

*Copy of the Suo Moto Statement by
the External Affairs Minister,
Shri I.K. Gujral,*

*before the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha
on the Agreement on
International Transit of Goods
between the Republic of India,
The Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkmenistan.*

The Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkmenistan.

26th February, 1997

I have the pleasure to inform the Hon'ble Members of this August House that on February 22, 1997 in Tehran, India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed at the level of Foreign Ministers an agreement on the international transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan. This has brought to fruition the process begun in April, 1995 when the three countries signed a trilateral MOU on this subject. The three sides have worked together in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and constructive cooperation in finalising this agreement. Its signing reflects the traditionally close relations India has with Iran and Turkmenistan. It is also in keeping with the vision of the Governments of these countries to promote economic cooperation amongst themselves and with other CIS countries which accede to it in future.

The cardinal objective of the agreement is to provide a suitable juridical and legal framework for the multi-modal movement of goods from India to Iran and Turkmenistan, and other countries that join the arrangement in the future, and vice-versa. The salient features of the agreement are :

- * It facilitates, simplifies and accelerates customs and other formalities including minimising documentation and inspection requirements for the transit of goods. For example, it provides that the goods transiting under this agreement will not be subject to examination through the customs jurisdiction en route except when irregularities are suspected.
- * It provides for the exemption of import and export duties or other taxes for goods in transit. Only charges for specific services can be levied as stipulated by internal legislation and as applicable to all other countries.
- * The signatories have agreed to examine the possibility of setting up a simplified visa regime for personnel engaged in the transit of cargo under this agreement.
- * There will be a regular joint mechanism for supervising the implementation of the agreement, for recommending changes to it and to consider any other related matter.

The agreement meets the need for developing an efficient, reliable, dependable and cost-effective route

for trade and other forms of economic interaction between India, Iran and Turkmenistan and our other economic partners in the CIS region. My counterparts from Turkmenistan and Iran have joined me in underlining the importance of expanding and developing cooperative endeavours between our three countries in the field of trade and industry. I believe that the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods will be a key element in meeting this objective.

I am also happy to inform the Hon'ble Members that the President of Turkmenistan, His Excellency, Mr. Saparmurad A. Niyazov is currently paying a goodwill State visit to India. Discussions clearly brought out the identity of views on both sides on important bilateral, regional and international issues. The two sides have warmly welcomed the signing of the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan. They agreed that this landmark agreement would further enhance trade and other forms of economic cooperation amongst these three countries, and CIS countries which accede to it in the future. The agreement will foster a harmonious climate for multilayered economic cooperation and strengthen the cause of peace, stability and development in the region.

In conclusion, I would like to place on record our appreciation of the cooperation extended by the Governments of Iran and Turkmenistan in reaching this agreement and of the constructive spirit in which the officials of the different Ministries and Departments of the three countries have worked together in this regard.

Indian Business Laws

3453. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Council of Arbitration urges to harmonise Indian Business Laws" appearing in the Indian Express dated July 12, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the memorandum received by the Government from various organisations in this regard;

(c) the details of action taken thereon; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives/steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Government have seen the news report. Indian Council of Arbitration has not approached or urged the Ministry of External Affairs to harmonise the Indian Business Laws.

(b) Sir, No Memorandums have been received from any organisations in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) India has been member of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) since its inception. India has also passed comprehensive legislations namely; the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 modelled on UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration, 1985; UNCITRAL Conciliation Rules, 1980 and New York Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, 1958. India has also initiated action for becoming a party through accession to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sales of Goods that was adopted by the Diplomatic Conference, 1980 for which inter-ministerial consultations are going on.

Titanium Industrial Complex

3454. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Titanium Dioxide manufactured by the Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. has a big market for marketing in view of the new economic policy;

(b) whether the Union Government consider to assist the Government of Kerala to set up a titanium industrial complex at Chavara to meet the demand for the high valued Titanium based strategic and commercial products; and

(c) 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 PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a public sector undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy, already has a major mining and mineral separation unit in Chavara in the Kollam district of Kerala. Further investment by Central Government directly or through IREL in Kerala is dependent on the availability of resources during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Report on Scams

3455. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any comprehensive report on the various scams and corruption cases which have been investigated by the CBI during the last three years; and

(b) 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 PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The CBI, which is an investigating agency, conducts investigations on a case-to-case basis, in accordance with the law of the Country. In cases where there is prima-facie evidence to substantiate corruption/criminal misconduct, it files charge-sheets in the concerned Court of law on conclusion of investigation and the law thereafter takes its own course. Therefore, preparing a comprehensive report on cases investigated by the CBI is not required.

Demolition Operation

3456. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any demolition operation was carried out in Union Territory of Chandigarh during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the total number of houses demolished, the value of other destroyed properties and the details of goods seized by demolition squad;

(c) the provision of rule under which the demolition operation was carried out and whether notices were served and opportunity of hearing was given to the affected persons before the demolition;

(d) whether proper receipts of seized goods was issued and compensation paid;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for the rehabilitation of affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Sharma Committee

3457. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Sharma Committee was constituted by Delhi Development Authority in 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its composition;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) if so, the details of the recommendations accepted and implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To examine the issues of additions and alterations in DDA flats, the Lt. Governor had constituted a Committee on 17.10.1994 with the following as Members :

- | | |
|--|------------|
| (i) Shri S.K. Sharma | - Chairman |
| (ii) Shri Kewal K. Sharma
Commissioner (H), DDA | - Member |
| (iii) Shri Pradeep Singh Addl.
Commr., MCD | - Member |
| (iv) Shri Deepak Narain,
Chief Engineer (QC) | - Member |
| (v) Shri S. Auluck Chief Architect,
DDA | - Member |
| (vi) Shri Hans Raj Director (Vig.),
DDA | - Member |

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main recommendations made by the Committee related to :

- (i) Civic law to provide for Neighbourhood Committees;
- (ii) Neighbourhood Committee to permit upto 5% of floor area;
- (iii) Permission for conversion;
- (iv) Transfer of building control to MCD;
- (v) Old modifications;
- (vi) Building approvals after consulting Neighbourhood Committee.

(e) After examining the recommendations of the Committee, DDA has decided to condone some types of additions/alterations made by the allottees of flats constructed by DDA in various localities. A copy of Office Order No. F2 (83) 94/Coord (H)/Pt/26 dated 13.12.1996 issued for condoning the additions/alterations approved by the Authority is attached as Statement.

Statement

Delhi Development Authority

No. F2(83)/94/Coord. (H)/Pt./ December 13, 1996

OFFICE ORDER

Delhi Development Authority vide its Resolution No. 101/96 dated 5.12.1996 has decided that the following additions/alterations made by the allottees of flats constructed by DDA in various localities may be

treated as condonable additions/alterations and no action against the allottees may be taken under the terms of allotment.

1. Covert Mumty into room.
2. Grill and Glazing in verandaha.
3. Raising height of front courtyard walls upto 7 ft. high and rear courtyard walls upto 10 ft. high by putting up jali/fencing.
4. Providing additional door in courtyard.
5. Providing sun-shades on doors and windows wherever not provided.
6. Fixing doors in back or front courtyard.
7. Convert window into almirah.
8. Closing the door.
9. Shifting of water storage tank/raising of the parapet wall upto 5' high and putting additional water storage tank.
10. If the bath room or WC are not having any roof these may be treated as open urinal and may be allowed.
11. Raising the wall of balcony and terrace parapet with grill or glazing upto the height of 5' or lintel height.
12. Construction of bathroom and WC in the rear courtyard.
13. Removal of original structure and reconstruction with due permission in the case of single storeyed built up houses only subject to the satisfaction of Building Byelaws and prior approval of the local authority.
14. Inter-change the position of kitchan, bathroom and WC with proper power connection subject to structural safety.
15. Construction of open staircase where no staircase has been provided for approach to the terrace.
16. To shift the front glazing doors/windows upto maximum 2' outside upto the existing chajja.
17. To put/provide an additional PVC water tank at ground floor area without disturbing the common passages.
18. To provide/construction of an additional water tank in the scooter/Car garrage upto the maximum depth of 2' - 6" subject to structural stability.
19. To provide loft or shelf in the rooms.

20. To change the flooring with water proofing treatment.
21. To remove half (four and a half inch) brick wall.
22. To makes a ramp at front gate without disturbing the common passage/storm water drain.
23. To provide sun-shades on the outer windows upto 2' wide projection.
24. To provide false ceiling in rooms.
25. To make an opening of maximum size of 2'-6" x 1'-9" for exhaust fan or air conditioner in existing walls.
26. Covering of the open terraces with sloping roofs upto 9 ft. high with light weight material such as fibre glass/AC sheets/GI sheets/pipes and standard angle iron sections etc. and enclosing with glazing.

Sd/-

(Kewal K. Sharma)
Commissioner (Housing)

IDSMT

3458. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Small and Medium Towns developed in the country so far under the Centrally sponsored Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns scheme State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to being some other towns under this scheme during Ninth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) So far, 904 small and medium towns (State-wise details are given in attached statement) in 25 States and 5 Union Territories have been covered under the IDSMT Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At this stage, it is not possible to indicate the details of towns which will be covered under IDSMT during IX Plan since the selection of priority towns under IDSMT vests with the State Governments and projects are approved by State Level Sanctioning Committees.

Statement

State-wise Details of Towns covered under the IDSMT Scheme (from 1979-80 till date)

S.No.	Name of State	No. of Towns
1.	Assam	19
2.	Andhra Pradesh	74
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4
4.	Bihar	40
5.	Goa	6
6.	Gujarat	51
7.	Haryana	12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	8
10.	Karnataka	76
11.	Kerala	32
12.	Madhya Pradesh	72
13.	Maharashtra	96
14.	Manipur	11
15.	Meghalaya	7
16.	Mizoram	5
17.	Nagaland	7
18.	Orissa	41
19.	Punjab	23
20.	Rajasthan	43
21.	Sikkim	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	98
23.	Tripura	8
24.	Uttar Pradesh	85
25.	West Bengal	66
<i>UNION TERRITORIES</i>		
1.	A and N Islands	1
2.	D and N Haveli	2
3.	Daman and Diu	1
4.	Lakshdweep	1
5.	Pondicherry	6
Total		904

[English]

Assistance for Population Control

3459. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh have sought additional Central assistance and reimbursement

of Rs. 90.13 crores spent on various Central Sponsored Family Welfare Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been requested to depute a Team of officials to reconcile the accounts since there is a lot of variation in the figures.

[Translation]

Migration of Doctors

3460. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a rapid increase in the number of doctors migrating or seeking voluntary retirement from Central Government hospitals during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of doctors who have been migrated and those who seeks voluntary retirement during the above period, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any concrete policy to check the voluntary retirement and migration of such doctors in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Details of number of Central Health Service Officers working in Central Government Hospitals who took voluntary retirement during the last four years are as under :

Year	No. of CHS Officers Voluntary Retired
1993	05
1994	04
1995	06
1996	07
Total	22

A 'No obligation to return to India' Certificate issued by this Ministry is necessary for migration to U.S.A. No CHS officer has been granted such a certificate during the last four years.

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

[English]

World Bank Assistance

3461. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank propose to provide funds for urban infrastructural facilities in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum thereof including the terms and conditions for the assistance; and

(c) the time by which the funds are likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Since the lending policy of the World Bank for financing of urban infrastructure projects in India is under review, there is no proposal at present by the World Bank for provision of funds specifically for urban infrastructure facilities in the country. However, the Bank has recently sanctioned US\$ 200 million IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) line of credit to IL and FS (Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services) for investment in commercially viable infrastructure projects. This amount would be available for projects in various sectors, including urban infrastructure with the involvement of the private sector.

(b) In the absence of finalisation of the World Bank's policy for lending to urban infrastructure projects in India, it is not possible to state the quantum of assistance and terms and conditions for such assistance for urban infrastructure projects by the World Bank at this point of time.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Achievements in Space Research

3462. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the achievements made by the country in the field of space during the last two years; and

(b) the details of the programmes proposed to be undertaken in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The major achievements made by the country in the field of space during the last two years are as follows :

- Launch of Indian built Indian National Satellite-2C (INSAT-2C) on December 7.

1995 and INSAT-2D on June 4, 1997. These two satellites have joined the INSAT space segment (INSAT-1D, INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B) enhancing the space capacity for telecommunications and television broadcasting. INSAT-2C and INSAT-2D have also added new capabilities like mobile satellite service, business communication through Ku-band and television outreach from Middle-East to South-East Asia.

Launch of Indian built Indian Remote Sensing Satellite-1C (IRS-1C) on December 28, 1995 and IRS-P3 satellite on March 21, 1996. IRS-1C the most sophisticated civilian remote sensing satellite in the world today, has provided further fillip to the application of remote sensing technology for resources monitoring and management. IRS-P3, besides the Indian remote sensing payload, carries Modular Opt-electronics Scanner for ocean remote sensing and an X-ray Astronomy payload.

Completion of the development of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) with its third and final development launch (PSLV-D3) conducted successfully on March 21, 1996 from SHAR Centre, Sriharikota. PSLV-D3 placed IRS-P3 satellite into the pre-determined polar sunsynchronous orbit. India is now capable of launching its remote sensing satellites from within the country.

Completion of the indigenous development of subscale (one tonne) pressure-fed cryogenic engine. This achievement has provided the impetus to the development of indigenous Cryogenic Upper Stage which will be employed in India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV).

Initiation, on November 1, 1996, a two year pilot project, namely, Jhabua Developmental Communications Project (JDCP) for demonstrating the use of development communications and training for rural development on an end-to-end basis in the predominantly tribal district of Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh. Under this programme, 150 direct reception TV sets have been installed in as many villages which receive, via INSAT, specially produced programmes aimed at training and creating awareness among the people in the region, on better agricultural practices, land and water resources management, family planning, health, hygiene, etc. This project will provide the inputs for establishing a nation-wide GRAMSAT network.

(b) The programmes proposed to be implemented in the coming years are :

- Launch of Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-1D) by using India's own launch vehicle PSLV in September/October, 1997 or first half of 1998. IRS-1D, identical to IRS-1C, will further enhance the remote sensing services to various users including those in other countries who are already receiving IRS-1C data.
- Launch of INSAT-2E in 1998. This satellite will further enhance the capability of INSAT space segment to meet the growing demands of user-community. INSAT-2E will also include meteorological payloads which is more advanced than those on-board INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B. An equivalent of eleven 36 MHz C-band transponder-capacity on-board INSAT-2E will be leased to the International Telecommunication Satellite (INTELSAT) Organisation on commercial basis.
- Launch of IRS-P4 by PSLV during 1998-1999. This satellite will carry remote sensing payloads for ocean resources survey.
- First developmental test of GSLV during 1998-1999 with an experimental satellite, GSAT, on board. GSLV is envisaged to provide India the capability to launch INSAT class of communication satellites into geostationary transfer orbit.

[English]

Works under MPLADS

3463. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether works under MPLADS are being unusually delayed in execution by the Government agencies and also unnecessary deductions are being made from the approved and sanctioned amounts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the works done in major cases under MPLADS are below standard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) to (e) Some cases of slow implementation and low quality of MPLADS works have been reported. Whenever, such a complaint is received the matter is referred to the concerned authorities of the State Government for taking prompt corrective/remedial actions.

DDT in Milk

3464. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDT in milk is about 14 times higher than the permissible limit of WHO in some regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its effect on human being;

(c) whether India will not be in a position to export milk products in the next five years due to high DDT/BHC residues in milk; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government to reduce DDT from milk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) There is no reported evidence that the tolerance limit for DDT is 14th times higher than permissible limit. The Indian Council of Medical Research has brought out a report on Surveillance of Food contaminants in India which, inter alia, found that of the 2205 samples screened 37% of the samples contained DDT residues above tolerance limit.

(c) The importing Countries have prescribed tolerance limits of pesticides residues under their own food laws which are taken into consideration while exporting milk products from India. Pesticide residues remain in the soil for several decades, after they are used. This phenomenon is world-wide and not restricted only to India.

(d) The Government has already banned the use of DDT and BHC in Agriculture; The use of BHC under the Malaria Control Programme has been banned with effect from 1.4.1997. It has been decided to phase out the use of DDT which is only being used now under the National Malaria Eradication Programme in limited quantities in the areas where the mosquito vector is particularly susceptible. A high level Committee has been constituted to identify the areas where DDT is cost effective and to limit its use for essential public health functions only.

Computer Software Industry

3465. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope for promoting computer software industry in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote such units in the State;

(c) the specific proposals mooted by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India, Department of Electronics has set up Software Technology Park at Bhubaneswar to promote software industry in the State of Orissa. In addition, the Department of Electronics has supported implementation of computer courses viz. Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA), Master of Computer Application (MCA), B.Tech and ITI level in various Universities/Educational Institutes in the State for development of manpower in software area.

Training Institutes

3466. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate to involve industry in the Industrial Training Institutes;

(b) whether any agency has been set up to monitor the inter-action between industry and training Institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments are the agencies implementing the Craftsmen Training Scheme through the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) established under their jurisdiction. The State Directors dealing with the scheme monitor the Industry-institute inter-action through Local Advisory Committees attached to each ITI.

(c) The Local Advisory Committees attached to each ITI comprises of the Principal of the ITI, two representatives from local industry, one from Labour and Local Employment Offices. The function of the Advisory Committee is to advise the ITI on various training matters and suggest measures to adopt the training programmes to meet the local needs of industry.

Facilities in AIIMS

3467. SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of facilities available for the treatment of serious patients in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) whether the facilities of shelters/Darmashalas etc. are also available in the said institute;

(c) the number of beds/cots available at present in AIIMS, particularly in Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital of AIIMS for the treatment of patients;

(d) whether due to inadequacy of beds, IRCH of AIIMS, is unable to admit Cancer patients;

(e) whether due to shortage of beds, many Cancer patients who are already under the treatment of IRCH, are deprived of timely admission; and

(f) if so, the steps, the Government contemplate to cope up with the requirement of beds for admission of patients particularly in IRCH of AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Adequate facilities for treatment of serious patients are available at the Institute.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are 1626 beds available in the Institute including the Private Wards, out of which 70 beds are in the Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital.

(d) and (e) Sometimes, it is not possible to admit cancer patients at IRCH of AIIMS due to shortage of beds.

(f) Expansion of IRCH to increase its bed strength to 150 and to expand its other facilities has been planned.

[Translation]

Allotment of Land

3468. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL . Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Supreme Court has directed the DDA

to hold talks with the owners of petrol pumps regarding allotment of land to those petrol pumps which are situated in ridge area of Delhi and have to be shifted to some other suitable places with a view to protest the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether DDA has allotted the land to these petrol pumps elsewhere;

(d) if so, the details of places where the land has been allotted to these petrol pumps;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(f) the time by which the land is likely to be allotted to these petrol pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 8.10.96 directed 11 petrol pump holders to attend the meeting on 15.10.96 at 2.00 P.M. in the room of Commissioner (Land Management), DDA to sort out the issue of allotment of petrol pump sites.

(c) Yes, Sir. These petrol pump holders have already been allocated alternative sites in the draw held on 25.10.96.

(d) The details of places where the land have been allocated to these petrol pump holders are given in the attached Statement.

(e) and (f) In view of the above, the question do not arise.

Statement

Details of Alternative Sites

S.No.	Name of the dealer	Alternative site
1.	Ridge view Service Station	Shalimar Bagh
2.	Arora Service Station	Pitampura Road No. 44
3.	Chanakyapuri Service Station	Pashim Vihar Opp. GH-14.
4.	Shankar Marg Filling Station	Madipur Community Centre
5.	Sethi Auto Service Station	Dilshad Garden again changed to Mangolpuri Distt. Centre.
6.	Delhi Automobiles	Mathura Road Jasola Road No. 13-A.
7.	M/s Kitchner Road Service	Pitampura Road No. 41
8.	Pusa Road Service Station	Nari Niketan Janakpuri
9.	A.A.U.I. Service Station	Mayapuri
10.	Pushpanjali Service Station	Nelson Mandella Road
11.	M/s. Lmk Road Service Station	Maitri College Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

Catering Service in AIIMS

3469. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the catering services for the patients in the AIIMS is not proper;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring the improvement in the catering service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Institute has a fullfledged Department of Dietetics. The catering services for the patients are functioning satisfactorily and efforts to maintain them upto the desired level are constantly made by the Institute under the supervision of trained dieticians.

Ayurvedic Medical Research Centres

3470. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up ayurvedic medical research centras in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the places found suitable for the purpose after conducting survey in this regard;

(c) whether the work is likely to be commenced during 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Government Accommodation in Guwahati

3471. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government employees posted at Guwahati are facing hardship for want of Government accommodation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Government flats have been constructed in Guwahati during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to build more flats for its employees posted there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Type-wise Demand for General Pool accommodation is as under :-

Type-I	-	383
Type-II	-	691
Type-III	-	627
Type-IV	-	152

(c) Nil.

(d) 80 Quarters of Type-I to Type-IV category are presently under construction at Guwahati for allotment from the General Pool as per details given below :-

Type-I	-	24
Type-II	-	16
Type-III	-	16
Type-IV	-	24

Super Computers

3472. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have planned to manufacture some Super Computers based on parallel processing method of "Cray Super Computer" in 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government in this regard, till now; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Cray Supercomputer is a series of first supercomputers developed in the world and were based on very high speed custom designed components using Emitter Coupled Logic (ECL) technology and pipelined vector processing, different from parallel processing technology. Parallel Processing Systems are engineered using commercially available computers/high speed microprocessors and configured to achieve high computing power and are scalable in speed, memory and performance. In this environment the problems are solved by parallelising the programs.

The Government had taken initiatives in the development of supercomputers based on parallel processing in India. As a result, various Government organisations, viz. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) have developed supercomputers based on parallel

processing technology. Apart from these organisations who are themselves using these supercomputers, other R&D and Academic institutions in India are also using the indigenously developed supercomputers. Further developments are continuing to build supercomputers of higher peak powers based on parallel processing to meet various requirements in Mission critical applications.

Allocation for Madhya Pradesh

3473. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total Plan outlay fixed for the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the rate of Industrial and Agricultural growth contemplated thereunder vis-a-vis Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the strategy proposed to be adopted under the Ninth Plan to ensure speedy development of backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) The total Plan outlay fixed for the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan stands at Rs. 20075 crore.

(b) Growth rates in various sectors of the State Economy would be dependent on public as well as private investment. The quantum of private investment cannot be indicated since investment will proceed independently.

(c) The development of backward areas in a State is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Planning Commission, however, assist in overall development of the State by way of allocation of Plan funds. Besides, the States are also assisted by the Central Government through Special Central Assistance.

Complaint Cell

3475. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study conducted by the Foundation for Research in Community health has shown that several doctors have grossly inadequate knowledge of highly prevalent diseases like tuberculosis and leprosy and also of the standard of treatment for these diseases;

(b) whether the Government have set up a call to look into the complaints against doctors;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the programme chalked out so far to inquire into the complaints received from State Governments against the doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) A grievance Redressal Cell (Health Sector) has been established in the Directorate General of Health Services on 25th March, 1997 to deal with complaints relating to medical treatment. These complaints are forwarded to the concerned authorities for investigations and appropriate action.

Special Central Assistance

3475. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the amount of special central assistance to the backward and adivasi dominated States for various sub-plans and programmes during the Ninth Plan period as compared to the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) and (b) Special Central Assistance is allocated under Special Area Programmes namely Hill Area Development Programme, Border Area Development Programme, Tribal Sub-Plans, North-Eastern Council, etc. to ameliorate the special problems of the backward and tribal areas in the States. The sectoral strategies and allocation for the Ninth Five Year Plan is currently under way in Planning Commission.

Indo-Peru Relations

3476. SHRI G. A. CHARAN REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether India and Peru signed an agreement during the visit of the President of Peru to India;

(b) if so, the total number of agreements signed between India and Peru alongwith their details

(c) whether one of the agreements is on making joint effort to fight terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent relations between the two countries have improved?

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

(b) Six official Agreements were signed during the visit. These pertain to Agriculture, Antarctica, cooperation between the Diplomatic Academy of Peru and Foreign Service Institute of India, Regular Foreign Office consultations, Technical Cooperation and Tourism. Two business agreements were also signed during the visit. The first set up a Joint Business /Council (JBC)

between FICCI and the Confederation of Peruvian Business and Industry (CONFIEP). The second was a Protocol for cooperation between the Peruvian Chamber of Software (CPS) and the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) of India.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Apart from ways to boost bilateral trade, India's capacity to cooperate with Peru in a number of fields were discussed. President Fujimori expressed particular interest in utilising Indian expertise for development of small and medium business enterprises to boost agricultural production in Peru. President Fujimori's visit to India has given a fillip to expanding bilateral political, economic, commercial and cultural ties.

Hospitals set up under Welfare Funds

3477. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic dispensaries and hospitals set up under various welfare funds, region-wise and fund-wise;

(b) the number of posts of Medical officers and staff lying vacant in each of these dispensaries/hospitals and since when;

(c) the efforts made to fill up the vacant posts during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to provide adequate medical facilities to the poor mine and beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) A statement-I is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The Labour welfare Organisation is directly running 12 Hospitals and 274 dispensaries (including one chest clinic) at different places in the country to give basic health care and family welfare services to the beedi and mine workers. One 50 - bedded hospital for beedi workers is also coming up at Dhuliyyan in West Bengal. Most of these institutions have Mobile Units attached to them to increase their out-reach. In addition to these facilities, various health schemes have also been formulated for these workers. A list of those schemes is enclosed as Statement-II.

Statement-I

Region	Fund	Allopathic Dispensaries	Ayurvedic Dispensaries	Homeopathic Dispensaries	Hospitals	Grand Total Dispensaries/Hospitals	
1. Hyderabad	Beedi	36	-	-	-	36	-
	Mica	2	2	-	1	4	1
	LSDM	2	-	-	-	2	-
	Iron	1	-	-	-	1	-
2. Jabalpur	Beedi	27	-	-	-	27	-
	LSDM	4	6	-	-	10	-
	Iron	4	-	-	1	4	1
3. Bangalore	Beedi	39	-	-	1	39	1
	Iron	3	-	-	1	3	1
4. Karma	Beedi	22	-	-	1	22	1
	Mica	4	-	-	2	4	2
	LSDM	2	-	-	-	2	-
	Iron	4	-	-	1	4	1
5. Bhilwara	Beedi	11	5	-	-	16	-
	Mice	2	1	-	-	3	-
	LSDM	9	6	-	1	15	1
6. Allahabad	Beedi	19	-	-	1	19	1
	LSDM	2	-	-	-	2	-
7. Bhubaneswar	Beedi	14	-	-	-	14	-
	LSDM	2	-	-	-	2	-
	Iron	8	-	-	1	8	1
8. Nagpur	Beedi	15	2	-	-	17	-
	LSDM	-	1	-	-	1	-
	Iron	1	-	-	1	1	1
9. Calcutta	Beedi	18	-	-	-	18	-
Total :		251	23	-	12	274	12

Statement-II

1. Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Mine and Beedi Workers.
2. Scheme for Domicillary Treatment of Mine and Beedi Workers suffering from T.B.
3. Scheme for grant of financial assistance to Mine and Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) for purchase of Spectacles.
4. Scheme for Leprosy relief for Mine and Beedi Workers.
5. Scheme for providing facilities for the treatment of Mine and Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6. Scheme for Artificial Limb for Mine Workers working in Mine, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Chrome Ore, Limestone and Dolomite Mines.
7. Scheme for Fatal and Serious Accident Benefit Scheme for Mine workers working in Mica, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore & Chrome Ore and Limestone and Dolomite Mines.
8. Scheme for payment of Grant-in-aid to Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore and Limestone & Dolomite Mines Managements for purchase of Ambulance Van.
9. Scheme for reimbursement of actual treatment charges to Mine and Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
10. Maternity Benefits Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
11. Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers under Social Security.
12. Family Welfare Programme-A Scheme for payment of extra monetary compensation for sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
13. Scheme for re-imburement of expenditure as Financial assistance to Mine and Beedi Workers suffering from Heart Diseases.
14. Scheme for re-imburement of expenditure as financial assistance to mine and beedi workers for Kidney Transplantation etc.

[Translation]

Development of Sub-Urban Areas

3478. **DR. ARVIND SHARMA** : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have launched any specific scheme for the development of sub-urban areas falling in and around the NCT of Delhi particularly Faridabad, Gurgaon, Sonapat, Gaziabad and Noida;

(b) if so, whether any fund has been provided to the Government of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh for the purpose; and

(c) whether directives have also been issued by the Union Government to these State Governments to take local Members of Parliament of respective States into confidence in finalising the schemes and incurring expenditures on development works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) has reported that as per its Regional Plan 2001, selected priority towns/DMA towns including Faridabad, Gurgaon, Kundli, Ghaziabad and Noida have been identified for development around Delhi. Specific scheme for their development have been drawn up.

(b) Yes, Sir. Financial Assistance in terms of loan is available from the development fund of NCRPB for the States on the basis of approved pattern.

(c) No. Sir.

[English]

Poverty Line

3479. **SHRI RANJIB BISWAL** : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have made a fresh study on the people living below poverty line in the country;

(b) the yard sticks applied to assess the people below the poverty line; and

(c) the number of people living below the poverty line and the number of families brought above the poverty line, State-wise during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) The Planning Commission in 1989 constituted an Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor under the chairmanship of late Prof. D.T. Lakdawala. The Expert Group outlined an alternative methodology to estimate poverty at national and state level. The Expert Group methodology has been adopted by the Planning Commission in March, 1997 with minor modifications.

(b) The Expert Group adopted the poverty line as monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. These poverty lines at national level were disaggregated into state-specific poverty lines using state-specific price indices in order to estimate the people below the poverty line.

(c) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the quinquennial National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure. The two latest estimates of poverty are based on the quinquennial survey held in 1987-88 (NSS

43rd round) and 1993-94 (NSS 50th round). As such, the estimates of poverty for the latest three years are not available. The State-wise estimates of poverty in 1987-88 and 1993-94 are enclosed as Statement-I and Statement-II.

Statement-I

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States-1987-88 (Modified Export Group)

State	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh	96.38	20.92	64.05	40.11	160.43	25.86
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2.75	39.35	0.08	9.94	2.83	36.22
3. Assam	73.53	39.35	2.22	9.94	75.75	36.21
4. Bihar	370.23	52.63	50.70	48.73	420.93	52.13
5. Goa	1.31	17.64	1.65	35.48	2.96	24.52
6. Gujarat	74.13	28.67	48.22	37.26	122.36	31.54
7. Haryana	18.88	16.22	6.51	17.99	25.37	16.64
8. Himachal Pradesh	7.27	16.28	0.25	6.29	7.52	15.45
9. Jammu and Kashmir	14.11	25.70	2.85	17.47	16.95	23.82
10. Karnataka	96.81	32.82	61.80	48.42	158.61	37.53
11. Kerala	61.64	29.10	26.84	40.33	88.48	31.79
12. Madhya Pradesh	200.02	41.92	64.29	47.09	264.30	43.07
13. Maharashtra	186.89	40.78	109.38	39.78	296.27	40.41
14. Manipur	4.83	39.35	0.46	9.94	5.29	31.35
15. Meghalaya	5.18	39.35	0.30	9.94	5.48	33.92
16. Mizoram	1.46	39.35	0.25	9.94	1.70	27.52
17. Nagaland	3.49	39.35	0.18	9.94	3.66	34.43
18. Orissa	149.96	57.64	15.95	41.63	165.93	55.58
19. Punjab	17.09	12.60	8.08	14.67	25.17	13.20
20. Rajasthan	104.97	33.21	37.93	41.92	142.90	35.15
21. Sikkim	1.31	39.35	0.04	9.94	1.36	36.06
22. Tamil Nadu	161.80	45.80	69.27	38.64	231.07	43.39
23. Tripura	8.49	39.35	0.35	9.94	8.84	35.23
24. Uttar Pradesh	429.74	41.10	106.79	42.96	536.53	41.46
25. West Bengal	223.37	48.30	60.24	35.08	283.61	44.72
26. Delhi	0.10	1.29	10.15	13.56	10.25	12.41
27. Andaman & Nicobar	0.83	45.80	0.26	38.64	1.09	43.89
28. Chandigarh	0.08	14.67	0.76	14.67	0.84	14.67

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
29. Daman & Nagar Haveli		0.79	67.11	-	-	0.79	67.11
30. Lakshadweep		0.07	29.10	0.10	40.33	0.17	34.95
31. Pondicherry		1.33	45.80	1.72	38.64	3.05	41.46
32. Daman and Diu		0.08	14.67	0.76	14.67	0.84	14.67
All India		2318.79	39.09	751.69	38.20	3070.49	38.86

Note :

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Statement-II*Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States-1993-94 (Modified Export Group)*

State	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh	79.49	15.92	74.47	38.33	153.97	22.19
2. Arunachal Pradesh	3.62	45.01	0.11	7.73	3.73	39.35
3. Assam	94.33	45.01	2.03	7.73	96.36	40.86
4. Bihar	450.86	58.21	42.49	34.50	493.35	54.96
5. Goa	0.38	5.34	1.53	27.03	1.91	14.92
6. Gujarat	62.16	22.18	43.02	27.89	105.19	24.21
7. Haryana	36.56	28.02	7.31	16.38	43.88	25.05
8. Himachal Pradesh	15.40	30.34	0.46	9.18	15.86	28.44
9. Jammu and Kashmir	19.05	30.34	1.86	9.18	20.92	25.17
10. Karnataka	95.99	29.88	60.48	40.14	156.46	33.16
11. Kerala	55.95	25.76	20.46	24.55	76.41	25.43
12. Madhya Pradesh	218.19	40.64	82.33	48.38	298.52	42.52
13. Maharashtra	193.33	37.93	111.90	35.15	305.22	36.86
14. Manipur	6.33	45.01	0.47	7.73	8.80	33.78
15. Meghalaya	7.09	45.01	0.29	7.73	7.38	37.92
16. Mizoram	1.64	45.01	0.30	7.73	1.94	25.66
17. Nagaland	4.85	45.01	0.20	7.73	5.05	37.92
18. Orissa	140.90	49.72	19.70	41.64	180.80	48.56
19. Punjab	17.76	11.95	7.35	11.35	25.11	11.77
20. Rajasthan	94.68	26.46	33.82	30.49	128.50	27.41
21. Sikkim	1.81	45.01	0.03	7.73	1.84	41.43
22. Tamil Nadu	121.70	32.48	80.40	39.77	202.10	35.03
23. Tripura	11.41	45.01	0.38	7.73	11.79	39.01
24. Uttar Pradesh	496.17	42.28	108.28	35.39	604.46	40.85

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25. West Bengal		209.90	40.80	44.66	22.41	254.56	35.66
26. Andaman & Nicobar		0.73	32.48	0.33	39.77	1.06	34.47
27. Chandigarh		0.07	11.35	0.73	11.35	0.80	11.35
28. Dadra & Nagar Hevali		0.72	51.95	0.06	39.93	0.77	50.84
29. Daman & Diu		0.03	5.34	0.15	27.03	0.18	15.80
30. Delhi		0.19	1.90	15.32	16.03	15.51	14.69
31. Lakshadweep		0.06	25.76	0.08	24.55	0.14	25.04
32. Pondicherry		0.93	32.48	2.38	39.77	3.31	37.40
All India :		2440.31	37.27	763.37	32.36	3203.68	35.97

Note :

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshdweep.
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- Poverty Ratio of Himachal Pradesh is used for Jammu & Kashmir for 1993-94.

DDA Flats

3480. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction of DDA flats are decreasing year after year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or propose to be taken to construct more flats by DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The decrease in the housing construction is due to shortage of land and supporting infrastructure.

(c) In addition to the available land where some housing stock will be taken up, more land is being acquired for planned development of the city including housing units. Other critical participants are also being pursued to provide matching infrastructural facilities to Delhi Development Authority development projects.

Reserved Posts in PGI Chandigarh

3481. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its recent judgement has held that reservation in various faculty posts and post-doctoral courses like DM/Mch in Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGI), Chandigarh are valid and constitutional;

(b) if so, whether despite this judgement the PGI has stopped reservation in faculty posts for SCs/STs;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of posts meant for SCs/STs in PGI, Chandigarh, are lying vacant and since when category-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken to fill the vacant reserved posts in the said Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) A total of 102 vacancies of faculty posts (Professors-16 + Asstt. Professors-86) have accumulated since 1992, because of writ petitions for and against reservation in the courts. The Apex Court has now upheld the reservations. Therefore, out of these jobs, reserved jobs as per Government reservation rule will be filled by the reserved candidates. The above vacant posts are being advertised shrotly with the provision of reservation as per rules.

Surface Air Missile

3482. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Pakistan's recently developed surface to air missile 'Anza' and anti-tank guided missile 'Baktar Shikan';

(b) whether any of these missiles has been test fired by Pakistan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) In a press release, Pakistan claimed that it had successfully tested the Anza surface to air missile and the Baktar Shikan anti-tank guided missile on 23rd July, 1997.

(c) Government are carefully and continuously assessing Pakistan's externally aided missile programme and its implications for the country's security. Based on our own threat perceptions, Government are committed to taking all necessary steps to ensure that the national security is not endangered.

Non-Alignment Movement

3483. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NAM has lost its relevance as a world forum for airing independent views and taking concerted actions on global political issues;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of meetings of NAM leaders held after the break-up of the former Soviet Union;

(d) the direction given to the non-alignment movement by these conferences in regard to facing the new global realities and shaping its reactions and formulating its strategy; and

(e) the details of reactions expressed or action taken in respect of world events since the break-up of the former Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (e) The non-Aligned Movement plays a prominent role in projecting collective views of the developing countries on global political, security, economic, social and environmental issues and continues to have relevance in present international scenario. After the break-up of the former Soviet Union, the Non-Aligned Movement has held two Summit Meetings, in Jakarta, Indonesia in 1992 and in Cartagena, Colombia in 1995. Inter-Summit Ministerial Meetings were held in Cairo in May, 1995 and in New Delhi in April, 1997. Additionally, the NAM Coordinating Bureau meets in New York from time to time, at the level of Permanent Representatives, to attend to urgent work and to review important developments in the international field. The Movement has been given directions to work unitedly for the objective of a new, democratic world order, free from want, fear and intolerance, and built on peace, justice, equality, democracy and respect for the principles of the United Nations, Charter of International Law and International Humanitarian Law. The Movement has

closely followed world events since the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the reactions of the Movement are contained in the Final Documents and Declarations issued at the conclusion of the Summit and Ministerial meetings, as well as in Communiqués issued from time to time.

[Translation]

Unemployment Allowance

3484. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated or being formulated by the Union Government to provide employment and 'unemployment allowances' to the educated unemployed youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received any demand, memorandum and proposals from various organisations, political parties during the last five years for providing employment or 'unemployment allowances' to the educated unemployed youths;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the names of the States and Union Territories where 'unemployment allowances' are being provided and the extent thereof; and

(g) the details of funds provided or being provided for the purpose by the Union Government to the State Governments, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No scheme for unemployed allowance is contemplated. However, this Ministry is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Urban Poverty Eradication Programmes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP).

NRY :- Launched in October, 1989 with the objective of generating employment opportunities for the urban poor living below the poverty line. The employment contemplated is of two types : One type relates to providing self-employment by way of assisting beneficiaries in setting-up Micro Enterprises while the other type relates to the generation of wage employment through the creation of useful public assets and also through the housing and shelter upgradation.

PMIUPEP : Launched in November, 95 seeks to address the economic, social and physical dimensions of urban poverty in urban agglomerations with population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census and Hill District Town of Hilly/N.E. States with population less than one lakh as per the 1991 census.

with a multi-pronged, integrated approach. Encouraging unemployed and under-employed urban poor to set up small enterprises relating to servicing, petty business and manufacturing, is one of the many components of the programme. Those in the selected towns living below the poverty line and educated upto IXth standard are covered under this component.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) In view of the above does not arise.

[English]

Grant for Bihar

3485. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of grant sanctioned and released by the Union Government for Bihar particularly for Jharkhand region during the last three years;

(b) whether State Government has urged the Planning Commission for additional grant for this region; and

(c) if so, the total grant demanded and sanctioned for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) The outlays for the Annual Plan are finalised by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government for the State as a whole and not for any specific area of the State. The net normal Central assistance allocated and released to Bihar during the last 3 years are as follows :

(Rs. crore)

Annual Plan	Amount allocated	Amount released
1994-95	947.31	890.32
1995-96	1053.86	1008.31
1996-97	1276.98	1109.83

(b) and (c) Question Does not arise.

[Translation]

Influx of Rural Population

3486. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the urban population is increasing at a very fast rate each year due to exodus of people from the rural areas to the urban areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the exodus of people from rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Available data indicate that urban population is increasing at a fast rate partly due to the migration of people from the rural areas to the urban areas, and to a larger extent due to natural increase in population.

(b) People migrate to urban areas because of prosperity pull factors (attraction of cities for jobs) and poverty-push factors (poor living conditions in rural areas). High natural growth in population is attributable to high (birth rate - death rate) differential in urban areas.

(c) The Government of India has adopted a two-pronged approach to deal with the problems of migration of population from villages to the cities. These are development of rural areas and upgradation of living conditions of the rural poor through a number of rural development and employment generation schemes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Employment Assurances Scheme (EAS), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Rural Water Supply (RWS) etc., and development of selected regional urban growth centres to enable them to emerge as places of economic growth and employment opportunities for surrounding rural hinterlands through the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT).

[English]

Jurisdiction of CAT

3487. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Education has of late approached the Department of Personnel and Training to bring employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan under the jurisdiction of CAT;

(b) if so, whether their request has since been acceded to this request;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Question of bringing the employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan and some other

Organisations under the jurisdiction of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) is dependent on the assessment of additional workload as a result thereof on the CAT for which the concerned Ministries/Departments have yet to supply some additional information.

Agreement with Bhutan

3488. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a treaty relating to promotion of and fostering the relations of friendship and neighbourliness was signed at Darjeeling on August 8, 1949 by the representatives of Government of India and the then Maharaja of Bhutan;

(b) whether as per that Government of India agreed to make on payment of Rupees five lakhs per annum to Government of Bhutan on the tenth day of every January, if so, on what account; and

(c) whether the said amount of Rupees five lakhs is being paid to Government of Bhutan regularly?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. As per Article 3 of the Treaty, in place of the compensation granted to the Government of Bhutan under Article 4 of the Treaty of Sinchula and enhanced by the treaty of January 8, 1910 and the temporary subsidy of Rupees one lakh per annum granted in 1942 the Government of India agreed to make an annual payment of Rupees five lakhs to the Government of Bhutan.

(c) Yes, Sir. The payment is being made to the Government of Bhutan regularly.

Infrastructure and Housing Projects

3489. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has earmarked funds for the development of infrastructure and housing projects in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared an action plan to utilise the funds in respect of the core sector and housing projects;

(c) if so, the details of the proposed plan, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which the housing and core sector projects are likely to be completed under this during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Asian Development Bank has extended a line of credit of US \$ 85 million

for the Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project for development of an integrated urban infrastructure and institutional strengthening programme to provide and/or upgrade essential urban infrastructure services in four selected towns in the Bangalore sub-region, i.e. Mysore, Tumkur, Ramanagaram and Channapatna. The Loan Agreement for this project was signed in May, 1996.

In addition another loan of US \$ 20 million has been allocated to Housing Development Finance Corporation for housing projects for the economically weaker section in the State. This loan agreement was signed in December, 1996 and the entire amount of US \$ 20 million will be drawn during 1997-98.

The Bank has also included a Housing Finance Facility Project of US \$ 250 million, in the pipeline for possible assistance during 1997, which may be increased to US \$ 300 million. The borrowers under this project will be National Housing Bank, Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO) and Housing and Development Finance Corporation (HDFC). The project seeks lending for housing through Community based Finance Institutions (CFIs), Housing Finance Institutions, co-operatives or directly to beneficiaries for slum improvement and low income housing sub-projects and expanding the national housing finance system. The details of the project will be known after negotiations are held and agreements signed with Asian Development Bank.

(d) So far Karnataka Urban infrastructure Project is concerned, it has been planned to be implemented upto June, 2000, followed by one year maintenance period after completion of the projects which will extend through to June, 2001.

Nutrition Programme in Kerala

3490. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are reconsidering the move to reduce assistance from World Food Programme for Supplementary Nutrition Programme to Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Due to resource crunch with World Food Programme under India Country Programme (ICP) (1997-2000), World Food Programme have proposed to supply reduced food assistance of 70,000 ton per annum worth US \$ 27 million against the food requirement worth US \$ 60 million per annum for the on-going World Food Programme assisted projects in the country. Therefore, the allocation to all the on-going World Food Programme has been reduced accordingly.

Infrastructure Development

3491. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REEDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has accepted in principle, the demand of India regarding financing the infrastructure development to remove a key constraint in growth and poverty alleviation in the country,

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has asked its committee to prepare an action programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total quantum of amount of aid to be provided by the World Bank for development of infrastructure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) In the continuing discussions with the World Bank, the Bank has recognised the need for infrastructure development in India. As part of its Country Assistance Strategy for 1997, the Bank has decided to place added emphasis on capacity building and resource mobilisation for public and private infrastructure investments.

(b) and (c) No Sir. World Bank has not informed the Government about setting up of any such Committee or preparation of an action programme.

(d) Various infrastructure projects are under discussions with the World Bank and the quantum of assistance will be known after these projects are appraised and loans finalised.

Visa Policy

3492. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ministry of Tourism has urged the External Affairs Ministry to ease visa restrictions under bi-lateral agreements with as many as possible countries so that tourists could get visa at airport upon arrival;

(b) if so, whether this is being suggested to doubling the foreign tourist arrival in future; and

(c) if so, to what extent the said proposal has been accepted by the Government?

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

(b) and (c) The foreign tourists in groups of four or more arriving by air or sea, sponsored by recognised Indian Travel Agencies and with a pre-drawn itinerary can be granted visa at the airport on the written request of the Travel Agencies to the Immigration Officer.

Properties of Kashmiri Migrants

3493. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jammu and Kashmir Government have issued instructions barring Kashmiri migrants from selling off their properties left by them in the Kashmir valley;

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

(c) the number of Kashmiri migrants who have returned to the Valley during the year 1996-97;

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government so far to safeguard the interests of Kashmiri migrants; and

(e) the facilities and safeguard offered by the Government to the migrants to return to the valley?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The Government of J&K have enacted "The Jammu and Kashmir Migrants Immovable Property (Preservation, Protection and Restraint on Distress Sales) Act, 1997 in view of the urgent need to take steps for the preservation and protection of such immovable property as also to put a halt to distress sales by the migrants. The Act does not bar the migrants from selling off their properties. On the other hand, it provides protection as restrictions have been imposed for getting prior permission from the competent authority under the Act which will make the enquiry as to whether the sale is distress sale or not. It has also been provided in the Act that the permission will be deemed to have been granted in case the competent authority does not decide the matter within 15 days from the date of receipt of application. There are other provisions in the Act which provide for safeguarding the properties of the migrants which were left behind by them.

(c) 13 Kashmiri migrant families, comprising 21 persons, had returned in May-June'96 to their homes.

(d) and (e) With the taking over of a popular Government, after successful conduct of Assembly Elections in the State, in October 1996, the State Government has given top priority for formulating a scheme for safe and honourable return of Kashmiri migrants to their native places. The State Government has constituted an Apex level Committee under the Chairmanship of Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation Minister to look into all aspects of the problems of migrants. A Sub-Committee headed by the Financial Commissioner (Planning & Development) has also been constituted to draw up an action plan for return of migrants after eliciting their views.

Contamination of Drinking Water

3494. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has submitted a report on arsenic contamination of drinking water in several parts of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large chunk of population in West Bengal has been suffering from arsenic contamination;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide special Central assistance to the State Government to tackle the disease; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) World Health Organisation has forwarded a report of the study undertaken by two WHO consultants namely, Dr. K.S. Subramanian and Dr. Michael J. Kosnett on arsenic contamination of groundwater in eight districts of West Bengal.

(b) The report contains the following major recommendations :

- (i) The Government of West Bengal should establish a systematic programme to ascertain the extent of arsenic contamination in ground water throughout the State.
- (ii) Drinking water sources containing an elevated concentration of arsenic should be replaced with alternative sources at an accelerated pace.
- (iii) Programmes to ascertain the extent of the health problems associated with arsenic exposure should be expanded.
- (iv) An expanded local and regional medical programme is required for arsenic induced diseases.
- (v) Establishment of an extensive programme of public and professional education on arsenic related health problems.
- (vi) A high level office/programme, specifically dedicated to the arsenic problem should be set up by the Health Deptt. of the Government of West Bengal.

(c) According to a survey of April, 1996 conducted by the Government of West Bengal, the total population at risk is around 45 lakhs in the State.

(d) and (e) The Union Government have made the following releases of funds to the State of West Bengal for supply of safe drinking water :

Year	Rs.in lakhs
1993-94	480.92
1994-95	607.04
1995-96	2873.79

Gastro-Enteritis

3495. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of gastro-enteritis have been increased in the Capital;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to provide proper treatment to the patients suffering from gastro enteritis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Government of National Capital of Territory of Delhi has informed that the number of Gastro Enteritis/Cholera cases have shown a declining trend during the last three years in the capital.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have chalked out a detailed action plan for treatment and prevention of seasonal diseases including gastro enteritis. Setting up of Oral Rehydration Therapy Centres in the out Patient Department of all dispensaries and hospitals in the main component of the Action Plan for providing treatment to the patients. The Action Plan also include surveillance and monitoring, supply of Oral Rehydration Salts, adequate supply of potable water, distribution of Chlorine tablets, environmental sanitation, food hygiene, health education etc.

Mandatory Test for HIV Infection

3496. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the controversy involved in mandatory testing of certain population groups, especially jail inmates, for HIV infection;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government have followed the guidelines formulated by the WHO in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) As envisaged in 'National HIV Testing Policy', the mandatory testing for HIV infection of any population group including jail inmates is not recommended. Mandatory testing is only done for screening of blood (not the donor) to eliminate blood transmissible diseases including HIV/AIDS.

(c) The present document on testing policy for HIV is prepared as per guidelines formulated by WHO and consultation with various experts.

Medical Treatment

3497. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wounded soldiers of the present Government of Afganistan are being sent to India for medical treatment;

(b) whether the medical treatment to majority of these soldiers is being provided in the private hospitals and nursing homes located in various parts of Delhi;

(c) if so, the number of wounded soldiers receiving medical treatment in India;

(d) whether the Government of India is bearing the expenses on medical treatment being given to them;

(e) if so, the total amount borne by the Government in this regard;

(f) whether any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) We have no information in this regard.

(c) to (g) Does not arise.

Minister's Discretionary Grant

3498. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the Government through the Members of Parliament to grant financial assistance from Minister's Discretionary Grant to the needy and poor OBC landless families of Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) whether the Government have provided grants to these applicants;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) During 1996-97, 3 applications were received from Members of Parliament recommending financial assistance to 3 patients from Andhra Pradesh. During 1997-98 only one such case was received. These cases could not be considered for want of specific details which are awaited. One case was not covered under the existing policy and hence was not acceded to.

Mica Welfare Fund

3499. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the income and expenditure of Mica Welfare Fund during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the number of Mica workers benefited in each region under various welfare measures during the last three years;

(c) the efforts made for improving dwindling Mica Fund during last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to levy cess on internal consumption of Mica; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) A statement-I showing income and expenditure under Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund is enclosed.

(b) A statement-II showing the number of beneficiaries under Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund, scheme-wise and region-wise during the last three years is enclosed.

(c) to (e) There has been a steady decline in production of Mica in the recent years primarily on account of falling demand due to development of cheaper substitutes. Imposition of any additional cess or tax could further depress the demand by increasing Mica prices and is therefore not being contemplated

Statement-I

Income and Expenditure for the last three years

(Rs. in thousands)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1994-95	14,892	23,147
1995-96	20,968	22,683
1996-97	20,347	22,346

Statement-II

Number of beneficiaries/under Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund during last three years

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1994-95			1995-96			1996-97		
		Bhil-wara	Hydera-bad	Karma	Bhil-wara	Hydera-bad	Karma	Bhil-wara	Hydera-bad	Karma
1.	Fatal & Serious accident cases	-	-	5	-	3	1	-	9	-
2.	Patients treated in Dispensaries	28168	-	42250	27527	-	36737	18416	90563	27940
3.	Domiciliary treatment to T.B. patient	-	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Purchase of Spectacles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5.	Grant of scholarship to children	193	113	81	37	-	69	62	130	59
6.	Supply of one set of uniforms, slates, text books extc.	95	91	154	15	-	90	-	83	79
7.	Attendance incentives	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Mid-day Meal	-	233	-	-	-	-	-	230	-
9.	Organising of Social cultural activities	1	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-
10.	Exhibition of films	-	13	25	-	-	85	11	-	30
11.	No. of students awarded in Middle & High School	-	-	-	-	-	1460	-	-	-
12.	No. of MPIS	-	-	-	-	-	538	-	-	-

Indians in UAE Jails

3500. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Non-Resident Indians detained at present in the jails in UAE and other Gulf countries; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Indian Government to bring them back to Indian?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Following are the figures of Non-Resident Indians detained, as on 31.5.1997, in jails in the UAE and other Gulf countries :

S.No.	Country	No. of Indians in Jail
1.	Bahrain	176
2.	Iraq	4
3.	Kuwait	36 (As on 17.6.97)
4.	Oman	195
5.	Qatar	57
6.	Saudi Arabia	5284
7.	UAE	800
8.	Yemen	2

(b) On receipt of information about arrest of an Indian national, Missions/Posts promptly seek consular access to meet the detainee. The Consular officer first ascertains the grounds and circumstances leading to the arrest. Where necessary, the Mission takes up the matter, at a higher level, with the host Government for either discharge of the detainee or if trial is inevitable, then a speedy conclusion of the trial. The prisoners are released normally on completion of their terms of imprisonment. However, on humanitarian grounds, a number of Missions have succeeded in getting remission of sentences in deserving cases.

Housing Board

3501. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a New Housing Board for Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been pending since the last one decade;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) A decision was taken by the Government in 1987 to constitute a separate Housing Board for Delhi. But, in the context of the National Housing Policy and the approach to involve the private sector to a greater extent in the construction of houses, a view has since been taken that no separate Housing Board for Delhi may be necessary.

Indo-Japan Relationship

3502. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have agreed to form a panel with Japan in order to further enhance bilateral relations; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the visit of the Japanese Foreign Minister, Yukihiko Ikeda, to India from 23-25 July, 1997, it was agreed that a Wisemen Committee would be constituted. The Committee would explore ways of further expanding and strengthening our bilateral relations. The details of this Committee will be finalised through further discussions at the official level.

Pending Provident Fund Cases

3503. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of cases regarding withdrawal of Provident Fund pertaining to M/s. Punjab Digital Industrial System Limited, Mohali, Punjab are pending in the Office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken for immediate settlement of pending cases alongwith the reasons for delay and the time by which these cases are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) As on 31.07.97, no such case was pending.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

40 Point Roster

3504. DR. BALIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether reservation in services in favour of SC/ST communities is applicable in Group 'A' services/posts

where vacancies are filled up on seniority-cum-fitness basis;

(b) whether it is necessary for cadre controlling authorities to maintain 40 point roster to ensure exact calculation of vacancies each year for different communities; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to re-iterate the instructions to dispel the confusion prevailing in some offices who claim to implement the policy without maintaining roster?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As a consequence of the Supreme Court's Judgement in R.K. Sabharwal's case, instructions have been issued to all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India on 2.7.1997 to replace the existing vacancy based roster including the 40-point roster, by post based rosters. All Ministries/Departments, including their Attached/Subordinate offices etc. are required to follow these instructions.

Central Assistance for Kerala

3505. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Sector Investment in Kerala is very low;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the Central investment;

(c) whether unemployment problems upto certain extent has been created in Kerala on this account;

(d) whether the Government have received a proposal from Kerala Government seeking assistance for investment in the automobile sector; and

(e) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) and (b) On the basis of information on distribution of Gross Block Investment in Central Public Sector Enterprises (1996), provision under Centrally Sponsored Schemes (1995-96) and Assistance from Financial Institutions (1995-96), the Central Sector Investment in Kerala is higher than many other States.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Sewerage and Water Supply Scheme

3506. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the HUDCO has provided any fund to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for implementation of sewerage and water supply schemes in the State during the last year;

(b) if so, the details of schemes undertaken in the State during last year with assistance of this fund;

(c) whether the HUDCO has also assured the State Government to provide more funds during the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. HUDCO has sanctioned 22 water supply schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 274.93 crores, last year. These schemes involve loan commitment of Rs. 192.33 crores from HUDCO and Rs. 31.53 crores have already been released by HUDCO for implementation of the projects (details are enclosed as statement-I). No sewerage scheme was sanctioned during last year.

(c) and (d) Based on the proposal received from the State agencies, HUDCO has already sanctioned one water supply and two sewerage schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 132.29 crores during the current financial year, involving loan commitment of Rs. 92.39 crores (details are enclosed as statement-II).

Statement-I

Water Supply and Sewerage schemes Sanctioned by HUDCO in Andhra Pradesh (from 1.4.1996 to 31.3.1997)

Name of the Scheme - Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme

Name of the Agency - Andhra Pradesh Urban Finance Infrastructure and Development Corporation.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Sanction Date	City	Project Cost	Loan Amount	Loan Release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	27.12.96	Korutla	130.27	91.19	14.63
2.	27.12.96	Jangaon	149.05	104.34	2.62
3.	27.12.96	Vikarabad	139.37	97.56	14.40
4.	27.12.96	Siddipeth	2509.87	1756.91	258.92
5.	27.12.96	Srikalahasti	985.48	689.84	154.57
6.	27.12.96	Vizianagaram	2440.34	1708.24	211.92
7.	27.12.96	Ponnur	1154.50	808.15	69.24
8.	27.12.96	Mahboobnagar	4449.44	3114.61	368.33
9.	27.12.96	Chittor	4656.07	3259.25	948.92
10.	27.12.96	Manaparthi	1067.61	747.33	91.26
11.	27.12.96	Kavali	1209.72	846.80	178.02
12.	27.12.96	Yemmiganur	1352.82	946.97	208.54
13.	28.12.96	Gadwal	335.80	235.06	33.17
14.	28.12.96	Madnapalle	426.03	298.22	22.25
15.	28.12.96	Punganur	323.69	226.58	11.14
16.	28.12.96	Amalapuram	488.69	342.08	56.73
17.	28.12.96	Bheemunipatnam	266.80	186.71	10.16
18.	28.12.96	Samalkot	391.48	274.04	29.62
19.	28.12.96	Kandukur	597.08	417.96	131.13
20.	28.12.96	Sadasivpet	407.15	285.00	43.96
21.	14.3.97	Ramagundam	994.00	676.28	140.59
22.	14.3.97	Kurnool	3017.89	2120.37	154.95
Total			27493.15	19233.49	3153.07

Statement-II*From 1.4.97 to 31.7.1997*

Sanction Date : 29.7.1997

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme Name	Agency Name	Project Cost	Loan Amt.
1.	Augmentation of W/s Scheme at Tirupati	A.P. Urban Fin. Infra. Dev. Corp.	6848.85	4812.01
2.	Impl. of U/G Sewerage System at Tirupati	-Do-	3722.27	2567.07
3.	Comp. Sewerage Sch. for Block III Guntur	Guntur Municipal Corporation	2658.00	1860.46
Total			13229.12	9239.54

Delhi Apartment Ownership Act

3507. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI SYDIAH KOTA :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2715 on March 12, 1997 regarding Delhi Apartment Ownership Act and state :

(a) the details of the "inherent lacunae" in the law for which the provisions of the Act could not be enforced since December 12, 1987;

(b) when the lacunae in the law came to the notice of the Government and the action taken to remedy the situation;

(c) whether the Government have examined the extent of loss caused to the exchequer due to non-payment of registration fee and stamp duty under the Act for the last ten years if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the Government propose to bring a new amended legislation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986 received the assent of the President on 23.12.86 and was published in the Gazette of India on the same day. The Administrator, i.e., the Lt. Governor of Delhi, by notification published in the Official Gazette of the Delhi Administration on 10.12.87, appointed 1.12.87 as the date from which the Act would come into force, and also appointing the Competent Authority under the Act.

However, immediately after the notification certain points relating to the appointment of a competent authority as provided in Section 3(m) of the Act were raised. The matter was considered and a view was taken that the definition of 'Competent Authority' needs to be amended, to enlarge the number of functionaries

in view of the increasing number of apartment buildings coming up in the Capital City. It was felt that amendments were required due to growth of buildings with residential and commercial uses and the consequent need to provide for the security of an individual's title and effective management of undivided common interests and services. This also was required to be considered together with the requirement for regulating the activities of builders and estate agents effectively. Amendments to the Act were also necessitated due to the requirement of flat purchasers, for securing housing finance, by the mortgage of title. It was also felt that the provisions contained in several other sections of the existing Act, viz. Section 8,13,15 and 20 were not adequate. Moreover, in the absence of any penal provisions for non-compliance, there were doubts about the enforceability of the Act.

(b) This Ministry had set up a Working Group in June, 1988 to examine and work out modalities for speedy implementation of the said Act. This Working Group had held several meetings and had recommended modifications to several provisions. The infirmities in the Act coupled with the need to control the activities of builders gave rise to the need for considering comprehensive amendments to the existing Act. It was felt that instead of making a few amendments to the existing Act, it would be appropriate to draft a comprehensive legislation. Accordingly, a draft Bill was prepared and discussed with the Delhi Administration/ Delhi Development Authority and other concerned authorities/departments.

(c) Since the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986 could not be administered efficiently for the reasons indicated in part (a) above, a revised Bill is in the final stages of formulation. It is only after the revised Bill is implemented that the extent of revenue loss if any, could be judged.

(d) After completion of the formalities, the revised Bill will be introduced in Parliament.

Officers in Terrorist Activities

3508. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the officers/officials of the Government suspended from service on the charges of their involvement in the terrorist, subversive activities during President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir alongwith the date of their dismissal or suspension;

(b) the details of such officers/officials reinstated and granted promotions after their re-instatement; and

(c) the number of officers/officials who were missing from their duties of late but they have not been dismissed from service, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CGHS Dispensary in Vasant Vihar

3509. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site for CGHS dispensary building in Vasant Vihar has been taken over by CGHS from CPWD, if so, the date on which it was taken over;

(b) whether the boundary of barbed wire has also been got done by CGHS through CPWD on this site;

(c) if so, the time by which the construction work of CGHS dispensary building is likely to be started and the expected time of its completion; and

(d) the time by which the CGHS dispensary is likely to start functioning in Vasant Vihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The Land and Development Authority/DDA regularly invite applications from the concerned agencies for indicating their requirements for institutional plots. It is in the context that CGHS, as a matter of long term policy, has taken steps to acquire plots in different locations in Delhi, including Vasant Vihar.

The plot allotted by the Land and Development Office has yet to be handed over to CGHS. In accordance with standing instructions barbed wire fencing is to be arranged for all such plots allotted, so as to protect them from unauthorized encroachment.

The matter of construction of a CGHS Dispensary at Vasant Vihar depends on the availability of resources and the fulfilment of CGHS norms.

Relations with New Zealand

3510. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether New Zealand have agreed to seek closer bilateral cooperation and greater interaction at regional fora;

(b) if so, whether any Indian delegation visited New Zealand and had discussion with the New Zealand Government;

(c) if so, the extent to which the ties between the two countries have improved;

(d) whether any agreement the two countries in respect of trade etc. have been signed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) India and New Zealand enjoy excellent bilateral relations and cooperation in diverse fields. As a part of New Zealand's current policy of forging deeper ties with Asia it has sought to develop closer cooperation with India also through the Asia 2000 Foundation meant to promote New Zealand Asia links. India and New Zealand have also of late been interacting in regional fora such as the ASEAN Regional Forum and ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference.

(b) Regular bilateral Foreign Office Consultations are held (Senior Officials Meeting) in which bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest are discussed. The last such consultations were held in May, 1997 in New Zealand. These consultations are held annually. Minister for Textiles, Shri R.L. Jalappa and Minister of State for Food Processing Industries visited New Zealand in February, 1997 and July, 1997 respectively and discussed matters of mutual interest.

(c) In recent years, ties between the two countries have further strengthened. Both countries are now closely cooperating in international and regional fora. Trade and investment relations are on the upswing. A number of joint collaborations and transfer of technology agreements in diverse fields have been concluded between Indian and New Zealand companies.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) (i) Trade Agreement; and

(ii) Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation.

These agreements were signed in October, 1986.

House Building Advance

3511. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA and some other Government agencies are unable to meet the housing demand in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to grant House Building Advance to its employees to purchase flats/plots from prime builders particularly in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for the inability of the Government agencies to meet the housing demands in Delhi are :

(i) Rapid growth of urban population of Delhi due to continuous immigration of people from other States;

(ii) scarcity of serviced land;

(iii) slow pace of acquisition of land due to legal and regulatory problems;

(iv) acute shortage of funds for development of infrastructural services and amenities;

(v) poor affordability of a large section of people to acquired legal shelter.

(c) to (e) No such particular proposal is under consideration as under the existing rules house building advance is admissible for purchase of ready built houses/flats from private parties also which include registered builders, architects, house building societies etc.

Subsidy Policy

3512. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recommended the phasing out of subsidies;

(b) if so, whether Planning Commission during its meeting with various Chief Ministers on the Ninth Plan allocation impressed upon them the need to phase out such subsidies, especially those in power and water sector;

(c) if so, the extent to which the Chief Ministers have agreed to the proposal of the Planning Commission in this regard; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government for phasing out the subsidies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) Planning Commission has underlined that subsidies have become an important and growing component of public expenditures. Further the Commission has indicated

that although it would not be desirable for the Government to maintain fiscal neutrality between rich and poor sections of society, whatever subsidy being extended should be transparent and closely targeted.

(b) to (d) During Ninth Plan discussions with Chief Ministers of various States, Planning Commission impressed upon them the need for recovering user charges and costs on services being rendered by the Government. Broadly Chief Ministers have agreed to look into the matters of subsidy and cost recovery in power and water sectors in right earnest. A definite time frame for taking a final decision for phasing out of subsidy has not been decided as on date.

Permanent Seat in UN

3513. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the latest move of the US in supporting India's case of membership in the UN Security Council is a welcome step;

(b) if so, whether the US has also taken a decision to provide limited said to Pakistan;

(c) whether both the decisions show that there is a change of attitude by the US in support of India;

(d) whether this is likely to help both countries to improve its relations; and

(e) if so, the steps the Indian Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The latest US statement on the matter of membership in the UN Security Council mentions that, in principle, the US supports developing countries representation in the Security Council as permanent members. These new members could be either named or rotational. The US statement does not specifically name any developing country for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. The US has supported Germany and Japan as new permanent members.

(b) The US Senate has passed an amendment to the US Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, lifting some restrictions on US military and economic assistance to Pakistan, which had been put into place on account of Pakistan's externally assisted nuclear weapons programme. The amendment, if passed in to law after due process, would allow programmes relating to military training of Pakistani defence service officers and extension of Overseas Private Investment Credit (OPIC) and Exim Bank guarantees to US corporations engaged in projects in Pakistan.

(c) and (d) Indo-US relations today are multifaceted with cooperation in diverse fields. Differences continue on some issues, on which both Governments seek to continue discussions. Government have conveyed India's position on the developments referred to in (a) and (b) above, to the US Government. Government have also issued a statement expressing concern at the amendment to the US Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 passed by the US Senate. Government have conveyed unambiguously that removing existing restrictions on US military and economic assistance to Pakistan could be seen as an encouragement to Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes. These developments have serious implications for India's security.

(e) Government remain committed to take all steps necessary to safeguard India's national interest and security.

Amarnath Yatra

3514. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of Dr. Sengupta Committee have been implemented for smooth running of Amarnath Yatra;

(b) if so, the details of the co-ordinating agency between the different agencies working for the success of doing co-ordination Amarnath Yatra;

(c) whether Union Government have constituted any board in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith its composition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir have taken all appropriate preparatory steps in keeping with the recommendations made by Dr. Nitish K. Sengupta in his report for ensuring a smooth Yatra this year. The recommendations made by Dr. Sengupta in his report include a close coordination between the State Government and the concerned Ministries/Departments in the Government of India such as Ministry of Defence, Department of Telecommunications and the Indian Meteorological Department. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir have accordingly taken all appropriate steps in coordination with the concerned Ministries at the Centre for ensuring a smooth and safe yatra.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Union Government has not constituted any Board in this regard. However, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have set up an Amarnath Yatra Board, headed by the Minister for Tourism with effect from 23.4.1997.

Disarmament Report

3515. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has since been invited to the report on disarmament prepared by the Bonn International Centre for Conversation (BICC) with the assistance of several UN institutions and North Rine Westfelia Federal State; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) Government have seen the report "Conversion Survey 1997" brought out by BICC. The BICC was established in 1994 to carry out research on issues relating to Conversion. The 1997 Survey focuses specifically on global disarmament issues and disposal of surplus weapons.

Visa to Pakistani Citizens

3516. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of citizens of Pakistan who have applied for Visa to visit the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the last one year;

(b) the number of persons given Visa to Visit Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) whether residents of Pakistan occupied Kashmir who want to visit Jammu and Kashmir are required to get permission from Delhi to proceed to Jammu and Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) During the past one year (1.7.96 to 30.6.97) our Mission in Islamabad granted 61,749 visas to Pakistani nationals for visiting various places in India, including Jammu and Kashmir. It is not customary for visa issuing authorities to keep state-wise records of visas granted to foreign nationals.

(c) and (d) Visiting Pakistani nationals are required to obtain visas for all places in India they intend to visit from the Indian Mission granting the visa. Some categories of cases require to be processed in Delhi. These general procedures apply to visits to Jammu and Kashmir too.

Indian Council of World Affairs

3517. DR. ARVIND SHARMA :
DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total Income of the Indian Council of World Affairs during last year;

(b) the number of employees working in the Indian Council of World Affairs;

(c) whether the employees are covered under the Minimum Wages Act; and

(d) the action taken to the complaints regarding the mismanagement and misappropriation of huge funds of the Indian Council of World Affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Rs. 51 lakhs.

(b) 50.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Complaints received in this Ministry on the management and functioning of the ICWA were forwarded to the Registrar of Societies, Delhi, who has informed the Ministry that he is not vested with any authority to look or interfere in the day-do-day management of the Society and suggested that if any member or employee of the Society has any complaint/grievance against the management of the Council, he/she may take legal recourse through the competent Court of Law.

McMahon Line between China and India

3518. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
CHAUDHARY RAMACHANDRA BENDA :
VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) when did the McMohan line come into existence between China and India;

(b) whether China in addition to areas of Jammu and Kashmir is also in occupation of 12,000 sq.km. of North-Eastern Sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Indian Government to get these areas vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) The McMohan Line dates back to the Indo-Tibetan Boundary Agreement of 24/25 March, 1914 and the Simla Convention of 3 June, 1914.

(b) and (c) The area under occupation by China in Jammu and Kashmir is approximately 38,000 sq. kms. In addition, under the so-called Sino-Pakistan "Boundary Agreement" of 1963, Pakistan illegally ceded

approximately 5,120 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, to China.

The Chinese Government have claimed approximately 90,000 sq. kms. of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector of the India-China boundary in Arunachal Pradesh.

(d) India and China are committed to work towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question and discussions in this regard are going on in the India-China Joint Working Group.

NATO

3519. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NATO leaders have decided to admit former Soviet bloc countries viz. Poland, Hungary and Czech Republic, as Members of the alliance;

(b) if so, whether the friendly relations maintained by these countries with India are likely to be affected with their admission into NATO; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) At the NATO Summit held in Madrid on 8-9 July 1997, invitations were extended to Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to start formal negotiations to join NATO.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Nuclear Bombs

3520. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI P. NAMGYAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak can make twelve Nuclear-bombs in six months" appearing in Hindustan Times on July 12, 1997;

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

(c) whether the Pakistan Government is also developing nuclear weapons for its medium range missiles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Indian Government to counter this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (e) Government are aware of Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons programme. Government have also seen reports regarding development of nuclear warheads by Pakistan for use with its medium range missiles. Government closely monitors all developments relating to Pakistan's nuclear programme. Government of India remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its assessment of developments relating to India's security environment.

Vacancies in Public Sector Enterprises

3521. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of Chief Executives and functional directors in each of the Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) which are at present lying vacant;

(b) the time since when these posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the period by which these posts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The details of posts which are at present lying vacant are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The time since when these posts have been lying vacant is indicated against each of the posts in the Annexure. The posts are lying vacant because the proposals for filling these posts are under various stages of process. In certain cases, the approval has been granted, but the appointees are yet to join.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the time frame within which these posts are likely to be filled.

Statement

Vacancies in Public Sector Enterprises

S.No.	Name of the Post/PSU Post Sched.	Date of vacancy	
1	2	3	
1.	CMD, Bharat, Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. Sch. A	1/5/93	
2.	CMD, Hindustan, Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd.	1/10/92	
3.	MD, Triveni, Structural Ltd. Sch. C	1/12/96	
4.	MD, Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. Sch. C	1/2/97	
5.	CMD (Sub) Coal India Ltd. (SUBS) Sch. B	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; border-bottom: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Mahan AOI Coalfields Ltd. South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. Central Wing Planning and Design Institute Ltd. </div> </div>	1/12/96 1/2/97 1/2/97 1/8/97
6.	CMD, Pyrites Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. Sch. C	1/7/97	
7.	MD, Air India, Sch. A	29/7/97	
8.	Chairman, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Sch. A	1/8/97	
9.	MD, Mazagon Dock Ltd. Sch. B	1/12/96	
10.	CMD, Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. Sch. B	1/8/97	
11.	CMD, Power Grid Corpn. Ltd. Sch. A	31.7.95	
12.	CMD, Educational Consultants India Ltd. Sch. C	18/10/96	
13.	CMD, Engineers India Ltd. Sch. A	1/8/97	
14.	CMD, Madras Refineries Ltd. Sch. B	20/12/96	
15.	CMD, Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. Sch. B	1/2/97	
16.	MD, Orissa Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Sch. D	21/12/96	
17.	MD, Indian Railway Finance Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	1/09/95	
18.	CMD, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. Sch. A	1/4/97	
19.	CMD, Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. Sch. B	1/10/96	
20.	CMD, British India Corpn. Sch. B	31/5/95	
21.	CMD Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corpn. Sch. C	9/11/94	

1	2	3
22.	CMD, North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Sch. C	27/06/96
23.	Dir (Mktg) Heavy Engg. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	7/2/96
24.	Dir (Tech), Bharat Yatra Nigam Ltd. Sch. B	1/5/96
25.	Dir (MP and CPP), HMT Ltd. Sch. B	1/4/97
26.	Dir (MT) HMT Ltd. Sch. B	1/6/97
27.	Dir (Fin), Petrofills Coop. Ltd. Sch. C	6/10/95
28.	Dir (Prod), Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd. Sch. C	1/2/97
29.	Dir (Pers), Andrew Yule and Co. Ltd. Sch. C	4/3/97
30.	Dir (Com), Instrumentation Ltd. Sch. C	1/8/97
31.	Dir (Proj. Management), Bridge and Roof Co. (I) Ltd. Sch. D	9/12/96
32.	Dir (Tech), Semi Conductor Complex Ltd. Sch. C	29/1/97
33.	Dir (Fin), Project and Development India Ltd. Sch. C	7/4/96
34.	Member (P and A), Airports Authority of India Sch. B	1/4/95
35.	Member (Plg) Airports Authority of India Sch. B	25/8/95
36.	Dir (Mktg), State Trading Corpn. of India Ltd. Sch. B	1/11/96
37.	Dir (Fin), Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. Sch. B	1/4/97
38.	Dir (Fin), Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. Sch. C.	1/5/92
39.	Dir (Pers), Bharat Electronics Ltd. Sch. B	1/1/97
40.	Dir (CDM and MS), Bharat Electronics Ltd. Sch. B	1/1/97
41.	Dir (HRD), Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. Sch. B	3/9/96
42.	Dir (Fin), Bharat Electronics Ltd. Sch. B	1/3/97
43.	Dir (Fin), Goa Shipyard Ltd. Sch. C	1/9/95
44.	Dir (Fin), Power Grid Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	13/2/95
45.	Dir (Power), Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	8/3/96
46.	Dir (Fin), Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	1/3/97
47.	Dir (Ope), Power Grid Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	1/6/97
48.	Dir (Tech), National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd.	1/7/97
49.	Dir (Mines), Neyveli Lignite Corpn. Ltd.	1/7/97
50.	Dir (Tech), Tehri Hydro Development Corpn. Sch. C	6/9/96
51.	Dir (Elect), Naphtha Jhakri Power Corpn. Sch. C	31/3/97
52.	Dir (Engg), Hospital Services Consultancy Corpn. of India Sch. C	26/9/96
53.	Dir (Proj), Gas Authority of India Ltd. Sch. B	1/4/96
54.	Dir (Plg), Gas Authority of India Ltd. Sch. B	26/9/96
55.	Dir (Mktg), Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	26/2/97
56.	Dir (Pers), Oil India Ltd. Sch. C	8/9/96
57.	Dir (Oil), IBP Co. Ltd. Sch. C	1/10/96
58.	Dir (Proj), Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd. Sch. C	30/6/96

1	2	3
59.	Dir (Com), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. Sch B	1/1/97
60.	Dir (Fin), Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. Sch. D	10/6/95
61.	Dir (Tech), National Jute Mfr. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	29/7/94
62.	Dir (Pers), National Jute Mfr. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	1/2/97
63.	Dir (Mktg), National Jute Mfr. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. 'C'	1/4/97
64.	Dir (P and S), Cotton Corpn. of India Ltd. Sch. C	31/7/97
65.	Dir (Corp.Plg), Housing and Urban Dev. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	10/1/97
66.	MD, Reyroll, Burn Ltd. Sch. C	22/12/93
67.	MD, Tungabhadra, Steel Products Sch. C	1/12/96
68.	MD, North, Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Sch. C	3/6/97
69.	CMD, Bharat Wagon and Engg. Co. Ltd. Sch. C	6/6/97
70.	MD, National Backward Classes Fin and Dev. Corpn. Sch. C	1/7/97
71.	Chairman, Airports Authority of India, Sch. A	15/10/96
72.	CMD, Hospital Services Consultancy Corpn. of India Sch. B	16/5/97
73.	MD, Smith, Stainstreet Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Sch. C	1/6/97
74.	MD, RITES, Sch. B	1/11/95
75.	CMD, Kudremukh, Iron Ore Co. Ltd. Sch. A	1/12/95
76.	CMD, Metal Scrap Trade Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	13/5/97
77.	CMD, Jute Corporation of India Ltd. Sch. C	1/3/97
78.	Dir (F), Mining and Allied Machinery Corpn. Sch. C	13/12/95
79.	Dir (Fin), Electronics Trade and Tech Dev. Corpn. Sch. D	1/4/94
80.	Dir (Fin), Coal India Ltd. (Sub) Sch. C	31/1/97
81.	Member (Fin), Airports Authority of India Sch. B	1/4/95
82.	Dir (Tech), Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	1/5/97
83.	ED, (Fin), National Film Dev. Corpn. Ltd. Sch. D	1/3/93
84.	Dir (Tech), Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. Sch. B	15/9/95
85.	Dir (Pers), Cement Corpn. of India Ltd. Sch. C	1/11/96
86.	Dir (Fin), NEPA Ltd. Sch. D	29/6/92
87.	Dir (Fin), National Fertilizers Ltd. Sch. B	17/3/95
88.	Dir (Fin), Hindustan Fertilizer Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	1/11/95
89.	Dir (Network), Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. Sch. C	Newly Created Port
90.	Dir (Com), National Thermal Power Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	12/1/96
91.	Dir (Fin), Rural Electrification Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	27/11/96
92.	Dir (Fin), Tehri Hydro Development Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	8/5/97
93.	Dir (Fin), Indian Renewable Energy Dev. Agency Sch. D	Newly Created Port
94.	Ex. Dir (Fin and Admn), Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corpn. Sch. C	27/12/95
95.	Dir (R and D), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Sch. B	1/2/93

1	2	3
96.	Dir (R and D), Indian Petro Chemicals Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	1/4/94
97.	Dir (Gas Cracker), Indian Petro Chemicals Corpn. Ltd. Sch. B	18/6/96
98.	Dir (Pipeline), IOCL Sch. B	Newly Created Post
99.	Dir (Fin), Balmer Lawrie and Co. Sch. C	1/5/97
100.	Dir (Tech), Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. Sch. B	31/12/96
101.	Dir (Fin), Sponge Iron India Ltd. Sch. D	Newly Created Post
102.	Dir (Tech), British India Corpn. Ltd. Sch. C	1/6/95
103.	Dir (Fin), Jute Corpn. of India Ltd. Sch. D	13/2/97
104.	Director (Personnel), NTC (HC) Ltd.	31/3/90
105.	Director (Marketing), NTC (HC) Ltd.	1/1/94
106.	Director (Finance), NTC (HC) Ltd.	1/11/96
107.	Director (Personnel), NTC (APKK and M) Ltd, Bangalore	31/3/90
108.	Director (Commercial), NTC (APKK and M) Ltd, Bangalore	26/9/95
109.	Director (Technical), NTC (TN and P) Ltd, Coimbatore	18/12/96
110.	Director (Personnel), NTC (TN and P) Ltd, Coimbatore	1/6/97
111.	Director (Technical), NTC (DP and R) Ltd, Delhi	31/8/96
112.	Director (Personnel), NTC (DP and R) Ltd, Delhi	1/6/97
113.	Director (Technical), NTC (GUJ) Ltd, Ahmedabad	15/12/94
114.	Director (Finance), NTC (GUJ) Ltd, Ahmedabad	20/5/95
115.	Director (Personnel), NTC (GUJ) Ltd, Ahmedabad	24/10/90
116.	Director (Commercial), NTC (GUJ) Ltd, Ahmedabad	24/10/90
117.	Director (Technical), NTC (MN) Ltd, Mumbai	29/3/96
118.	Director (Finance), NTC (MN) Ltd, Mumbai	1/5/96
119.	Director (Personnel), NTC (MN) Ltd, Mumbai	1/6/97
120.	Director (Commercial), NTC (MN) Ltd, Mumbai	1/6/97
121.	Director (Technical), NTC (MP) Ltd., Indore	17/1/95
122.	Director (Finance), NTC (MP) Ltd., Indore	7/10/94
123.	Director (Personnel), NTC (MP) Ltd., Indore	24/10/90
124.	Director (Commercial), NTC (MP) Ltd., Indore	1/6/97
125.	Director (Finance), NTC (SM) Ltd., Mumbai	29/3/96
126.	Director (Commercial), NTC (SM) Ltd., Mumbai	6/1/95
127.	CMD, NTC (UP) Ltd., Mumbai	17/3/93
128.	Director (Commercial), NTC (UP) Ltd., Kanpur	24/10/90
129.	CMD, NTC (WBAB and O) Ltd., Calcutta	20/5/95
130.	Director (Finance), NTC (WBAB and O) Ltd., Calcutta	1/7/94
131.	Director (Personnel), NTC (WBAB and O) Ltd., Calcutta	31/5/95
132.	Director (Commercial) NTC (WBAB and O) Ltd., Calcutta	24/10/90

World Bank Assistance

3522. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Gujarat had requested for any World Bank assistance for the Family Planning Programme during the years 1996-97;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance provided to the State so far;

(c) whether the State Government has utilised all the assistance during the above period; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The State Government of Gujarat has forwarded in 1996-97 a Sub project proposal for Vadodara district for a period of five years at a total cost of Rs. 10.61 Crores to be taken up as part of the Reproductive and Child Health Project with World Bank assistance. The Project has been appraised and accepted by the World Bank for inclusion in the Reproductive and Child Health Project recently negotiated with the Bank. The Reproductive and Child Health Project is currently in the final approval stage of the Government of India.

Rules for Reservation

3523. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued any circular on 'Seniority of SC/ST officers, promoted earlier vis-a-vis general candidate promoted later' on 30th January, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the circular;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation against this circular and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the Supreme Court's Judgements in case of Shri Jagdish Lal and others Vs. State of Haryana and Ashok Kumar Gupta V/s. State of Uttar Pradesh of dated May 7th and March 21st, 1997; and

(e) if so, the details of the judgements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Having regard to the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Union of India and Ors. Vs. Virpal Singh Chauhan etc. (JT 1995 (7) SC 231) orders have been

issued by the Government vide O.M.No. 20011/1/96-Eastt (D) dated 30.1.97 that if a candidate belonging to the Scheduled Caste or the Scheduled Tribe is promoted to an immediate higher post/grade against a reserve vacancy earlier than his senior general/OBC candidate who is promoted later to the said immediate higher post/grade, the general/OBC candidate will regain his seniority over such earlier promoted candidate of the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe in the immediate higher post/grade. However, if in the meanwhile, the reserved candidate, who got accelerated promotion to the immediate higher grade, has moved still further by getting promotion to the next higher grade, no benefit would accrue to the general OBC candidate at the time of his promotion. These orders are effective from the date of issue i.e. from a prospective date.

Representations have been received against the orders which were examined in the light of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the proviso made in the aforesaid Office Memorandum.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. In case of Shri Jagdish Lal and others Vs. State of Haryana the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 7.5.1997 has held *inter-alia* that the principle laid down in Virpal Singh Chauhan's case will operate prospectively and will not affect promotions of reserved category candidates which were made prior to the case of Virpal Singh Chauhan. Also, the ruling in Chauhan's case cannot be given effect automatically through issue of executive instructions if there is contrary provision in the statutory rules. In other words, it will be necessary to amend the statutory rules governing seniority to give effect to the ruling of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Where, however, there are no statutory rules regulating seniority, issue of instructions in this regard would suffice.

In the case of Ashok Kumar Gupta Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh, challenge was directed at reservation in promotion. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 21.3.1997 has upheld the validity of reservation in promotion under the relevant rules on the grounds that the Supreme Court, in Indira Sawheny's judgement, has permitted the existing scheme of reservations in promotions to continue for a period of five years from the date of said judgement.

ITIs in Kerala

3524. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to grant National Council for Vocational Trainings (NCVT) approval for 41 ITIs being run in Kerala to enable the students to appear in their examinations during this academic year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its present status; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Standing Committee Inspection Reports, recommending the affiliation of 41 ITCs run by the Scheduled Caste Development Department, Kerala have not been received from the State Director, Kerala. In the absence of these reports, it is not possible to consider their cases for affiliation.

As regards allowing the trainees of various Industrial Training Institutes/Centres in All India Trade Test, a decision was taken in July, 1997 that the trainees of the institutes which have been inspected by the representative of the respective State Council for Vocational Training (SCVT) and found fulfilling the norms of NCVT, be allowed to appear provisionally in the July, 1997 of All India Trade Test, conducted by NCVT. However, the results of trainees from such institutes will not be declared till they secure affiliation of trades/units from NCVT. This was a one time relaxation extended to all the States for July, 1997 examination. The State Director, Kerala has intimated that the trainees of these 41 institutes were allowed to appear in All India Trade Test held in July, 1997.

Central Training Institute

3525. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start a Central Training Institute for Training of Instructors of Industrial Training Institutes in Kerala preferably in Calicut; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

State Electricity Boards

3526. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has considered the proposal to dilute Government holding in State Electricity Boards to 26 percent as recommended by the National Development Council's Committee on power;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Planning Commission has emphasised on rationalising the tariff structure and improving the financial and operational performance of State Electricity Boards;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(e) whether any concrete measures have been suggested by the Planning Commission for implementing these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) The Committee of National Development Council (NDC) on Power submitted its report in September, 1994. One of the recommendations of the Committee is that in the long run State Electricity Boards (SEBs) be progressively restructured as corporate bodies with Government equity being reduced in the first instance to 51% and thereafter progressively to 26%. The report of NDC Committee on Power was discussed in the full Planning Commission meeting held in June, 1997. It was decided that the report would be circulated to the NDC in its next meeting for consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. The Approach Paper to Ninth Five Year Plan indicated that the deteriorating financial health of the State Electricity Boards has been one of the most critical factors constraining power development in the country. The commercial losses of SEBs taken together were Rs. 7,500 crore in 1995-96. The Boards should be given fullest autonomy so that they may run in a commercial and professional manner. During the Ninth Plan, alternative models of restructuring the SEBs will be explored with a view to enhance their effectiveness. Concrete and determined steps should be taken for rationalisation of the electricity tariff. The issues regarding time-of-the-day metering/peak load pricing should be examined while rationalising the tariff structure. Such tariff rationalisation is not only necessary for generating adequate internal resources by the SEBs, but also for enlisting for participation of private sector which will come forward in large measure only when they are dealing with financially healthy Boards. These will include specific steps for reducing the cost of supply, transmission and distribution (T and D) losses, theft of power and for improving the Plant Load Factor (PLF).

During the Chief Ministers Conference held on 16th Oct. 1996 and 3rd Dec. 1996 to discuss the Common Minimum National Action Plan on Power a consensus had emerged on the need to carry out reforms and restructuring, including rationalisation of tariff structure and improvement in the operational performance of State Electricity Boards, within a definite time frame.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 1994-95.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2339/97]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, S.A.S. Nagar for the year 1995-96.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2340/97]

Statement correcting the reply given on the 23rd July, 1997 to USQ No. 16 by Shri Jai Prakash, M.P. (Hardoi) re : Allotment of DDA Flats and (ii) reasons for delay in correcting the reply

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : On behalf of Dr. U. Venkateswarlu, I beg to lay on the Table :

a Statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on the 23rd July, 1997 to

Unstarred Question No. 16 by Shri Jai Prakash, M.P. (Hardoi) regarding Allotment of DDA Flats and (ii) the reasons for delay in correcting the reply.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2341/97]

Annual Report of the Cancer Institute, Madras for the year 1995-96 alongwith Audited Accounts etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cancer Institute, Madras, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cancer Institute, Madras, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2342/97]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Cancer Centre, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Cancer Centre, Kamla Nehru Hospital, Allahabad, for the year 1995-96.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2343/97]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2344/97]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of All India Institute of

Medical Sciences, New Delhi for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2345/97]

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

Fourth Report

[*English*]

SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU (Madurai) : I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given an adjournment motion...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : I would like to say something about the Women Reservation Bill...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I make you one request.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : I have a very important matter...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please take your seat. I will allow everybody one by one. I would request you all to please take your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev will speak now. I have allowed him on Adjournment Motion.

[*Translation*]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I have given a notice in regard to the judgement given by the Patna High Court on the imposition of President's rule in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am just going to check it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : On the request of Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, the Prime Minister has agreed to reply. After that, you can call me. You can ask Shrimati Sushma Swaraj to speak now.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev, lot of thanks to you. My purpose will be served if all my male colleagues adopt the same attitude. Mr. Prime Minister has accepted my request with a very liberal attitude. I would like to submit through you...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everyday will get a chance. Why do not you have some patience? I will allow one and all.

12.05 hrs.

RE: CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Women's Reservation Bill has been lingering since the last three Sessions. At the end of each Session the Government says that it would bring the bill at the start of the next Session. Such things are going on for the last three Sessions. Without retreating into the past I would only like to tell the Prime Minister that this Bill was brought here for consideration only on the last day of the previous Session. It was put forth with great difficulty but some how it was presented. Going by the rules the bill should have been considered at the very beginning of Session but time and again it was said that it will be decided in the BAC and then it would come up for discussion in the next week. At last Smt. Geetaji said that an understanding has been reached that the bill will come up on the 11th and the 12th instant. It meant that discussion will be held on

[Shrimati Sushma Swaraj]

the 11th and the 12th and then voting will also be done and the Bill shall be pursued further. But yesterday the Bill was at item no. 28 and even today it is the last item. It shows that the Government does not have the intention to discuss this Bill nor does it want voting on it. I would like to tell the Prime Minister that all the procedure has been completed. The Bill has already been sent to the Joint Select Committee and its recommendations have also been received. All party meetings have also been convened. He has already decided to get this Bill passed. Then, what is the reason for which the Bill comes as the last item in the list of Business? We have only one day i.e. today at our disposal. Tomorrow will be a day for Private Member's Bill and on the 15th August this Session will come to an end. What is his intention behind not getting the Bill passed? The Prime Minister should respond as to how long such mockery with the women of the country shall continue and why does he not get this Bill passed. The Prime Minister should respond to it for a minute only and then my purpose will be served...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why can you not listen to me? Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Lodha, your adjournment motion is under consideration of the Hon'ble Speaker.

[English]

He will let you know soon about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, you know that the Business Advisory Committee yesterday unanimously decided that the discussion on this Bill would be taken up in this Session itself...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister is standing here to respond...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will the Government say something in regard to Women's Bill?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to the Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, I rise to respond positively to the spirit of the interventions

that have been made not only today but ever since this issue came up. I have repeatedly reaffirmed my faith in this. And I reaffirm it again. I believe and I feel that the women in India must come up not only socially but also politically. And women's empowerment is an important belief in itself. I do not have to really carry conviction on this because, I think, my hon. friends will accept that. The difficulty is not about my faith in it; the difficulty is not about my commitment on this but the difficulty basically is about the type of various objections or various suspicions or various doubts that have been raised. I do not want to run down anybody. I do not want to say that somebody is wrong or somebody is right. In this House, Sir, whenever we have said in the past, whenever we have thought of a far-reaching social measure, we have always felt that a consensus was extremely important. Therefore, I would be dishonest if I try to take refuge under this thing or under that thing, on the technical ground or non-technical ground. The reality is this. I do not mean disrespect to anybody when I say this thing. One may like to confess it or may not. But I want to confess it. My confession is that in every political party, there are two opinions...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : No...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Yes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : There are no two opinions in the Left. The Left is identical in this...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Let me complete it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let him complete.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him complete. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Let me complete. The point that I am trying to make is that basically there are many respectable exceptions and I respect those respectable exceptions. I know that there is no division in the Left. I know that...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you so impatient.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I will be letting down the individual Members for the privacy and confidence that they have reposed in me if I tell you what they say when they come and talk to me. And I repeat that except the Left, there is division in every Party...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : We are not going to accept that...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow all the Members. Please speak one by one.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Baramati) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister has given a wrong statement about my party. Any individual may have some other opinion in this regard but the opinion of my party as a whole is that the Prime Minister should bring forward the motion and we will support that. We are of this view today and shall hold the same in future also...*(Interruptions)* It was very much there in our manifesto but I assure that we would support the motion if the United Front Government brings forward the Bill to provide 33 percent reservation to women. We will support it and shall issue whip for the same ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Such a statement made by the Prime Minister himself is the most unfortunate thing. I will request the Prime Minister to withdraw that statement...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The Prime Minister must withdraw this statement categorically. He may take the responsibility for his own Front but he should not cast aspersions on any other Party. He will have to make it clear. It is not a question of an individual. It is the question of a political institution. The Congress Party made it clear in its manifesto as also on the floor of the House twice that it would issue a whip. We stand by it. How can the Prime Minister say that the Left is clear on it and others are not clear on it? The Prime Minister must categorically withdraw it first. We will not accept it.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government will have to make its intention clear. The Prime Minister cannot pass the buck to others. The Prime Minister should manage the United Front instead of levelling charges on other parties ...*(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister should develop a willingness to manage the United Front. Showing helplessness that he is surrounded by 14 parties is not going to serve the purpose. He should not impose his mistakes on others...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : They are shedding crocodile tears here. Women belonging to backward classes are more backward. If he wishes to remove backwardness among women, then give reservation to those women who belong to the backward classes and then we shall accept that he really wishes to improve their lot...*(Interruptions)* Sir, in politics reservation is not going to benefit anyone nor it is going to benefit anyone in

future. If you are a sincere well-wisher of women, then give all the Janta Dal tickets to women, I will welcome that. If he is a well wisher of women, he should allocate hundred per cent tickets of his party to women candidates...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Iliyas Azmi, you have already had your say. Please take your seat. Let Shri George Fernandes speak. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : If this reservation is given...*(Interruptions)* It will cause bloodshed and nothing else...*(Interruptions)* use of force and police will not check it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you sit down now?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Iliyas Azmi, please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : It will pose a setback to the movement launched by Baba Saheb Ambedkar.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do not you allow him to conclude?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : They are conspiring to destroy the society. However, we would not allow them to succeed in it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I raise an objection to the statement of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on two counts. First, he has said that except Left parties, all other parties have divergent views on this issue. I do not agree to this view. As regards the role of our party in and outside this House, we have made it very clear on the comments made by Shri Nitish Kumar, our representative in the Select Committee...*(Interruptions)* We are supporting this Bill. We have already given an amendment on this Bill and a notice to this effect has been received by us. Our amendment demands special reservation for backward classes among women...*(Interruptions)* In case, the House rejects our amendment, even then we will vote for the passage of the Bill. This is the stand of our party. There may be lack of consensus among various other

[Shri George Fernandes]

parties on this Bill, but I am sure that the opposition have no objection to the introduction of the Bill in the House today itself. Rather, the dissension is there in their so-called United Front. They must admit this fact. Instead of delivering sermons, the Bill should be introduced in this House right now and we do not have any objection in this regard.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I have great respect for my friend, Shri George Fernandes. His social attitudes are well known all over the country. His commitment to the gender equality is well known. I respect him. His commitment to the cause is known as is mine. So, both of us are on the same side so far as the commitment to the gender equality is concerned. But Shri Fernandes is a Member of this House for a long time and his parliamentary skills are unrivalled. There is no doubt about that. And, he has said what I have said. He has confirmed that

[Translation]

the amendment repeat the same thing which are short listed for division...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Perhaps, he has not understood my point or he is deliberately distorting the facts. I said that we would vote for the Bill. Let the Government introduce the Bill and we would vote for the passage of the Bill. Our support is not linked with the acceptance of our amendment. Even if our amendment is rejected, we would support the Bill...(Interruptions) You may reject our amendment, but we will get this Bill passed.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I want a guarantee from him that he will pass it without an amendment. Will he?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Yes. That is what I am telling. I think, he does not understand Hindi. I will tell him in English.

What we are saying is that we have given an amendment. If that amendment is defeated — even if it is defeated — we will vote for the Bill in its original form and see that it is passed. That is my position and my party's position...(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Will you kindly listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : My support is not qualified. Yours is qualified.

[Translation]

This is what we want to say. This is our view. Even if you don't accept this view, we will get this Bill passed...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Kindly listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : He is very clear in his attitude...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have not bartered away my right...(Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I want to repeat what I said in the beginning. One, that I stand committed to the idea of gender equality and empowerment of women. That is the main point and I think, most of us do it. There are reservations on various dimensions of it. I am not going to comment on that whether they are right or wrong, but there are. Some are suspicions, some are doubts, some are mind-sets and some are legacies of the past.

That is why I said in the beginning and I repeat that this is a major social measure. That is why I said, persuasion and also accommodation of various points of view are very much called for. If the Government is not coming forward to push it to a majority area, it is primarily because we feel that when a major social change is coming, that major social change does require that we understand each other's point of view. Shri George Fernandes has one point of view. I may have some different view. Shri Nitish Kumar is totally violent on this issue. I will not repeat it because I have experienced it last time. Therefore I will not repeat it now.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : I am the most nonviolent person; I can never be violent.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Therefore what I am trying to say is that let us move in this direction. I have requested the Speaker also that with his help and assistance we can get together and evolve a consensus. That will be very useful.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Our position is crystal clear. It is abundantly known and we are unanimous in that point. I must reiterate that we cannot associate ourselves with this Bill unless and until reservation is also extended to the OBCs and the minorities. Let there be no mistake about that. We grow eloquent on the question of justice to OBC, on the question of justice to minorities.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Have we started the discussion on the Bill? If that is so, let us start the discussion...(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Why do they feel shy in empowerment of the depressed OBC and the depressed minorities? That is a demand of the social justice. Why are the House and the Government shy in the empowerment of the OBC and the minorities? Sir, we have 39 women here in the House; but only four are from the OBC. Why do you not empower the OBC also to politically raise them up? Then the question of the minorities is also very clear over here. Social justice demands that we must be fair. This is the time when we must come up for the political empowerment of the OBC and the minorities. Unless and until that is done, the Muslim League will not associate itself with this Bill which will further perpetuate the social and political inequalities in our country...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Everyone will get a chance one by one. Shri Surender Singh, I will allow you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : At this stage we can only discuss whether the discussion on the Bill should start or not; not the merits of the Bill. The hon. Prime Minister has expressed, I believe his doubts about the fate of the Bill if it comes up for discussion. I am thankful to him for he has admitted that with the Left there is no problem...(Interruptions) The Congress leader has said on the floor of the House that his party is united. Yesterday, Shri Jaswant Singh said that his party was supporting this Bill. I am requesting the hon. Prime Minister and everyone here. I suggested yesterday also; we may not pass it by tomorrow; let the discussion start, let every party express its views. Expression of view will come up during the discussion.

Amendments are there; they will be there. Let us take them up at the appropriate time when the amendments ought to be taken up, that is, after the first reading. Therefore, at this stage, let us speak on the merits of the Bill. I am appealing to the entire House through you. Let this discussion start. Once the discussion starts, differing view points of various Parties will come up. Why are you trying to stop it? This is a House for discussion and deliberation. It is our job here to convince each other, to get to hear the other's points of view. Ultimately, some decision will come up.

We have been trying - everybody has been trying - to arrive at a consensus. But consensus has not been possible outside the Chamber. Let the process continue. I am appealing to the hon. Prime Minister and also to the hon. Speaker. Let the process of reaching consensus through discussion continue. Let the discussion start. That will show the commitment of this House that an important measure is not stifled in a manner as somebody is suspecting. People are suspecting that it is being done. Therefore, in the name of a consensus,

I am appealing to the hon. Prime Minister. Let the discussion start. Let it be carried over till the next Session. We would not mind that. But our commitment to this issue should not be allowed to be diluted...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let Shri Chatterjee tell me if there has even been reservation for women in communist countries like Russia and China, of which they claim to be the follower?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Surender Singh now. I will allow you later.

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDER SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as this Bill is concerned, the Prime Minister has rightly said that except Left parties, there is dissension in every other party. I support this Bill. However, my condition is that the amendment given by Shri George Fernandes should be included in the Bill and the Bill should be redrafted. When many of our friends belonging to various parties speak and hold discussion among themselves, the senior leaders of our party this House keep mum on certain matters. This reservation for women will not be restricted to 33 per cent because if the Bill is adopted, nobody can stop women from contesting election from the remaining 67 per cent seats. I, therefore, urge you to, atleast, ensure 33 per cent reservation for men. The OBCs and weaker sections could be included in it because the issue of reservation is such that it would not come up again and again, nor there would be any amendments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, no whip would be issued from here for the leaders of all parties and back-benchers like us whose votes matter. If Shri Vajpayee issues a whip we will abide by it because his party is a disciplined force. However, those sitting on middle benches seem to be confused. Shri Pawar should turn back and let me know about his views. I would also tell Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev that if there is confusion, it is among the middle benchers and not among us. So far as treasury benches are concerned, Gujarat Saheb will make his best efforts. However, when he speaks, the Members sitting behind him raise their hands very high. I would, therefore, suggest that another committee of this House should be constituted and that another committee of this House should be constituted and that could reconsider the Women Reservation Bill. The revised Bill should include Shri George Fernandes is suggestions and suggestions of other back-benchers. If

[Shri Surender Singh]

any party issues a whip, it will face difficulty as everybody knows that we have to go. The Hon'ble Members would agree to my view that women could not be stopped from contesting elections from the remaining percentage of seats after passage of this Bill. Hence, it needs a thorough review. There should be no objection to the inclusion of OBCs, weaker sections ...*(Interruptions)* I suggest that it should be reconsidered properly before the next Session starts. We are ready to give them more than 33 per cent, provided there is no restriction for others.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your suggestion had also come for the ex-Prime Minister earlier. Today's suggestion is also very good and the House must take it into account.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Prime Minister just now said that there is no consensus and therefore, he is unable to bring forward the Bill in the House. I would like to associate myself with the view of Shri George Fernandes that if there is any confusion, it is among the Members sitting behind Gujral Saheb.

Secondly, there is division Shri Gujral Saheb also as to from which party he is the Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

The Hon. Member of Parliament are divided over Shri Gujral itself in this regard. Neither he is able to tell about his party affiliation nor any party is claiming that he belongs to it. I know about the hon. Prime Minister before he joined politics. I hold him in high esteem. I have a regard for his courage, patience and sobriety. Besides, personally, I had association with him. I am surprised at this gesture. I would like to know from the Prime Minister, through you, as to what pressure is he facing? What is he afraid of? Everyone, even those who are closely associated with him know that he had a liberal outlook about women. What are the reasons behind not tabling this Bill for a debate in the House? Let the Bill come up for a discussion in the House. I am also one of those who are supporting OBC or minorites. I am also of the view that there is a difference between a woman breaking stones and a woman driving esteem car and also between a woman sitting in an airconditioned bedroom and a woman working in the fields. I like Shri Banatwalla very much when he raises demands for women. If Banatwalla Saheb is ready to oppose the discrimination between man and woman regarding divorce, marriage, succession Act personal law and 'purdah' practice openly and announces that no Muslim woman in India will remain in Purdah...*(Interruptions)* If he announces that every Muslim woman in India is entitled to enter the

mosque...*(Interruptions)* I would like to state that this discussion should cover his motion also...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let her conclude.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when I speak on the point, he appreciates and he claps and when I speak on the topic...*(Interruptions)*, he raises an objection like this.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I request the hon. Prime Minister to bring forward the Bill for a discussion right now. That Bill should cover all the points in this regard. Let there be a consensus in the House on this issue. The hon. Members of my party would not violate the dignity of party line at any rate...*(Interruptions)* I want to make the hon. Prime Minister aware about it. He made a mention about the attitude of left parties since he is closely associated with them but he should keep in mind the interest of other parties also. We do not have difference of opinion over this issue as has already been stated by Shri George Fernandes. Please bring forward the Bill for a discussion in the House so that everyone may put forth his views. In the end, there would be a division but my party is not likely to violate the dignity of party line.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow every one - one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I fail to understand as to what will be the outcome of this discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If one person from each party speaks over it, it would take much time because there are many parties.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are more than 32 political parties.

[Translation]

what would be the outcome if one person from each party speaks...

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : We have got many other issues to discuss. We have been notice for them...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question raised by the hon. Prime Minister has anguished our colleagues from the Congress party the most. Today itself, an hon. Member of Congress party hailing from Nagaland had a clear demand on the women Bill that until the question of OBC and minorities is included in it, the said Bill would have no meaning. Our friends from the Congress party and our senior most colleague Shri George Fernandes have said much about it. I know that the intention of the Samata Party is to provide 33 per cent reservation for OBC and minorities. But the party with which George Saheb shares his common interest, wants to please both of them. The persons sitting on the front benches and Kumari Uma Bharati wants to please both of them. She also wants to please backward classes for their votes. She has nothing to do with minorities. So far as women, Bill is concerned, it was hotly debated in the House yesterday. Surendra ji made a demand for setting up a committee again. So far as the United Front is concerned, the hon. Prime Minister has proved by including five women Ministers in his cabinet that he was a staunch supporter of women' cause. The Samajwadi Party which is a part of United Front is not different from the Left parties. But we support the cause of OBC and minorities than anybody else. There would be compromise on this. We do not want the House to be divided. The hon. Prime Minister should introduce this Bill after a small committee set up for the purpose makes suitable amendments in it?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV : **

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is not related to that...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : What is it**...(*Interruptions*) why are you making personal comments like this...(*Interruptions*) Please expunge this comment...(*Interruptions*) What does this mean? What has started?...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will see the record.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me. Will you please listen to me?

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are making such statements which have nothing to do with this Bill.

[*English*]

I am going to remove all those things from the record.

[*Translation*]

Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you expunge it from the record...(*Interruptions*) He is passing personal comments...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shrimati Sushmaji, I am removing those things from the record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV : I would like that before introducing this Bill, O.B.C.'s and minorities may also be included in it...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are some other important issues also to be raised in Zero Hour. If you will act like this, I will not allow anyone to speak on other important issues.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sufficient discussion has taken place on this issue.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai North East) : What should be done, it is being discussed in parts...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, there are other important issue...(*Interruptions*) Sir, you may please control the House and allow other hon. Members to speak on other important issues...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you allow anybody to speak or not?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ahamed, I have allowed Shri Fatmi to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ahamed, nothing is going on record. Please take your Seat.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing has gone on record. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you very much for giving me a chance. I would like to assure the House as well as the Government on behalf of our Party, Rashtriya Janta Dal that we are also not against the Reservation for Women Bill. We have categorically stated already that women should get full respect whether it is in the political field or in the social field. But we have got only one objection and that is that women belonging to backward classes and minorities may be included in it. Here, Left Front and Congress Party is discussing on this issue. Today, they are making announcement that 33 percent reservation should be made for women. I would like to ask the Left Front whether there is even a single lady member in their Polit Bureau? Similarly, elections were held in the Congress Working Committee just two days ago, I would like to ask the Congress Party as to why any woman had not been elected in CWC? Then, what type of political reservation would you like to provide them?...*(Interruptions)* These people want to make wrong propoganda in the country. These people do not want to give respect and honour to women in any field.

So far as the Bhartiya Janata Party is concerned, they have said it clearly in the House today that provision should be made for reservation for backward classes also. If you try to find out the views of the members of Bhartiya Janata Party on this issue, you will come to know that the people of backward classes and dalits are against the manner in which this bill is being brought in the House. Whatever the Prime Minister has stated is correct. There is a difference of opinion in the entire House as well as in every political party. George Fernandes has also said this thing. He also wants that

provision should be made for reservation for women of backward classes and minorities. Therefore, I would like to say once again that I welcome this bill but it should be introduced with amendments in which women of backward classes and minorities may also be included.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our party's view point is clear on Reservation for Women Bill. We give respect and honour to women and we support the bill to give rights to women. I am not able to understand that when hon'ble Prime Minister has stated that the House is not unanimous on this issue, why then it is being discussed for the last three days. There are many other important issues which can be discussed. Why the Government do not become unanimous on this issue? First of all, I would like to ask that if ever a woman had got right to cast her vote first time in this country that was during the elections of the Head of Shiromani Gurdwara Managing Committee which were held after fighting of the Gurdwaras against the Britishers. I feel very distress that today our hon'ble Prime Minister is expressing his inability on the issue of reservation for women bill and the Government has changed the Act of Shiromani Gurudwara Managing Committee in an over night. Last year when elections were held, reservation was provided and at that time nobody asked about it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : I would like to say that the Government should pay attention towards these minorities also in this country who do not get reservation in the Parliament. There are certain minorities in our country who do not get opportunity to come in the Parliament. How many people belonging to sikh community live in Uttar Pradesh? None of the Member of Parliament from Uttar Pradesh belongs to sikh community. No member belonging to sikh community is included in the minority commission in Uttar Pradesh. Only in the state of west Bengal a sikh has been included in the Minority Commission in this country. I would urge upon the Government that if you have to raise the issue of reservation, first of all, I would like to ask that who has imposed a ban on the entry of women in Parliament? All women can also represent in Parliament. When restriction has not been imposed, then I think there is no need of reservation. If it is required, they why she don't get chance to come in the Parliament? Survey should be conducted in this regard? A Committee should be constituted to find out that who do not get opportunity to represent in the Parliament.

Wherever there are minorities they should get reservation. Amendments should be made in it and a Committee should be constituted to provide reservation for the minorities as well as for women.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am rising with a heavy heart and sadness...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a serious issue. Please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have allowed Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev only.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : On 4th July this year, a young boy and social worker, 35 year old, Shri Sanjay Ghosh was kidnapped from Majuli in Assam. Subsequent to that, an outfit of terrorists, ULFA, claimed that he had been kidnapped by them.

Shri Ghosh, a very well-educated boy, coming from a very well-off family, decided to do social work. His organisation, AVARD, was doing work all over the country, especially in remote areas of the North-East. It is most unfortunate that when there is a unified command in Assam, that is, the Army and the Police operated jointly, he has not been traced out until four days back. Many confusing news appeared in the newspapers. Ultimately, it had been found that the ULFA said that he had died as he had a fall from a cliff while the Army operation was going on.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government and this august House to the activities of the terrorists. When they try to do something against social outfits or organisations, they try to say that they want India without corruption. This boy, Shri Ghosh, used to work in this area.

A project which could be done by the BDO in Rs. 3 lakh, the organisation of Shri Ghose used to do in Rs. 50,000. That was why the contractors and the corrupt officers who are hand glove with ULFA, kidnapped him. The Chief Minister of Assam himself has said that a percentage of the money which goes to rural areas has to be paid to ULFA, without which no work can be done. This young boy's intention was to get the money released and utilise it in proper manner. He has been killed now. Most unfortunately, the Army is saying that the civil administration is responsible for this and the civil administration is saying that Army is responsible. I am not going to speak against anybody.

What I would like to say is that the tea industry is coming out of Assam. Reliance wanted to set up a Gas Cracker plant, which was sanctioned during Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao's time, but they have decided to come out of Assam. Technocrats who are posted in Oil India and ONGC are refusing to go to Assam. There is a rule of terrorists there. Every officer is forced to pay a percentage of his salary to the terrorists.

This death has caused a furore all over the country. Yesterday in Delhi, young boys and girls numbering about 10000. took out a procession and gave a memorandum to the Hon. Speaker and to all the political parties. I am glad that the Home Minister is here. He has given an order that Paresh Baruah must be arrested. An international warrant has been issued to that effect. But, where was the Home Ministry when kidnappings and killings were taking place every day? Paresh Baruah is known even before. Why did the Home Ministry not do this before? This is the question being asked by the people. I would like to say that the Government must take drastic steps against those terrorists who do not want civilised and honest social workers to work in the North-East. I appeal through you to the Government to make a statement in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri I.P. Hazarika.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, it is a very serious issue. In the North-East...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All your notices are there. I will allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called Shri Hazarika.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Sir, the Home Ministry has issued...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What is this going on?

(Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Sir.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing of what he is speaking will go on record. Please take your seat. Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only Shri Hazarika will speak.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Sir, I am raising a very important issue.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Sir, Himachal is in anguish...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wait for your turn.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : The Home Ministry has issued a directive to the Government of Assam that they should launch prosecution, file FIR and arrest Paresh Baruah, the so-called commander-in-chief of ULFA.

For the heinous, gruesome and cold blooded murder of Sanjay Ghosh, a social worker and a NGO activist. This is a very extraordinary situation. Law and order is the primary and paramount responsibility of the State, as per the Constitution. It does not happen usually that the Central Government has to issue a directive to the State Government to take action against an offender of a particular crime. Therefore, certain questions have arisen out of this action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Firstly, why is it that the Ministry of Home Affairs considered it necessary to direct the State Government taken action against an offender? Has the Central Government lost confidence in the ability, competence and willingness of the AGP Government in Assam? Are they of the view that left to the State Government, no action is going to be taken against the offender and therefore, directive has been issued. If this is the view, I agree with the Ministry of Home entirely because we have a Government in Assam which, today, is non-functional and it is entirely insensitive and oblivious of the sufferings of the people there.

Then we have Article 355 of the Constitution which enjoins on the Government...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...the duty to protect the States against external aggression and internal disturbances...(Interruptions) This directive has been issued...(Interruptions) Under this article, would the Government do the same in other cases like the recent killing of a Brigadier and a captains a Guwahati.

AN HON. MEMBER : This is a very important issue.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Is this Government going to issue directive to Maharashtra Government to take action against Mr. X sitting in Dubai for murder of Gulshan Kumar committed in Mumbai so that this kind of a thing does not happen? This is an extraordinary situation that Central Government deemed

it proper to directing a democratically, elected State Government to take action against an offender ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I have to draw only one conclusion from this...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : ...that the Central Government has lost confidence in the AGP Government there. Therefore, they do not believe that AGP Government will take stern action against the offender and that is why, I welcome the directive. But, at the same time,...*(Interruptions)* the Government must issue a warning to the AGP Government in the State to the effect that unless they take effective...*(Interruptions)* steps to bring about a significant improvement in the law and order situation...*(Interruptions)* Centre will have to consider seriously an alternative action including invocation of Article 356 of the Constitution ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the verdict given by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will allow everybody. Wait.
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Take your seat. Why can you not wait? Please wait. Sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Patna High Court stated in a decision that the law and order situation in Bihar has worsened ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am sorry. I have already allowed you. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no other alternative than to enforce Article 356 of the Constitution in Bihar. It has been announced by Patna High Court yesterday...*(Interruptions)* This verdict was given by Patna High Court, only after finding that the funds allocated for the development of people at district level have been

pocketed by the officers in connivance with the politicians...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI NITISH KUMAR *in the Chair*)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we want to raise the matter in regard to Bihar...*(Interruptions)* We are making efforts for that matter for the last three years.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already moved to the next item, that is, Matters under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The proceedings of the House will not continue like this. You did not utilize properly the time given to you earlier.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The proceedings of the House cannot continue like this. Now you try to raise this matter next day.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The speech of Sonkerji will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

14.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

14.08 hrs.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN : First you go to your respective seats. Whether it is graceful for you to come to the well.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First you take your respective seats and then you submit your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : I am raising a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is raising a point of order.

(Interruptions)

14.09 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

14.09 hrs.

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

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I would like to raise a point which is neither in favour nor against any party. In the whole country what...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You let him speak.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : No, Sir, we will not allow this. We are not on 356 at this moment. Himachal Pradesh is suffering...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You listen to the point of order, please. He wants to raise it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What can you say without hearing the point of order?

AN HON. MEMBER : It is zero hour...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not zero hour.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Sir, we are raising a matter of urgent public importance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the Zero Hour is over.

[Translation]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : We do not accept it. Five hundred persons have died in Himachal Pradesh. You are considering it a minor thing...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Five hundred persons have died there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You people please sit down for a minute. Ram Naikji is speaking something.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if by any reason...

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Sir, why are you giving the chance to them. Why are you not allowing us to speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whether there is any such rule that only you can speak, no other can speak? You tell such rule that only you will be given the chance. If you want to say your point, you first please sit down. Ram Naikji is saying something.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Five hundred persons have died there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want to submit your point, then first you sit down please. Listen to Ram Naik ji.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I suggest that some members were to speak and could not get chance. Now tomorrow is the last day. There may be two points. I know this also that supplementary demands are important, these should be completed. The other suggestion is that the members who have given notices, should be given a chance to speak in the Zero Hour of tomorrow then they will conclude their point...*(Interruptions)* Otherwise if you give the chance to any member to speak today, then the other will say that why he was not given the chance. In this reference, I submit that if you give an assurance to this effect that all the members would be allowed to speak, then the point could be concluded...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You sit down please for a minute. You are speaking like this but nothing is going on record. You are speaking; they are speaking. All are speaking, Hence, nothing will go on record. First you listen to them please.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Therefore, I was saying that when Mr. George was speaking you please ensure that it is to be concluded, you decide it. So far as the Zero Hour is concerned, I know that yesterday also such things happened, today also it is going on then the members cannot raise their points during the Zero Hour. Tomorrow is the last day, you have to decide as to how to deal with the Zero Hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There may be one thing that the members who have given notices today for Zero Hour may be treated for tomorrow and all the members should

raise their points tomorrow. The Government business is listed for today, let it continue. It is possible.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Five hundred persons have died there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If this matter will be raised tomorrow, heaven is not going to fall.

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Please don't take it as a routine matter. Natural Calamities have occurred.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should realise the difficulties of the House. Please listen first. Fatmiji, you are going on speaking. Now, it is the Government business which is to be discussed. We have to pass the supplementary budget. You first decide whether you want to pass the supplementary budget or you want to continue with Zero Hour. You know very well that the supplementary demands are sent to Rajya Sabha after these are passed in this House. Therefore, you can raise the matter tomorrow and let the Government business be conducted. Your notices will be taken up tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : If you allow one person, you will have to allow others too. Therefore, it should be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Therefore, my suggestion is that if I allow him then I will have to allow others too and first of all I will have to allow George Saheb as he has not completed his speech. Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunshi has raised the point of order. It will not go like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, do you not like to listen to us?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The notice relates to Zero Hour. It is better, you raise it tomorrow and allow the Government business today.

14.14 hrs.

At this stage, Shri K.D. Sultanpuri and some other hon. Members came and stood near the table.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am unable to hear anything from here.

14.15 hrs.

At this stage, Shri K.D. Sultanpuri and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under certain special circumstances, I am allowing to raise the matter of floods in Himachal...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should decide in this regard.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Himachal will be heard first and Bihar will come next...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then, everybody will have to be allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please you sit down. If everybody has to be heard, then Shri George Fernandes should continue and complete his speech first and thereafter, others should speak. I had suggested to take up the matter tomorrow. Now, all of you want to speak. So, if all of you want to speak, then he will speak first who was speaking.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not proper to speak standing in the aisle. Please go to your seat. You should not follow others.

[English]

You had been a Police Commissioner.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, there are many important issues. The hon. Members are interested in raising those points, including the flash flood that has killed more than a hundred persons in Himachal Pradesh. We are all concerned about that. Also, Shri George Fernandes and other Members want to raise certain issues. But the point is that the Government business, that is, the Supplementary Budget has to be passed today, or else it cannot go to the other House. We have hardly any time. Therefore, I only request you to please look into the Government business first and then whatever issues are there, those can be raised tomorrow. Only on Himachal issue you can listen to him....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : But nobody is prepared to listen.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : This is the predicament, Sir. Therefore, I request all the Members to raise these issues tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You request your Members. Nobody is willing to accept your suggestion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : We just want to know that what is the result of the inquiry conducted by CBI...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You too, please accede to my one request. I would like to say to Sukh Ramji that now the Minister has responded to the point. The whole country has come to know that you wanted to raise the issue of Himachal. You may raise it tomorrow in detail. All the other matters may also be raised tomorrow. Let us complete the Government business today.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you speak tomorrow, then what will happen?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I assure the House that on the Himachal issue...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : I have given an adjournment notice...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government should make a statement regarding the whole situation of flash flood in Himachal causing heavy loss of lives and property there. Now, it is O.K.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Yes, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the matters for which notices have been given including the matter raised by Shri George Fernandes, will be taken up tomorrow and today's notices will remain admitted for tomorrow. Now, matters under rule 377 will be taken up.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, it is twenty minutes past two and the budget has to be passed and thereafter, it will be sent to Rajya Sabha. Therefore, it is not proper to keep on speaking you may raise this issue tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please raise it tomorrow, All have spoken all the things. Now do it tomorrow. Now, please you take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Raise all these things tomorrow only, why you people are standing, statement of the Government is coming. Whether you want to speak just for the sake of speaking or you have any demand.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are trying to speak for the sake of speaking.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now you can speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is not of two minutes. The main thing is that everybody wants to speak. This is not a question of Bihar only. All the Members wish to express their concern about it. If any one gets this opportunity then everyone will have to get the time.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whether all the members belonging to Bihar will come to the well of the House, but this is not the question of Bihar only. All the members will raise questions pertaining to their respective states. This is not the question of Bihar only.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, you please sit down first. We have a proposal, please listen. I request, you please listen it or otherwise...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you give a patient hearing or not?

(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given a notice of adjournment for imposing President's rule in Bihar. This is on priority. You should take it first...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : In which Court you were the justice? You please sit down, this is clear that if you want to raise this issue there is a wayout in this regard. The Budget business of the Government is quite important. You pass it without any discussion and thereafter, whatever issue you want to raise you can raise it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If there is consensus in the House then this can be done. You please sit down, this can be discussed tomorrow. Otherwise, this is quite important business from the Government point of view, this is to be taken up in Rajya Sabha also. You can not stall the business of the House like this just for a question. You will have to cooperate. If you want to say something about it, then the Government is also bound to complete this business. Therefore, either you pass this business without any discussion or I would like to have your opinion on it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, it is not the matter of two minutes, it will take an hour. Mr. George Fernandes is on his legs. Thereafter, Lodhaji will speak, Shri P.R.

Dasmunsi will speak, you people too want to speak, everybody wants to speak. Therefore, it will take time. You any how get the House agree first, get this Government business passed and speak thereafter.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please listen to his suggestions.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, I have a suggestion to make...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to the Members from Himachal Pradesh for two minutes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your suggestions?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : My suggestion is that you hear for two minutes the Himachal MPs, two minutes RJD Members and two minutes Shri George Fernandes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not the question of listening them for two minutes.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I am not saying that. I am saying that either you hear them and then start Supplementary Demands or you take the opinion of the House to finish the Supplementary Demands and assure us that today, we will be permitted to take up the issue after the Supplementary Demands are passed.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you all are of this opinion then this is my suggestion too.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : If you allow him, then we will also speak. We should also get a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : On Himachal issue, the Government have also expressed its opinion and the chair has also issued direction to the Government for making a statement in this regard, therefore, you want to raise this matter just for the sake of raising it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I shall everybody. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nobody is listening to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can raise it in the House tomorrow itself. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is also requesting for it. All these things are going on, even then you are not ready to listen it. You can even raise this issue tomorrow-what is the problem?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government will also make a statement on the issue of floods in Himachal.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to me and raise this matter tomorrow. Let us now take up matters under Rule 377. You please raise this matter tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am requesting you to take up this matter tomorrow. All your notices will be valid even for tomorrow. All the Hon. Members should raise this issue tomorrow. What is the problem in it? Those who have given notices for zero hour, they too will be valid for tomorrow. Those who have not given notice, can also give notice. Therefore, all such notices and the notices fixed for today will also come up.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : We have been giving notices for the last several days...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you please cooperate with the Chair. Fatmi Saheb, Ram Kripal ji, you all are senior members. We have talked a lot.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Believe me, this cannot be done. It will atleast take two hours because everybody wants to speak. How it is possible? This is not possible. You can take up this matter tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : You may listen only to Himachal tragedy.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You perhaps don't know. This is not a matter to be discussed in just two minutes. It will take two hours.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, it is a human tragedy ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

You perhaps don't know about Himachal's tragedy. 500 people have been killed there...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will take up this tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the High Court has made a remark on Bihar affairs that President's rule should be imposed there...(Interruptions). Home Minister should make a statement in this regard...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will take up this matter to tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The leader of the House is sitting here. Whatever question you want to raise, can be raised tomorrow.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Please listen to us. Our leader wants to give only some suggestions ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I respectfully submit that there are...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : A human tragedy has taken place in Himachal Pradesh. Should it not be heard in the House? 500 people have died. So, they should be allowed to speak.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then you conduct the House. If the matter of allowing him is raised, then everybody will have to be allowed. Dasmunsi ji, are you thinking that this House is not willing to hear regarding tragedy occurred in Himachal Pradesh. The Minister has responded only after understanding the gravity of the tragedy occurred and the Chairman has directed the Government to make a statement in this regard. Then, you want to speak only for the purpose of speaking.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I am sorry to say that a Member of Parliament who represents his constituency has a right to speak. So, you cannot any like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are a senior Member. You are creating problems.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody wants to speak. What can be done?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a suggestion to make...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear the Finance Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, human tragedy has a precedence over all the other things.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are right. But let us hear the Finance Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, let me make a suggestion. I am not trying to say anything which others have not felt or said. My humble suggestion is, please give 10 minutes or so for the Members of Parliament from Himachal Pradesh first to say something about the tragedy there. Then, please dispose of the Demands for Supplementary Grants within about 45 minutes or so thereafter and after that, please allow anyone to raise anything that he likes. I appeal to all the hon. Members to cooperate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, we have no objection to raise the issue pertaining to Himachal Pradesh, but how the supplementary grants will be cleared in just 45 minutes?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will not happen like this. The Budget discussions will be taken up after raising the issue pertaining to Himachal Pradesh. After this, if you want, you can raise rest of the issues in the remaining time. It will be done like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will not be taken up now. Why are you so much restless?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Heavens won't fall if this matter is raised on hour later after taking the Government business.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are grateful to Shri Chidambaram who has solved the problem.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA (Mumbai South) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have also given notice. Please give us an opportunity to speak after raising the Himachal Pradesh issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No other issue will be taken after the issue pertaining to Himachal Pradesh.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me find some way out.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How many times it should be told as to when this issue would be taken up?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Sir, we are grateful both to Shri Chidambaram and the other Minister who had responded. I should also thank Shri Dasmunsi, the whole House and you for having given us time to raise the issue.

Sir, the whole of Himachal Pradesh is in great anguish and agony. The whole State of Himachal Pradesh has been submerged in water. There was a cloud burst and it is reported that about 500 people have perished. This is the minimum number that I put. The number of people who have died could be more. The Government buildings and many villages have been washed away in flood. A lot of trucks and buses have also been washed away and there is no communication left there. Similarly, all foodstuffs have been washed out. Our problem is, how will the State Government respond. Last year, they gave a memorandum to the Government asking for financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 400 crore. The Central team had gone there. They enjoyed the hospitality in Himachal Pradesh, but not a single paisa was given. We are devastated by floods, but they will not give us any money. That is the problem. Last time, they estimated that Rs. 10 crore was to be given and they gave only Rs. 18 crore. They enjoyed our hospitality, but they did not give a single paisa.

[Translation]

What is the result, nil. We want some positive step should be taken in this regard.

[English]

Do not give us a lollypop, but give us genuine help. We are in tragedy, we are in agony. We are a small State. We are wiped out. In Chamba district, properties worth Rs. 25 crore have been lost. All the trains have stopped running. The National Highways have been washed away. We are away from the humanity. We are submerged in water. Please help us; the whole House should help us and the Government should respond sympathetically towards us.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Shimla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I want to say that Rahru is a place in my Shimla Constituency. This entire Tehsil has been submerged in water. At least 40 people have been washed away in river water there. Apart from this village approach roads have also been damaged at various places. National Highway is also in a very dilapidated condition. Road from Kalka to Kinnaur have submerged in water at different places. This has caused damage not only to Himachal Pradesh but it will also affect Punjab and Haryana. I would like to thank Chidambaram Sahib, and our beloved leader Shri P.R. Dasmunsi as also the members of this House, who have allowed us to raise this issue.

Mr. Chairman, I am also grateful to you that you have given us opportunity to speak by setting aside all the rules and norms. We have demanded Rs. 800 crores from the Government of India, but we have not been given even a single penny so far. I would like to say that Hon'ble Prime Minister should visit there and we will also accompany him. If it is not possible for him to go there, he may direct Chidambaramji or Parliamentary Affairs Minister to go there. We would like that he should personally go there take stock of the situation and send a team at the earliest, so that people there can get some relief. All the approach roads have blocked there. The Government should try to improve the situation there.

[*English*]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Sir, I wish to add only one sentence that the hon. Prime Minister should visit Himachal Pradesh immediately.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUKH RAM (Mandi) : Mr. Chairman, the incident which took place in Himachal Pradesh has perhaps never occurred earlier in the history of this stage. Such a big tragedy has not occurred till date. As K.D. Sultanpuriji was saying, a large number of villages have been washed away in a river. All the villages have ruined. Nobody has survived. All the routes to Kinnaur district have been blocked. All the existing national highways and bridges there have been damaged. About 15-18 villages have completely ruined. Land sliding of a mountain and damaging of a road at one place, has taken a dam like shape over the river Satluj. Seven kilometers of area has submerged and has converted into a lake.

• 14.37 hrs.

(SHRI CHITTA BASU *in the Chair*)

There is no means of transport there. All the roads are lying blocked in Himachal Pradesh. There is no

traffic. Telephone is the only medium there through which information can be obtained. I got information at night that the situation in Kinnaur, Lahul spiti and Ladakh which is the highest desert is very grim. There are sandy mountains and only 2 1/2 inch rainfall is received there in a year, but due to heavy rainfall the situation has deteriorated there and information can be obtained only through telephone. On the basis of information received, 500 people have died, but there are many other places about which no information could be obtained. So many cow sheds have been ruined in flood and cattle heads have perished. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless. I want to tell you that when there was an earthquake at Sundarnagar under my constituency, Mandi, I had met the Prime Minister, but no assistance has been given by the Central Government. I want to bring this fact to the notice of all the hon'ble Members that Himachal Pradesh is passing through the financial crisis due to financial mismanagement. I do not think that as much amount of relief required for repairing the roads and as much...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please speak about the incident only.

SHRI SUKH RAM : I do not think that Himachal Pradesh will be able to combat the tragedy occurred there unless it is provided financial assistance. I would, therefore, request the hon'ble Prime Minister and the Finance Minister, who is sitting here, to provide an amount of Rs. 2-3 crores to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh immediately so as to provide relief to the public there. Telephone is only one source through which complete information can be obtained ...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, I being the Incharge of Himachal Pradesh on behalf of my Party would like to express my viewpoint in this regard. Due to heavy rainfall in Shimla and Kinnaur districts of Himachal Pradesh and owing to the incident of cloud burst and due to devastating floods in Satluj and Andhra river, hundred of people have died. Thousands of people are missing and property and live stock worth crores of rupees have been damaged. The situation there is very dreadful.

Sir, the State Government of Himachal Pradesh is having very limited resources. Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to provide assistance to the flood victims and efforts should be made to obtain information about the persons who are missing.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Finance Minister has to respond to the discussion on Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM : Government shares the anguish and concern of the hon. Members who raised

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

the issue about the flash floods in Himachal Pradesh. We send our deepest condolences and sympathies to the bereaved families, to those who have lost property and to those who have suffered. We stand by the Himachal Pradesh Government in its efforts to provide relief. I would request my colleague, the Minister for Agriculture under whom the subject natural calamity falls to immediately depute a team to Himachal Pradesh, as soon as the Himachal Pradesh Government is able to indicate to us either today or tomorrow, then they are ready to receive a team. Secondly, I will also convey to the Prime Minister the request of the hon. Members that immediate relief be granted and I am sure that by tomorrow, the Prime Minister will be able to announce immediate relief to Himachal Pradesh.

14.41½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sixteenth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : I beg to present the Sixteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us move to next item. We will take up statements under Rule 377.

14.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to ensure benefit of LPG Agency/ Petrol dealership provided under reserved quota.**

[Translation]

SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKER (Saidpur) : Sir, the Department of Petroleum invites applications for allotment of LPG Agency and petrol dealership under reserved quota. But after interviewing applicants, inordinate delay is caused by the Department in allotting LPG Agency/Petrol dealership under reserved quota for Scheduled Castes. Even after allotment of the quota the Department makes the allottees run from pillar to post on the pretext of non-availability of land. While in the advertisement inviting the application it is clearly mentioned that the entire arrangement for the agency and dealership will be made by the company itself and

the whole money invested therein will be realised by the company from the dealers in instalments, which, however, is not being done in actual practice.

Sometimes, agency or dealership is even allotted in favour of some other persons due to which the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes do not get any direct benefit of the reserved quota.

Therefore, the hon. Minister is urged upon to take suitable action in this regard, so that Scheduled Castes and other reserved categories may be really benefited from the quota meant for them.

- (ii) **Need to provide adequate funds to State Government of Uttar Pradesh for industrial development of Ferozabad.**

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention towards my constituency, Ferozabad. Tehsil Kharagarh, Fatehabad and Bah, near Agra, have a population of about 20 lakh. Industrially this area is deprived of every development scheme. The entire area has been dacoit infested. This area lies between Chambal and Yamuna. Unemployment, starvation and deprivation are rampant in the area. The educated unemployed youth are forced to become dacoits due to non-availability of employment opportunities. We are celebrating 50th anniversary of our independence but it is misfortune of the people that potable water is still a far cry there due to which the people have to drink dirty water from taps and ponds. This causes infectious and fatal diseases among them.

Therefore, through you, I urge upon the Union Government that the above area of my constituency may be declared backward so that both the Union Government as well as UP Government may together carry out development works in these areas and a big industry may be set up there with a view to check the growing unemployment.

- (iii) **Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing relief to the people affected by earthquake particularly in Jabalpur region.**

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : In Jabalpur division of Madhya Pradesh a fierce earthquake was experienced at 4.22 a.m. on 22.5.1997. Since then, i.e. within two months thereafter, as many as 20 tremors of earthquakes have been experienced there causing 38 deaths according to the Madhya Pradesh Government while non-governmental figure shows more than 50 deaths. The earthquake experienced at Latur district of Maharashtra three and half years ago caused more than 10 thousand deaths as per the Government figures. The intensity of the earthquakes experienced in

Jabalpur division and Latur district was 6.3 and 6.4 respectively. The epicentrum of earthquake at Latur was 10 kms. whereas at Jabalpur it was 30-35 kms. It is evident that the intensity of the earthquake in Jabalpur division was more than that of Latur. Heavy casualties in Latur were caused due to the winter season, people sleeping inside their houses, and stone built houses whereas lives in Jabalpur are saved due to summer season, people sleeping outside their houses, and mud built houses.

The earthquake caused maximum damage and loss in terms of property in the Jabalpur, Sivni and Narsimpur districts. In Jabalpur city not even 5 per cent houses have remained in good condition. 95 per cent houses have either collapsed or developed large cracks. It is being feared that in the coming two months, thousands of houses will collapse leading to a heavy loss of life.

The Union Government are therefore, urged upon to provide adequate assistance to avoid heavy loss of life and property and to declare the earthquake affected districts as calamity affected and the whole area industrially backward.

(iv) Need to declare Argon and Sayeed Ethnic Groups of Ladakh as Scheduled Tribe

[English]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Sir, eight ethnic groups consisting of about 95 per cent population of Ladakh were declared Scheduled Tribe *vice* Constitution (J&K) Scheduled Tribe Order of 1989. But, unfortunately, two small ethnic groups known as ARGONS and SAYEED of about 4000 population were left out on some technical grounds. These two ethnic groups had originally migrated from Kashmir and other neighbouring countries and had been living in Ladakh for centuries. Over the centuries, the two ethnic groups completely assimilated into the Ladakhi way of life. They speak the same language, have the same culture and observe the same traditions as that of other eight ethnic groups.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to declare the Argon and Sayeed ethnic groups of Ladakh as Scheduled Tribe without further loss of time.

(v) Need for construction of a railway over-bridge at Wadakkanchery in Trissur District, Kerala.

SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR (Ottapalam) : Sir, it was a long-pending demand of the people of Trissur District to build a railway over-bridge at Wadakkanchery, Trissur District, Kerala. Trissur is the cultural headquarters of Kerala. The World famous Kerala Kalamandalam in memory of the great poet Vallathol Narayana Menon is situated near Wadakkanchery. The Trissur Medical College is also very near to Wadakkanchery.

As such, immediate action may please be taken to build a railway over-bridge at Wadakkanchery, Trissur.

(vi) Need for early execution of maintenance work of Tamil Nadu part of the Trivandarum-Kanyakumari National Highway No. 47.

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : The Tamil Nadu part of the Thiruvananthpuram-Kanyakumari National Highway No.: 47 is for long in a very bad condition causing difficulties and inconveniences to the passengers and general public. In spite of repeated representations the maintenance work is not being expedited. There are lot of pits, cracks and holes on the road. Deep trenches are formed on both sides of road. Due to the recent monsoon rains, the conditions deteriorated with grave damages. Thus it is subjected to frequent accidents. It is posing grave danger to the passengers and vehicular traffic. It is one of the busiest roads in the country and once it was praised as the longest cement road in India. But now it is worst maintained road. Further abandonment without maintenance would aggravate the difficulties of passengers and gravely affect the movements of vehicular and passenger traffic.

I, urge upon the Government not to postpone the execution of the work further and special attention should be paid for the immediate maintenance of this very urgent and important work in the Tamil Nadu of NH: 47 at the earliest to make an end to the long-standing difficulties faced by passengers and general public.

(vii) Need to sanction adequate funds to develop Monghyr in Bihar as a tourist resort.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Monghyr is an ancient city. A yoga Ashram of international repute and Ganga darshan are there at Karnachaura. Thousands of people from abroad visit this place. Out of 9 Mahashakti peeths' one Chandi peeth is in Monghyr. Pilgrims from all corners of the country visit the place to seek blessings. There is a hot water spring popularly known as 'Sita Kund'. A big fair is organised here. Thousands of people from far flung areas come to this fair to offer prayers and worship. Thousands of people come here to enjoy the enchanting scenario of 'Bhim Bandh' belonging to Mahabharata era. There is a medieval fort of Mir Qasim. The fort has three gates in North, South and East. The Ganga flows along the western side of the fort. The fort is surrounded by a deep trench from three sides which used to be full of Ganga water. People used to practise boating here. But due to mismanagement, now it has remained a trench only.

[Shri Brahamanand Mandal]

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Tourism to declare Monghyr as tourist centre and provide adequate financial assistance to develop it as a tourist centre of international repute.

(viii) Need to take concrete steps to stop poaching of Leopards and Tigers

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : According to a WWF - India Study, leopards in the country are facing a threat to their existence more than ever before due to unabated poaching. The sources say that 262 leopard skin had been seized from various parts of the country between July 1993 and January 1995. The leopard skin is being sold without any check in tourist spots such as Kullu, Manali, Dharmashala in Himachal Pradesh, Darjeeling in West Bengal, Surat in Gujarat and in Shimilipal in Orissa. The matter has been raised in various forums by different prominent individuals and the Members of Parliament. But very little has been done to check such illegal trade.

Skins and bones of tiger and leopard are in great demand in the underground market in Calcutta and several other cities. These are in great demand as substitutes for tiger parts command lucrative prices. As a substantial number of leopards are found outside the network of protected areas, they are vulnerable to poaching. According to the census done in 1993 the leopard population stands double than that of the tiger. The number of tigers in the country was 3750 whereas leopards was 7500 according to the census of 1993. But the rate of leopard poaching has increased five times during the period mentioned above.

Unless deforestation activities are stopped, the leopard will continue to fall prey to the poachers. I urge upon the Government of India to ask the State Government for proper preservation of existing forest and also to undertake appropriate and adequate afforestation measures forthwith so as to stop poaching of leopards and tigers.

14.55 hrs.

[English]

**SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(GENERAL)—1997-98-Contd.**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, let us move on to item No. 7 of the list of Business, that is, further discussion on Demands for Supplementary Grants (General).

In this respect I want to inform the hon. Members of this House that the time allotted for this discussion was two hours and we have already taken one hour and 57 minutes. We have got only three minutes left. On the other hand, at least, there are about nine Members to participate in the discussion. Therefore, I request all the speakers to be very brief so that the hon. Minister of Finance can complete this business of the House and refer it to the other House.

I would further request that every speaker should confine himself to the Budget papers.

Prof. Om Pal Singh Niddar was on his legs.

[Translation]

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, yesterday when I started speaking, immediately another matter was taken up. As per your calculation if I speak for 10 seconds, 3 minutes time will be over. I am speaking on budget for the first time and, therefore, I would like to take a few more minutes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that our Government wants to get approval for buying opium worth Rs. 60 crore. I could not understand that. On the one hand, they make efforts to enforce prohibition and on the other hand, a large quantity of opium is seized and if that quantity is exported, foreign exchange worth rupees sixty crores could be earned. I could not understand it. Apart from it, demand no. 14 pertains to the Department of Tele-Communications for which a provision of Rs 26060.96 crores has been made and even then the position of this Department is not good and, perhaps, the members belonging to the ruling as well as opposition parties will agree to it. No norms or policy is being followed in this department and the people are compelled to pay bribes to get their work done. Such is the situation in the society which should be checked and the work should be monitored.

Demand no. 22 relates to the forest and environment. I don't understand what the Government wants to do for environment. There are 80 many people in this country, who do not feel necessary to set up industry under American pressure or of their own. Small scale industries earn a lot of foreign exchange and provide employment to crores of people. There is a racket. I am not levelling allegations against anyone but the Constitution is being violated. A number of small scale industries are being closed down in the name of environment and Government is watching as a mute spectator. There is no persuasion. Nobody raises question in this regard. Great injustice is being done to Ferozabad, Etah, Mathura, Bharatpur and Dhaulpur districts in the name of protecting Taj Mahal. I do not know whether Government has any project to save these cities from pollution. I feel that those who are themselves

polluted can not check the pollution of others. As George Sahib said, Rs 40 crores are being provided to Bhutan. In his opinion this money should not be provided until democracy is restored there and they should give guarantee to this effect. Our country is a democratic country and we support Gandhism, democratic values and humanism. We are also opposed to the policy of apartheid. I do not understand what kind of national interest we are serving if we give money to the murders of democracy. In this context, mention has been made here about direct taxes. We have a peculiar tax system in the country. I think for taxes, we make same nexus and earmark the amount of tax keeping in view personal benefits. In my opinion the tax system should be such that people of their own volition pay the taxes without any middleman.

15.00 hrs.

There is also a racket in this field too. If tax is assessed at rupees one lakh, rupees twenty thousand is deposited in Government accounts, rupees twenty thousand is taken away by middlemen, rupees twenty thousand is taken by the concerned officer and the Government has to suffer a loss of rupees twenty thousand. Funds are being demanded for sugar. Money is sought for intelligence services. It is not a bad thing but some benefit must accrue from the intelligent services. Secret informations are passed on to the foreign countries. If the money is incurred for these, I cannot support it.

As regard the demand for power sector, I do not understand what is to be renovated and modernised. Billions of rupees are incurred but the problem remains as it is. Power shortage but as we go out to the big cities, whether in Uttar Pradesh or in the other states, we find them in dark. No body cares for the villages. The poor farmers on whose votes we become Members of this House and who continue to be the centre of our discussion, must receive Government's attention.

The demands to the Ministry of Labour are also not reasonable because they do not fulfil their objectives. I would like to say one thing more that the state of Uttar Pradesh has been totally neglected in the Budget as well as supplementary Budget. The population of the State is about 16 crore. The Tenth Finance Commission had given certain recommendations for special assistance, but the same have not been implemented so far. The State Government had forwarded about 90 projects and other important matters for clearance of the Central Government from the year 1995-96. Out of them 16 projects are under the Ministry of Agriculture and of the remaining projects, two projects relate to Fishery Department, four projects to the Forest Department, one project to Rural Department and one project with an outlay of Rs 5 to 7 thousand crore

relates to trapezium. The Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders to the effect that no industry which emits smoke will be run here has adversely affected the glass industry, foundry industry, Bichhua industries. In that order it was also said that gas and electricity would be supplied continuously round the clock. But our Government had implemented one part of that order and they had closed the industries due to which about 10 lakh workers have been rendered jobless. On the other hand, some funds have needed to revive the Industries which could give employment to unemployed people. Ferozabad which alone earns foreign exchange worth rupees twenty crores for the country has been neglected. The above decision was taken three years ago but the Government does not want to do anything besides six irrigation projects, five public works department projects, Seven Energy projects, four heavy industry projects, six Small Scale industry export promotion projects and about 90 other projects are there but the Government has not taken any decision on these projects so far. I donot know what are the difficulties before the Government in implementing these projects. I would like to reiterate what I said yesterday that whether it is the discussion on the full Budget or supplementary budget, I do not want my colleagues to thump the desks in my support. What I want them to see whether or not this is covered under the Budget. If I am wrong, I am open for a challenge.

First thing that comes to my mind is that no relief has been provided to the farmers in the budget. There has been a record production of potato in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in district Farrukhabad and Khandauli region of Jalesar. But about 40 per cent of the produce got destroyed in the field and the rest which was sent to the cold storage is lying unattended. There is no crop insurance facility. No effort is being made for the export of potato. Had the Government announced that Potato will be exported, this could have saved the farmers to some extent.

If some companies are allowed to work in the field of exports, the farmers can be benefited to some extent. Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to say that the major problems of the country are sidetracked due to technicalities. One hour of the House has since passed as a result of a pandemonium. When the problems of the country are raised, the technicality comes in the way and the bell is rung. This is not my voice, but it is the voice of the nation. Hence the timings of the House should be used properly. I want a few minutes to say something in this regard. The other things I want to say is that this will not provide any relief to the labourers. You please tell me if there is any relief to the labourers. If you want to incur expenditure on retirement or for retrenchment, it cannot be taken as relief. The factories

[Prof. Ompal Singh 'Nidar']

should be kept in running condition for which you can even engage the workers on lower wages. On the other hand, the factories are being closed. We people are importing many items while the other countries are dumping the goods. I had also raised this matter the other day. The paper which is available @ Rs. 22/- per kg. in our country is available @ Rs. 30 per kg. in Sweden, US, Canada and Russia. They are bent upon ruining our industries by dumping their goods at a margin of one percent. When the anti-dumping duty was imposed, all of them opposed it and our Government could do nothing. The same situation prevails everywhere. Lakhs of people are engaged in cable industry, but a single businessmen of US, who is a media king, is trying to make the entire Government been formed to make the country bankrupt. We are here merely to deliver speeches. We shall have to resort the struggle and we shall have to cooperate with our industrial workers and the public. We will have to take into consideration all these things. There is no relief for the salaried class. There is no relief to the traders and shopkeepers. No arrangements have been made to protect the industry. Undue weightage is being given to the imported articles. There is no control over rising prices. In the budget the policy seems to be favourable towards militants. There is a lack of development in villages while the water resources are being misused here. A particular section of Dalits called Balmikis are not being provided drinking water.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude, you are a sincere member.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : I would take one minute more. There is a lack of health services. There is a lack of transport facilities. The corruption is at its peak in Government undertakings. Corrupt and dishonest officers are being protected. I am talking of the Chairman, ITDC who was appointed illegally and now a conspiracy is on to extend his services. This is the ground reality while you want that there should be development. Efficient officers are being removed from service. The prevailing situation is that the officer who detected a theft of 80 crores was suspended. I would name the officer if the hon. Minister desire to know the same. He was suspended last year i.e. 1996-97. This is the situation which prevails in our country. No efforts are being made for self-reliance. There is lack of will in the administration. Each and every item of the budget lacks the objective of social service and productivity. I had put forth a few things in regard to this budget and before I conclude, I would like to say a little more in this respect and I would also like the House to support me. If we are committed to something merely in our speech, it will not do any good. We can achieve the goal only by practising the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Proferssor, now you conclude.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a few lines of a poem and I will read it out here. I do not say that I am the most disciplined person. But you might have not seen me to create a pandemonium.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is why I am trying to make you understand.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' : I am reciting a few couplets of the poem and by doing so, I am trying to analyse this budget.

Aalishan Mahal ke wasi,
Ho galiyon ke faag naheen tum,
In Andhiyari jhonpandiyon ke
Jaltay huge chirag naheen tum,
Ho kewal shoshan ke fande,
Deeno ke Anurag naheen tum,
Sun lo O' madira ke piyalao,
Ho utkrisht parag naheen tum,
Saath ujalon mein chalkar hee,
Khud ko meet samaajhane walo,
Mein to meet tabhi manoonga,
Andhiyaron mein saath chalogay,
Saath kinaron tak chalkar hee,
khud ko meet samajhane walo,
Main to meet tabhi manoonga,
Majhdahron mein saath chalogay.

With this I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I could not hear the initial remarks of the hon. Minister of Finance as I was busy with another Parliamentary Committee meeting. I do not know whether it is an advantage or disadvantage. The normal procedure is that while we discuss the General Budget first we pass the Demands for Grants and then we take up Finance Bill. In the background, there is, a Budget speech on the basis of which we try to appreciate whether or not the Demands for Grants which we are passing would be able to meet those demands. There are reports which cause anxiety in our minds to the effect that the collection of revenue during this year upto now present a dismal picture. I want a statement from the Finance Minister about that. This is one demand that I am making. What is the present state of revenue collection from which we are supposed to provide some Rs. 1,900 crore as additional out-go. I would request the hon. Minister to make that kind of statement while responding to our demands.

It is said that half the amount would be financed by savings. Every year the PAC concerns itself with the savings at the end of the year which are not noted

earlier. We have passed several Demands for Grants. Is it not correct for the hon. Minister to come before the House to indicate whether the savings are taking place? We will know whether the modification is taking place from what we have considered to be appropriate while passing the General Budget. So, that kind of indication should be given to us. Where are the savings? It is because I may have a point that money in that important area should not have been saved. It is not merely a collection from the National Renewal Fund but savings *per se*. So, I want a statement from the hon. Minister on that.

I will not comment on what has been proposed. My comments will be on what has not been proposed. Though I do not know the financial constraints adequately, I would like to put forward some proposals. I want the response of the Finance Minister though there may be some financial constraints, whether or not these things would be considered on priority basis.

One is regarding the Indian Bank which has lost Rs. 1,300 crore. I am told that the customers are fleeing away from the Indian Bank putting it into more difficulty. In spite of that there is no provision in this Budget for the Indian Bank. I want the Finance Minister to respond to this. It is because this is very important for the banking sector.

In his own statement on the Pay Commission he has mentioned that Rs. 2,000 crore would be the additional out-go.

If there are revisions, if justice is done to Group C and Group D employees in terms of reformulation of the scales which I mentioned as really a retrograde one, there will be further outgo. But additional amount has not been provided for this. I want to have a response to this.

It is well-known that the United Front is very keen to see that the public distribution system is targeted to people below the poverty line. We have provided for it at a minimal level, that is, up to 10 kg. The demand was that it should be 30 kg. It would be improved as and when the position of stock of foodgrains is improved. The decision to give 10 kg. was taken when the food stock position was at a very low level. Now that it has improved, they would give more and that again means further outgo. But a provision has not been made to that in the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

Let me mention one more thing. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and Shri Chaturan Mishra and others come here and tell us, "What can we do? Funds are not there; the Finance Ministry is not providing funds." This kind of expressions come from within the Cabinet. The Railway Minister has promised that all the casual contract labourers will be absorbed. But still they are

not able to do it and the process is going on. Why should we not provide more funds to the Railways so that the promise of the Leader of the House is fulfilled as quickly as possible?

There is a similar thing. A deputation from all the airports met the Civil Aviation Minister. There is also a Supreme Court judgement. According to the Supreme Court judgement, the contract labourers of various airports including the civil aviation ones, should be absorbed. We said that if this is not done before the 31st of August, we are going to serve a notice of strike. I am told that although the promise was there, there are difficulties in implementing that due to lack of resources. I want to know his response to this.

On the other day there was a reference, during the Question Hour, to pulses. Not enough funds are being made available in that sector, and not enough is being handed over. What is provided in this Supplementary Demands for Grants for strengthening the output of pulses within the economy? Pulses are considered to be poormen's protein.

I will come to the last point. About transfer of funds to the States due to the Pay Commission's recommendations, I would say that the impact on the State would be enormous. Why has he not provided anything additionally for transfer to the States? One argument could be that 75 per cent of the amount collected through the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme would go to the States. That will be an additional resource, but I do not know the fate of VDIS. I do not know whether it is ADIS or VDIS; whether it may be, we want to have a statement about this. We want that additional provision should be made for that, at least on that ground.

What I am going to say is really the last point.

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Sir, in the Inter-State Council Meeting, the hon. Finance Minister had assured that he would provide additional financial resources to the States.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He would reply to it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Maybe, he may come up with another Supplementary Demands for Grants in December.

The other point is this. Absolutely nothing should permit the public sector corporations to deny the retirement benefits to people who have retired three or four years ago. It is an impossible situation for this House and for the country at large. Where is the provision for reserve? They are not getting the retirement benefits. It is no use arguing that the corporations or companies are responsible for that and they can be hauled up in the court for nonpayment of retirement benefits.

[Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee]

Ultimately, the responsibility is that of the Government of India. So, on these retirement benefits and wages are due but they are denied, I agree that prices are coming down in terms of the wholesale price index. Nobody says that it is as reflected in the manner as the consumer prices envisage. Let us remember that the workers at the lowest level are denied their wages. What are they working for in the House for the growth of economy? So, this is also omitted in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. It hurts me. I am in a dilemma which the Finance Minister also faces and I am sure that he will say that. At the same time, I want to know this. Are these not, in order of priority, superior to whatever he has provided for? What would be his response to this point?

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Mukundapuram) : I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Without any dilemma, even though my party is supporting this Government from outside and Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee is supporting from within....

MR. CHAIRMAN : His party is also supporting from outside.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : But there is some difference as we see things. We do not even indulge in back seat driving. So, that is the difference probably.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It is like inner lobby and outer lobby.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I said 'back seat driving', I think you enjoy back seat driving but we do not enjoy that. In spite of that, I have no hesitation in supporting the Demands for Supplementary Grants moved by the hon. Finance Minister to the tune of Rs. 4000 crore.

I want to quickly deal with some of the points because I know you cannot permit me the time you have permitted Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not compare. You shall get it. You are also conscious of the limit.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Yes, Sir.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : He is no less respected than I am.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You speak having regard to the limitation of time.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : I understand and I appreciate it.

Coming to the point, one sentence is still ringing in my ears which was made the other day by the hon. Finance Minister, even though it was very casually made to retort to a remark or in reply to Shri Mullapally Ramachandran when he was making a comment. It

was about the policy of the Minister's party. He quickly retorted that he represents the party which was born in fire and his policy reforms. I want to appreciate that even though I cannot fully appreciate liberalisation of reforms which I used to share very much with Shri Chidambaram since 1991, I have become a suspect of late because I cannot fully support this open-ended liberalisation policy. It is because we are living in a society which is, to a large extent, primitive in certain areas. I do not know whether I can use that word or not. In a society like ours which is backward in many aspects and ways, probably the kind of liberalisation which is being pursued by the Government is not correct. I remember and I recollect that since 1991, the country's coffers were practically empty and it was managed by people whom Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee's party was also supporting. When it was almost bankrupt, a Government came to power and that Government could build up a substantial reserves and today, Shri Chidambaram is sitting comfortable with a foreign exchange reserve of 25 billion US dollars. That is India's foreign reserve.

We all feel proud of that. At the same time, I want to point out one thing. If you take the last fortnight or a month, our foreign exchange reserve is not growing. It is going back in the reverse gear. It is depleting. If the figures with me are correct, it has gone down by 1.2 billion. The Minister of Finance is denying that. I am happy. I wanted it to be denied because I wanted it to happen the other way. But the figures say and the world report says that India is no more a favourable destination for the world for investment. The people from various other countries or the multinationals who can invest no more consider India as a favourable destination.

I have seen a Study Report published recently in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* that if you take 18 countries of Asia, the rank of India is thirteenth. There are very few countries like Pakistan or Myanmar or Sri Lanka which are behind India. So, India is no more a favourable destination. Money is not coming. We have liberalised the economy. We have opened it up. We are speaking about the rate of growth. I heard the Minister of Finance saying the other day that the only solution for alleviating poverty in this country is to achieve a rate of growth which is above seven per cent.

I remember Shrimati Indira Gandhi was also one of the most forward reformists this country has seen. She once said that the rate of growth alone cannot be the criterion for eradicating poverty. So many other aspects also to be seen. What the Minister of Finance is expecting can only be proportionate to the rate of investment. What is the rate of investment in this country? I have no

time to deal with many areas. But I want to bring one point to the notice of the hon. Minister of Finance.

In the power sector, about 80 companies signed Memoranda of Understanding with various State Governments in the country for nearly 35,000 MW of power. One MW of power would cost Rs. 5 crore. Thirty-five thousand MW of power would involve a huge amount. From where would this money come? There are 20 companies producing almost 11,000 MW of power. Almost all the formalities have been completed. But are they coming? What is happening to our system? The people are going to China for investment. I may differ with the party of Shri Nirmal kanti Chatterjee on many things. But I think, we can jointly request the Minister of Finance that at least the process of reforms which is taking place in China should be copied by India. This is probably the first time that I openly admire him.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He would not accept it.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Sir, he would agree privately because the best destination for the investors in the world today is China. How is it happening? They may oppose these in this House. That is for tactical reasons. The old habits die hard. You know that very well. It will take some more time for them to admit the truth. But very few people are coming to India because of the delays. That means, it is a loss. More and more agreements are signed; MOUs are signed and all the clearances are obtained. But the people are not coming. They are still not prepared to come and invest in India. It is happening everywhere except in the case of one or two projects in Maharashtra. Nothing has materialised so far. There have been tall talks in the last four or five years in this country. This is not one sector but in every sector of the economy it is happening in this country. That means, do not dream of a rate of growth above seven per cent without any substantial investment. The investment should come only in proportion to the investment. That way, you can achieve the rate of growth. So, dreaming is good. It is one thing. But at the same time, what is happening in this country is entirely different. Corruption is continuing among the political leadership. Corruption is deep in the bureaucracy. The delay is due to that. Because of all these things, the investors are shying away from India. That kind of a situation is at the background of all these things.

The hon. Minister of Finance has moved for certain things in this country. I support and admire him on three things. I have seen all these things quickly. He has demanded Rs. 50 crore for scholarships for the Indian scientists. We have a scientific community which in number and quality is far better than that of any developing country in the world. So, the Indian scientists are not getting their due share or the recognition they deserve. They have made India self-sufficient. They took India to the space age. Our scientists are not getting

encouragement. If there is anybody to oppose these Demands for Supplementary Grants, I think, he will surely agree on this count.

It is the 50th year of Independence. We remember the great struggles and sacrifices by our great forefathers who fought for this country. Many of them ended up their lives in the cellular jail. So, here is a supplementary demand to modify the cellular jail. It is also a national memorial. The *Samadhi* of Shri Morarji Desai has also been included in these things. In this hectic process, probably these things have come to my notice. I congratulate him for these things.

I have some very serious criticism also. Let me do it very quickly. There is Demand No. 2 for creating the Aquaculture Authority. The Supreme Court has issued a stay for the entire aquaculture activities in the country. There are not always big people. Many small people have invested the savings for their entire life in aquaculture. Now there are environmentalists' movements in this country. You know the history. The Western countries are now sitting pretty. They are encouraging the environmentalists' movements. I am not criticising all the movements. But at the same time, many of the movements by environmentalists are in a way misled or instigated by the Western powers also to block our progress.

Aquaculture activity in the country has come to a grinding halt. What is being done by this Government in this regard? The hon. Finance Minister is asking for money and we are prepared to give it. But let him say as to what has happened to the Bill. Sufficient priority is not accorded to the Bill. For the first time in this Session, this Bill has figured in the agenda today. We all know as to how many of the items on the agenda see the light of the day. Enough priority is not given to this industry in which hundreds of crores of rupees are invested. It has completely come to a grinding halt because of the Supreme Court order. Aquaculture should be regulated to safeguard the environmental problems. That Bill has to be brought into the House as early as possible, if not in this Session. Otherwise, a great injustice would be done to aquaculture in India.

We have a Finance Minister who wants total independence. As he once said, it is in connection with the midnight's children, those who are born in the year of independence. Demands No. 10, 11, 14, 15, 88 and 89 deal with the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. How much employment could we create in the country after the scheme began to be implemented? We are silently witnessing a situation in which people are offered golden handshakes and are sent away. If employment is being lost and new employment is not being created, probably there should be some other alternative. I would request that more and more money be allotted from the National

[Shri P.C. Chacko]

Renewal Fund for such golden handshakes with employees. After accepting a golden handshake, where do they go? Children of most of them do not have any money to fall back upon. Many families are going to be impoverished after this. After a whole life's struggle when they go out of employment they will have to come on to the streets. That kind of a situation is developing. We want more growth in this country so that more employment is generated and employment is stabilised for those who are already working.

One very important thing recently announced by the Finance Minister is the Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme. The Income Tax Department is monitoring this scheme. Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee has mentioned it and I am also an optimist. The Minister has come out with a very attractive proposition. He said, "30 per cent tax and 100 per cent peace of mind". It may be too early for the hon. Minister to disclose the progress of the scheme. But I would like him to tell me at least if he is confident about the progress of the scheme. This probably is the last experiment of this kind in the country. Many times in the past we had experimented with such schemes and they never yielded any result. If a good result does not come out of it now, what will happen to the parallel economy in the country in future? I only want a simple answer from Shri Chidambaram. I know that he is a capable person. Let him say that he is confident about the progress of the scheme. I do want him to disclose anything else.

Here is a demand for providing vehicles, computers and equipment in the Income Tax Department. The Department is directly under the administrative control of the hon. Finance Minister. The total expenditure of the Department is less than 1.5 per cent, considering the service they are doing to the society. How can he be so stringent in giving money to them? He has provided same money to them. But even an Assistant Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner of Income Tax does not have a vehicle in this Department. Can the hon. Minister feel comfortable of that when the Department is directly under him? One cannot be penny wise and pound foolish. All his predecessors probably were penny-wise and pound foolish on this. Let the Department be given more facilities. They are monitoring a scheme which is probably the last of its kind in the country.

I have a very big concern. I see that Demand No. 38 is a good one. It provides for maintenance of 10 lakh tonnes of bufferstock of sugar. I am very happy that the sugar farmers are helped. We have made a request before the hon. Finance Minister and I am sorry to say that it fell on deaf ears. My State Kerala is producing

99.9 per cent of the natural rubber in the country. The price of rubber is falling. When Shri Chidambaram was the Commerce Minister he helped the rubber farmers. The price of rubber which was Rs. 60 per kg this time last year, is Rs. 40 per kg today in Cochin. Imagine how much would be the loss suffered by rubber-growers! Five lakh tonnes of rubber was produced in India. If Rs. 20 per kg is lost, how much would be the loss incurred by the rubber-growers in the country? But the prices of tyres have not come down. The tyre manufacturers are calculating their prices taking into account the price of raw material at Rs. 60 per kg or even more than that. When the price is falling, farmers are the only people who are suffering losses. I would be very happy if the hon. Finance Minister sets apart some amount to create a bufferstock for rubber. This problem is known to the Finance Minister better than me. If 25 tonnes of rubber is collected and made into a bufferstock for six months, the market will improve and become steady. Demand and supply is the theory. Market conditions will improve, the prices will go up and the farmers will be helped if at least 25,000 kilogram of rubber is brought. At Today's price, Rs. 40 a kilogram into 25,000 kilograms less than Rs. 100 crore. For Government of India it is not a big thing. STC should be able to build a bufferstock. We all represented.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The Cabinet committee on Prices under my Chairmanship has already instructed STC to buy rubber. Rubber is being bought. It is not proper to disclose the quantity because that would affect the market price. But, there is a benchmark price and rubber is being brought at that benchmark price.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : But benchmark price was decided by the...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Not that benchmark price. We have a new benchmark price and rubber is being brought at that price. Details if you want privately, you can either talk to the Minister of Commerce or to me. I will tell you the details privately because I do not want market to be affected announcing the details here. Sir, these instructions were given a few days ago.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : If it is recently priced, I am happy. But at least the farmer should get an economic price for the rubber.

My hon. friend, Shri Nidar was saying that when there was a bumper crop of potatoes in Uttar Pradesh and of tomatoes in Karnataka, has the Government come to the rescue of the farmers? I want to ask this question. Fifty paise per kilogram and 20 kilogram carton was sold for Rs. 10 in Karnataka. Can you believe it? Are they not Indian citizens? Are they not entitled to get the benefit of this liberalisation? If liberalisation is nothing to the farmers of India, than I hate liberalisation.

When the price of tomatoes is falling to 50 paise and below with a heap of potatoes, disposal is a problem.

Cholera is spreading in areas in Uttar Pradesh where this harvest is going on. You might have seen that report. Has this Government come to the rescue of the farmers? Is this what we expect from liberalisation? Farmers should be helped and protected. So, I wish that some steps are to be taken in this direction.

Now the Hon. Minister has given an assurance to Shri Mahajan and the Members from Himachal Pradesh that the Central Government would stand by the Himachal Pradesh Government. One hundred and forty people killed in the landslide in Himachal Pradesh. In Idukki and in many places in Kerala, due to landslide hundreds of people died. The total death toll was 125. What is the policy of the Government of India regarding calamity relief? We are providing an amount for the calamity relief where there is hailstorm, where there is rain, where there is flood and where there is landslide. This is the amount you take it whether there is calamity or not. This is not the attitude where no responsive Government can behave like this. I wish that the Minister makes a special grant, ask for the permission of Parliament to help the people who suffer due to natural calamities.

In the recent floods, droughts and landslides, we have asked the Central Government to send a team. A team came very late to see the floods. After 15 days if any team visits the State to see the floods, floods will come and floods will go. What will they see? What kind of report, will they make? They are not even getting infrastructure for agriculture. It is being washed away. We have lost hundreds of crores. We are getting a pittance when you compare it the regular share is and as to what is provided to us under the Natural Calamities Relief Fund.

I request the hon. Finance Minister to think afresh. This is not the way to administer the country, especially the finances of the country. At least natural calamities should be given their due share and consideration.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV (Parbhani) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the supplementary budget presented by the Union Minister of Finance in regard to the Demands for Supplementary Grants. When this Government came to power, it had a Common Minimum Programme and it contained certain things while main budget and the supplementary budget of the Ministry of Finance has policies of the Government which will disturb the national economy and will result

in closing down of the domestic industries in the name economy based on exports.

15.40 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*)

India has a lack of employment opportunities. The United Front Government which poses itself as the well wisher of farmers has included certain programmes in its Common Minimum Programme in regard to rural development, agricultural development and to augment power generation. But when the budget is presented, it has nowhere been stated to increase the employment opportunities. Employment opportunities are declining day by day. I would, therefore, request the Minister of Finance to take care of this major problem i.e. employment. The Demands for Supplementary Grants presented by the Minister of Finance contain 47 demands. These demands have been put for the approval of the House. As I have already stated, the supplementary demands and the main budget both have affected the domestic industry. The budget is encouraging the foreign companies. The common man living in rural areas do not get benefit of the schemes like new Targetted Public Distribution Scheme meant for them. Common man and farmers are directly targeted for this scheme. These schemes were introduced to raise the standard of living of the common man. The Ministry of Finance should have taken care of the New Targetted Public Distribution Scheme in the supplementary demands for grants but it could do so. Our exports have come down. The exports have come down from the day when the United Front Government came to power. What are the reasons therefor? It is a matter of great concern. The funds meant for rural developments should be enhanced. The Ministry of Finance should ensure that the funds meant for a particular purpose should not be diverted to another item of expenditure. The same should be incurred on the item for which it is actually allocated. The Minister of Finance should take care of it.

Ministry of Finance should control the non-plan expenditure because it is very necessary to check it. After 1980 our budget deficit has been increasing continuously. It is a matter of great concern. While speaking on supplementary demands our senior most leader George Fernandes made a mention about foreign affairs. Irrigation Projects are pending in our country for the last many years and have not been completed. Our country is burning and we are going to save the other countries. I oppose the allocation of Rs. 40 crores which has been made for Bhutan. Adequate fund has not been allocated in our supplementary demands to boost agriculture in our country. There is shortage of electricity

[Shri Suresh R. Jadhav]

so we cannot make our industrial development. Therefore, provision of fund, should be made for electricity in this supplementary budget.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell the Finance Minister through you that Vidarbha and Marathwara are backward areas in our Maharashtra, where so many projects are pending and the cost is escalating. Unless we encourage our agriculture policy, our economic condition will not improve. I request you to increase employment, village development and agriculture. You have started new T.P.D.C. which is beneficial. Had provisions been made, for this, in supplementary budget, it would have been better. But it is not so.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government/advocates the policy of liberalisation but actually it is suppressing the foreign policy. Mahatma Gandhi advocated Swadeshi. Today we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our independence. Therefore, it was necessary to make allocation in supplementary budget. But it is not done.

I conclude my speech by opposing this supplementary budget.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Arariya) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Supplementary Grants. Nobody can deny the fact that India is an agricultural country, but only those who come from agriculturist families or background can realise the problems of farmers. We are celebrating the 50th years of our Independence and are spending millions of rupees on it. Two years ago, price of Jute ranged between Rs. 1800-2000 per quintal in North Bihar, Bengal and Orissa. Today it is four hundred to five hundred rupees per quintal. You can well understand the plight of farmers. If we explain the actual condition of the farmers, a lot of people will feel the pain. Jute crop requires lot of labour and capital. Despite investment of so much capital and labour we are giving least profit to farmers.

During the eleven months period of V.P. Singh Government, the prices of fertilizers did not increase. But after that, when Congress was in power in the Centre for five years, there was no fertilizer which did not register an increase. We want to thank the United Front Government for increasing the prices of fertilizers. Even then farmers have to face several problems.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are celebrating the golden jubilee of Independence and we have yet not been able to make provisions in the budget for providing drinking water in the villages nor have we chalked out any programme in this regard. It is stated in Common Minimum Programme that it would be chalked out but

we don't hope that the arrangements of water and electricity will be made in the villages in stipulated time limit. Millions of rupees are spent on fountains, electric equipments and on beautification of big cities of the country but even after fifty years of Independence, we are unable to provide water and electricity in the villages. We could not make any arrangement for providing education in the villages. Whatever the problems are, they are in villages only. No such problems are there in the cities. If foodgrains are not supplied from the villages there will be a hue and cry in the entire country because most of the things, are produced in villages and then sent to the cities.

Mr. Chairman, crores of unemployed people are wandering. No such programme has been formulated, which could solve this problem of unemployment in the entire country. Situation of the unemployed is pitiable as even after receiving Master degree, they are ready to accept a class IV job. We want to request, through you, the honourable Finance Minister and honourable Prime Minister, that Central Government should prepare a plan which may solve the problems of unemployment. Finance Minister is here. I want to tell him that unemployed who have taken loans from Bank. After hypothecating their certificates warrants are being issued against them and attachment is going on. They are puzzled. When we people go to our constituency, large number of unemployed youths urge us to solve the problem of unemployment. Finance Minister or Prime Minister should issue instructions to the banks to write off the interest which is to be recovered from those unemployed youths, who have taken loans after mortgaging their certificates, so that they may be able to pay capital amount. But we are unable even in making such arrangements.

Sir, Bhimnagar Barrage has been constructed on Indo-Nepal Border. Due to this barrage, farmers are being ruined and destroyed. Main canals as well as all the branch canals are filled up with sand and it has been filled up in such a way that the required quantity of waters is not being absorbed in the canals. Financial condition of Bihar is so critical that it is not in a position to get the sand removed from the main as well as branch canals. Therefore we request the Central Government to consider it seriously. Actually farmers of North Bihar can get water from main canal and if arrangements are not made properly, apprehension of breach in main canal are there. Definitely, Bihar will be submerged. So I want to request the honourable Finance Minister through you, to consider the suggestions that I have made, seriously. Thank you very much for providing me an opportunity to speak.

*SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1997-98. Our hon'ble Minister Shri Chidambaram is holding a key portfolio which would determine the progress of our nation. He hails from our neighbouring State, Tamil Nadu. He is doing his best for the improvement of our economy.

70% of our country's population consists of agriculturists and agricultural workers. Hence it becomes inevitable to allocate budgetary funds in accordance with the population. That is, 70% of the total budget should go to the farmers. The main problem before the farmers is water scarcity. In fact, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi had stressed the importance of providing water to the farmers. They had suggested the linking of important rivers like Ganga, Cauvery, Mahanadi, etc. By doing so, crores of unemployed educated youths would get jobs. As the father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi had stated we would be able to provide at least two square meals to all the citizens. In Karnataka, 8 to 10 districts are facing water scarcity. In my own district, the water table has gone down to a level of 600 ft. The Government of India spends more than Rs 50 crores for drought relief and flood relief programmes. A substantial amount is being spent on various areas every year under Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. I would like to suggest to the Government of India that if they spend another 50 crores of rupees more in each district they can solve the water scarcity problem of our farmers once for all. We have to give importance for siltation of tanks throughout the country. Top priority must be given to sprinkling irrigation system. Deforestation must be checked and afforestation programmes should be expedited. All these programmes require a substantial budgetary support.

16.00 hrs

Our hon'ble Minister Shri Ramoowalia is doing an excellent job in the field of welfare. It is gratifying to note that our Finance Minister has provided about 250 crore of rupees for setting up Kasturba Residential School for girls. I urge upon the hon'ble Finance Minister to set up residential schools for boys in all the district headquarters of the country in the name of Mahatma Gandhi. This would be a wise decision to respect the father of our nation while celebrating the Golden Jubilee of our Independence. These residential schools should function on the pattern of Navodaya Schools. This would benefit most of the students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and economically weaker sections of our society.

Liberalisation policy has affected our silk industry to some extent. The duty on import of silk has been brought down to 30% from 60%. This leads to the dumping of imported silk goods in our country which

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

would destroy our indigenous silk production specifically our small scale silk industry. This import policy would affect the whole indigenous industry in the country.

I am happy that the Hon'ble Minister has reduced the excise duty on soft drinks. I would stress that this kind of exemption should be given to the swadeshi soft drinks like Rasna, Sudha, etc. More than 25 hon'ble Members of Parliament met the hon'ble Finance Minister a few months ago and urged upon him to exempt duty for these soft drinks. These soft drinks are cheaper when compared to other drinks like Coca Cola. These soft drinks are fruit based and the farmers use these drinks in marriages and other important functions. Hence I once again request the hon'ble Minister to consider reduction in the excise duty for these soft drinks. I thank the hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram for bringing down the excise duty on fruit based soft drinks from 18% to 10%. Rasna and Sudha soft drinks also under fruit based soft drinks. I therefore request the hon'ble Minister to extend the exemption duty to these soft drinks also.

The House is well aware that our former Finance Minister Dr Manmohan Singh has earned a great name as the most efficient Finance Minister at the international level. I am sure our present Finance Minister, hon'ble Chidambaram would also rise to this level. For this, as I mentioned in the beginning, he has to allocate more funds for the agriculturists and agricultural workers. I also urge upon him to continue subsidy on fertilizers. This key portfolio of Finance Minister would be a meaningful portfolio only when the farmers due share of 70% of budget allocation is made to them. Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the last days of the last budget session, I had handed over a reminder letter to the hon'ble Prime Minister wherein I had requested him to solve the problem of famine stricken Kalahandi, Nayapara and western areas of Orissa. I had suggested several schemes and medium irrigation projects to save the people and the farmers from famine and I believed that some of the demands would be included in the supplementary budget. But I am sorry to say that none of the demands was included in the supplementary budget. I had sent a copy of that letter to the Finance Minister too.

This year, when we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our Independence, our Finance Minister is giving importance to liberalisation and privatisation but I do not know to what extent it will be successful under the present bureaucratic system and the present Government machinery in our country. Our hon'ble Finance Minister should lead the country in the matter

[Shri Bhakta Charan Das]

of liberalisation and privatisation but at the same time he also leads the youths of this country. We hoped that he would make announcements to remove frustration and despondency prevailing among the crores of youths of the country and would announce for organising vocational training camps for them to remove unemployment but nothing was mentioned in this supplementary budget. Today, we are happy that we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our Independence and the whole country is involved in this process.

Now, what is the position of health of the rural people? Even today, there are 70 districts in the country where pregnant women are taken 40-50 kms. away for delivery due to which some of them pass away while on the way. Even ordinary medicines are not available there. The arrangement for rural health has been involved. There are several unaccessable areas in this country. The rural conductivity has also not been given any place in this supplementary budget. Earlier, you used to include rural electrification in your plans but even today there are lakhs of villages which have not been electrified so far and as it seems these are not going to be electrified in the near future.

16.06 hrs.

(COL. RAO RAM SINGH *in the Chair*)

I, will request Chidambaram Saheb through you, to look into it. There is a State Land Development Bank in Bihar which sanctioned loan-amount in 1996-97 to provide loans to the farmers. It also took the signatures to sanction loan and received the amount from NABARD. But the amount of loan was not given to the farmers whereas it has been shown in the register that loans have been given to them. Later on, when some hue and cry was made then some farmers got the amount but still there are such people in Bihar who have not got the amount from the Land Development Bank. I would request Chidambaram Saheb to order a special enquiry in this regard.

There is a regional Rural Development Bank in our Western Orissa. The loan of the farmers was waived by it in 1986. At that time, the bank did not waive the loan of the farmers belonging to Sannapali, Bordan and Nayapara blocks. The loans have been shown as outstanding against the farmers in the ledger book and the amount of loan is being recovered from them. I would also like to request Chidambaram Saheb to pay heed to it. Today, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our independence. I expect that next time the unemployed youths of the country will be employed for making the barren land fertile in the country. I hope that hon'ble Chidambaram Saheb will make provision for it

in the next year's budget. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to support the supplementary grants. I am happy to see that Government of India has made a provision of Rs. 108 crores in the supplementary grants as announced by it for waiver of loans of the loanees in Jammu-Kashmir. I welcome it but at the same time I want to tell the Finance Minister that there is a rumour in Jammu that the loans of the factory owners of the Kashmir valley only will be waived and Jammu region will not be included therein. I think that when the hon'ble Prime Minister had made the announcement, it was for the entire state. All the districts of Jammu such as Poonch, Rajouri, Jammu, Kathwa, Udhampur and Doda are disturbed districts. Therefore, Chidambaram Saheb should ensure that the whole state comes under the purview of this loan waiver scheme. If any region is not included in it, then the result would not be good. He should pay attention to it. At the same time, I am happy that the Punjab Government is constructing the Dulhasti project in Doda, Uri project and Ranjit Sagar project. A provision of Rs. 300 crores has been made to complete these three projects. It is a good thing. I want to say that the work on Dulhasti and Uri projects should be expedited and with the construction of Ranjit Sagar. Their dam, the people of Basauli will have to make the journey of 42 kms. more. I would like to say that the Government should pay its attention towards construction of a bridge on Ravi river near Basauli so that the local people are benefited and they are saved from making unnecessary journey of 42 kms more. Therefore, I want to say that the Punjab Government should be asked to take up the construction work of the bridge so that the people of Basauli and Kathwar areas are benefited. At the same time, I would like to say that proper arrangements should be made for laying transmission lines with the funds provided for the power grid so that we may transmit the surplus power to the areas and States where there is shortage of power and thus the whole country will be benefited. I also feel that on Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu & Kashmir border districts, there is frequent firing from Pakistan side. Therefore our forces should be well equipped with the latest weapons so that they can properly retaliate any such action initiated by Pakistani side. I welcome the provision made in it for Defence.

Sir, I would also like to say that our police force should also be modernized alongwith Military and Army and for this purpose all the arrangements should be made because it is generally observed that we donot have adequate forces or sufficient vehicles, manpower, resources in our police stations adjacent to border areas with the result they are not being able to fulfil their duties properly. The money provided for Home or Defence should be utilized to strengthen both these

forces. Simultaneously, efforts should be made to make our Doordarshan and Radio network in Jammu and Kashmir more effective as it is quite weak in comparison to Pakistani network. Here I would say that more funds should be earmarked for this purpose so as to make our Radio and Doordarshan network in Jammu and Kashmir well equipped and more effective to retaliate any kind of malicious or malafide propaganda made by Pakistani side so that it could not be able to poison the minds of our people.

Sir, our migrants are in distress, proper arrangements should be made to send them to their respective houses and their houses should be reconstructed as and when the situation in that area returns to normal so that they could look after their property. I thank you again for the financial assistance provided to Jammu & Kashmir. But at the same time, I would like that all the Central Loans of Jammu & Kashmir should be waived of on the line of Punjab State because both the States have the same situation and the people of these States could become self-reliant again. Therefore, I would reiterate that both Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab should be treated equally in respect of waiving of loans. I would say that they deserve appreciation for their sincere efforts in regard to mobilizing funds for this purpose in India. With these words I conclude.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Demands for Supplementary Grants laid on the table of the House by the Government and also express my protest regarding the new economic policies of the Congress adopted by the National Front Government. With the inception of this new economic policy, multinational companies have been invited to our country, as a result thereof our small scale industries are lagging behind. The small scale industries which earned us for crores of rupees in foreign exchange are far behind in this respect today. I have nothing to say for the assistance provided to Bhutan for Tala Hydrel project. But first of all you should see that what initiative you can take to save the life of a national leader of that country named Dorji who left his country today.

Now, I would like to say something about my State. It is backward in all respect. What is the position of electricity there today? The electricity production is lowest here as compared to all States of India. Here only 9.4 point electricity is being generated. You can well imagine how Bihar can progress with such a low quantity of power. Today, whether you are launching 'Pardhanmantri Rojgar yojana or poverty eradication scheme or several such schemes there to help unemployed youth to start their own industry, all these require electricity but in the absence of adequate electricity today all these schemes have not yet taken off. You will also have to see this aspect. A meeting was held on 11th in Shastri Bhavan in which the Minister of Power was present. When the

Minister was asked to explain as to what was the fault of Bihar for which no money has yet been sanctioned for the last 3 years for the electrification of this state, he said that a large sum is outstanding against Bihar and the State which has become economically weaker, can not be put on the path of progress by waiving of its outstanding loans. This is the main reason. Therefore, I request the Minister of Finance to waive all the outstanding amount against Bihar and provide all the facilities to which it is entitled for.

You get several items from Bihar. If you would have spent even one percent of the benefits accrued from coal mines of Bihar in the State itself then Bihar could have certainly marched forward on the path of progress. Today Bihar is the most backward State.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as agriculture is concerned, the land in Bihar is high yielding but the production is at low point because the total source of irrigation in the State both Government and Public is just 22 percent. What is the condition of farmer there today. Therefore in view of the devastation we had due to natural calamity there, I would urge the Finance Minister to implement the Crop Insurance Scheme there immediately and the compensation for the farmers should be fixed in accordance with the scheme. The loss suffered by them should be compensated. This is the overall situation of electricity there.

So far as the education is concerned, the situation is not much different. Bihar is the only State where lakhs of people are working without any kind of remuneration. I would like to ask, whether there is any other State in India where education is being imparted without spending any amount. People there do not get a single penny for it. But now, these teachers are retiring. They are sitting on 'Dharna'. They will stage a large demonstration on 5th. The directions had been issued from the Chair that the State Government should inform us after clearing all the outstanding payments due to teacher. But no payment has been made so far in this regard. This is the situation in Bihar. It needs to be looked seriously. The Finance Minister should see to it as to how the situation in Bihar can be improved. Today there is scarcity of educated people in Bihar, we are going to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our independence. Bihar is the evidence of it that even its Chief Minister is illiterate. Although people say that the Bihar is a front liner in every field. Bihar holds first position so far as agriculture is concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, you please conclude.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are a disciplined man. You please give me some more time. I would also like to say about poverty eradication. I don't know where that money had gone which was spent by the Central Government

[Shri Ramashraya Prasad Singh]

in the villages? Eighty per cent of the total amount spent on this 'Head' in our area has been wiped out in the name of irrigation. That has been looted. The Bank people and factory owners also misappropriate money befooling our youths.

Youths do not get any job. The bank officials siphon off—this money for their various household jobs. I have repeatedly made a written complaint in this regard. You should have appraised the House about the billions of rupees, you have spent on poverty alleviation programmes as nobody could get any benefit out of it. Please conduct an enquiry in this regard. Not a single Penny could reach the beneficiaries even after spending such a large sum on this 'Head'. I agree with you on this point and conclude my speech.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the supplementary demands. I would like to make a humble request to the fire brand Minister of United Front that Bihar which is standing in the last row of the country...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Why it is so?

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Centre has neglected Bihar too much. I would like to give an example in this regard. Ninety crore rupees of electricity department were outstanding against the Bihar Government. Now the interest of 90 crore rupees comes to Rs. 310 crores. If this interest is added to it then this outstanding amount comes to Rs. 400 crores. Rupees 500 crores of the Bihar electricity board are still outstanding against the various Central Government undertakings. We do not get any interest on that sum. Our interest is increasing day-by-day. But you have such anomalous laws and whatever discrepancies are there, they should be removed. The electricity rates differ from state to state in the country. The cost of production has to be borne by the State Government and on the basis of this cost electricity is to be purchased by the State Government but I would like to ask one question by giving an example that the work on the Konkan Railway is going on at present in the country, but whether the ratio of the freight charged today is same, which was calculated by the basis of the cost of production of this railway, constructed about 100 years back as compared to the cost of production at present?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have only 5 minutes time. Therefore my suggestion to you is to conclude your speech as early as possible because hon. Minister has also to speak.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a serious matter and it requires attention. The Government of Bihar is ignored here. Why Bihar is a backward state? There are one or two reasons for that the difference is fare structure royalty the basis of weight, Gadgil Formula are such things as a result of which

Bihar has turned as a backward state...(*Interruptions*). It is my humble request and I don't want to argue with you. When I make speech, people interrupt me, therefore I would like to make a request to hon. Minister that since Bihar is a backward state, therefore a comprehensive action plan should be formulated to augment its development and Bihar should be provided adequate assistance under that plan so that it could march ahead. Extend all sort of help to Bihar for bringing it in the mainstream of other states of the country. Hon. Minister, Sir, I will be highly obliged, if you do something for the State. Poverty and backwardness are the main reasons due to which the extremism has raised its head in Bihar, please look in to it so as to ensure that we people are not ignored anymore. A provision should be made in the budget that this comprehensive action plan could take off as early as possible and implement it in those districts where extremism, poverty and backwardness still exist so that this poor state can be developed.

With these words, I support this supplementary budget.

*SHRI RANEN BARMAN (Balurghat) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I shall speak in my mother tongue Bengali. I thank you Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on Supplementary Demands for Grants 1997-98. After supporting Supplementary Demands for Grants on behalf of my party RSP, I would like to raise some objections to the provisions in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. This year is our Golden Jubilee Year of Independence and we are going to celebrate the occasion in a colourful manner. Keeping in mind this backdrop, the discussion on Demand for Supplementary Grants becomes all the more important. India being an agricultural country 80% of the population depends on agriculture. Coming from a rural background we have the practical experience of people working in fields, tilling the soil, i.e., the grassroot people. It is a matter of regret that even after 50 years of independence 80% people depending on agriculture do not get remunerative price of crop. They do not have the marketing facility to sell their agricultural produce. The high price of fertilizer is also responsible for the plight of the poor farmers. So subsidies for fertilizer must be provided for the farmer. The development of the country depends on agriculture and the peasants are the principal producers of national wealth. Thus it is urgent to pay adequate attention in this direction.

The farmers must get remunerative price, cheap input, subsidies for fertilizer and proper irrigation facilities. Moreover, attention must be focussed on advanced communications and transport system. The farmers can avail of good marketing facility if transport system is developed. I come from South Dinajpur and amazingly my region has neither the railway connection

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

nor any national highway. This is the sorry state of affairs in many parts of India even after independence for half a century. My demand is, railway link must be provided in these areas for proper development of our country.

The closure of so many factories and industries has brought immense hardship for the already hardpressed workers. Many public sector undertakings have either been declared sick or have been closed. The workers of these public sector undertakings and closed industries are passing through difficult time and are deeply frustrated. My demand is the Government must make honest effort to revive these public sector undertakings. The closed factories must also start functioning so that workers are able to sustain their livelihood. The genuine effort to ameliorate the condition of the farmers and the working class will make the colourful celebration of 50 years of independence meaningful.

With these humble suggestions Sir, I once again thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will give Prof. Chandumajra two minutes because no Member from the Akali Dal has had an opportunity to speak.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the supplementary demands of the budget. About 70 per cent population of the country lives in the villages and even the amount spent on them in the budget is not in proportion to that. The share of agriculture under GDP was 52 per cent during 1950-51, which has now come down to 27 per cent. Therefore, special attention is to be paid to agriculture. For example, much has been said about the crop insurance scheme by the Government several times and assurance was also given but it remained an assurance only and could not be turned into insurance. Crop insurance scheme should be implemented by the Government. Political parties have made several commitments for giving industrial status to agriculture but nothing could be done. If agriculture is provided a status of industry, then the loss being incurred by agricultural area can be overcome.

Secondly, I would like to say about employment. This policy of liberalization is increasing unemployment because capital based industries are entering the country and we prefer labour based industry here. Therefore, there is a need to think about employment also. I would like to say one more thing that a number of projects which were launched in the previous five year plans were not yet completed. Out of 241 projects, only 64 projects could be completed so far. The cost of the projects also escalates and they are not beneficial too. Take an example of Theine Dam. Hon. Prime Minister

had visited Punjab and he even gave some money for it. We would like to have full amount is allocated for this dam through these supplementary demands so that this Theine dam could be completed. Our electricity requirement should be fulfilled. At the end, I would like to say one thing that there is a steel industry at Govindgarh in Punjab and today the steel industry is running in loss in the country. The workers are on the strike from the 12th of this month. Because this industry is running in loss due to the revised excise duty imposed on it. Earlier, the excise duty was calculated on the production itself, now it is being calculated on the basis of joint capacity and as a result this industry is running in loss. Therefore, we should change this policy on excise duty. Today power and coal, which are the essential items for steel industry, have become more costly.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would now request the hon. Minister to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall be allowed to speak for two minutes only. I will not take much time of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name does not exist in the list of speakers sent by your party. Shri George Fernandes ji has already got a chance to speak. You are insisting me to do it. You should have at least sent your name in advance.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given my name. I will conclude in just two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you take two minutes to speak.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my name is also there in the list and I will speak only for one minute...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has got to go to the Rajya Sabha.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, against Demand 78 for transport, the Finance Minister has made a provision of about Rs. 95 crore for the National Capital Territory of Delhi and simultaneously he has provided Rs. 625 crore for Ports, Light Houses and Shipping. I want to say that this supplementary budget is not providing any funds for National Highways in the other parts of the country or for the proposals of the State Governments. My

[Shri Brahamanand Mandal]

contention is that in 1977, the Bihar Government had sent a proposal to the Union Government regarding a National Highway from Mokama to Farakka which was included in the Master Plan. Now 20 years have passed but that has not been declared as a National Highway so far and the Union Government has not provided even a single paisa for it. Similarly, a demand for funds was made for the National Highway from Mokama to Khagaria but nothing has been provided therefore too.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mandalji, you had requested for two minutes and you have got more time. Now please sit down.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding within one minute. I am not taking more time. I want to say that in 1994, an amount of Rs. 600 crore was provided for the construction of a railway bridge in Monghyr. I would like to request the Finance Minister that the Government should make a provision for constructing a road bridge particularly when it is going to approve the 1977 proposal of Bihar Government for declaring a National Highway and after declaring it the Government is going to construct a railway bridge over it. It can be constructed with less money. You want to construct railway bridge, then why not a road bridge. Please make a provision for it in the Supplementary Budget.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, we have a fertilizer plant of Fertilizer Corporation of India. It has been the sincere endeavour of the management and the workers to run it on the no-loss basis. They are making profit now. It is the fiftieth year of our Independence. We should strive towards self-reliance. So, I would request the hon. Minister to take special interest for the revival of this Fertilizer Plant located at Talcher.

Secondly, we are facing power crisis. NTPC is running a power plant at Kanhia. There, the power is generated, but it is not being transmitted because of lack of infrastructure facilities. We have power famine, but there is surplus of power there which is not being transmitted. NTPC should look into this problem and make adequate arrangements in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am deeply grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in this debate on the Demands for Supplementary Grants.

We are severely strapped for with time. I would have to conclude in a few minutes so that the recommendation goes to the President and then we go to the Rajya Sabha before the Rajya Sabha rises for the day.

What I wish to emphasise is that we have to husband every rupee very carefully. The resources are scarce.

There are competing claims on our resources. There are claims from defence, from the security forces, from the law and order forces and from many other agencies which are intimately connected with the security of the country. In that connection, there are claims from space research, atomic energy research and defence research. We cannot deny them funds.

Secondly there are claims for investments. Hon. Members pointed out that investments must rise if growth has to increase. I cannot say that in stronger words. Unless investments grow in this country, we cannot sustain a growth of seven per cent; nor can we attain a growth rate of eight per cent. Thankfully, the rate of savings in this country has increased and the rate of investment has also increased. I believe, some of the steps that we have taken in this Budget, namely cutting the personal income-tax rates, increase in contractual savings by raising the Provident Fund contribution from 8.33 per cent to 10 per cent and from 10 per cent to 12 per cent, all these, I believe, will again result in an increase in savings and an increase in investment this year.

The third, of course, is claims from the social sector. We cannot deny the legitimate claims of millions of people for drinking water, for roads, for transport, for electricity, etc. The social sector is always with us and we must find money for them. Every rupee, therefore, is to be carefully husbanded and spent.

I have come up with modest Demands for Supplementary Grants, not because there are no other demands. Several hon. Members raised several demands. These are competing demands and one has to choose. What we have done is that we have now come to you for an additional sum of Rs. 1,989.48 crore. Please see where this money is going. The bulk of this money, nearly Rs. 900 crore is going for investment in the power sector. I said this before and I say this again. Money is not a constraint for investment in the power sector. I have made an open-ended offer to the Ministry of Power that whatever money they want for investment in the public sector in power will be provided, even if that means a marginal increase in the fiscal deficit. One half of the extra money that I am providing today is for the power sector. An amount of Rs. 120 crore is going for the Koodangulam Nuclear Power Project and for the Tarapore Atomic Power Project. An amount of Rs. 20 crore is being given to the Jute Corporation of India. An amount of Rs. 100 crore is going for debt relief to Jammu and Kashmir. An amount of Rs. 285 crore is going to the National Capital Territory of Delhi because it does not have a share in our taxes; and so, we are giving it as a grant. These are the main heads under which we are earmarking the bulk of the amount of Rs. 1989 crore.

We are also saving or mobilising through additional resources, an amount of Rs. 1946.93 crore and they have been reappropriated and spent on other

programmes. I have the details of it; but it is not possible for me to go through all the details. I wish to point out that an amount of Rs. 31.76 crore is being given to the Hindustan Paper Corporation as a part of its financial restructuring.

Just as I am giving a small amount of money like Rs. 18 crore to Jessop as a part of its financial restructuring. I will consider other claims carefully...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I have requested that the scales of savings should be placed as a matter of usual practice...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Not now.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We want to know. We have voted for them.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Other claims will be considered at a suitable time. After the Government approves those expenditures, we will come to Parliament, if necessary, by way of additional supplementary demands. For the time being, my submission is that the bulk of the amount that I am seeking from this hon. House is for investment and will stimulate growth.

Sir, a number of issues have been raised. I do not know how to answer all of them in three to four minutes. Let me just touch upon a few of them which seem to affect most Members.

Firstly, I will come to the Technology Mission for Oilseeds for coconut. There is a separate Coconut Development Board since 1979 situated at Cochin. This Board was set up specifically for development of the Coconut industry. The Board undertakes various measures like the Coconut Research Institute, development of high-yielding hybrids, advice to cultivators, etc. Coconut is the single oilseed with highest plan outlay among oilseeds. The Eighth Plan outlay for coconut was Rs. 79.21 crore. In 1997-98, as a part of the Ninth Plan, in one year, we had provided Rs. 20 crore for coconut oilseed and more will be provided during the Ninth Plan. There is a minimum support price for coconut which was declared as an oilseed of tree origin in 1990 and the price is fixed every year by the Cabinet on the advice of the Committee on Agricultural Costs and Prices.

On rubber, as I informed the hon. Members, I have approved the market intervention operation by the STC. The STC is intervening in the market for the last few days. The STC has been authorised to procure rubber and we will ensure that it does not go below a fair remunerative price.

On jute, I have a lot of information here. On jute again, as I said, I have provided Rs. 20 crore for the Jute Corporation of India. Jute Corporation is in the

market now. According to the note which I have received from the Ministry of Textiles, they have so far procured 33, 808 quintals of jute. The market support operations of Jute Corporation have been agreed to. It was agreed to give a guarantee for obtaining a cash credit of Rs. 33 crore from the bank and to release Rs. 10 crore to JCI. We have provided Rs. 20 crore as supplementary grant. Jute prices were high for the last three to four years. They seem to have dipped but market prices of TD-1 to TD-5 are above MSP and prices W-1 to W-4 are above MSP. The Jute Corporation will continue to intervene and will continue market operations.

SHRI ANIL BASU : That is not true.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruptions. You may ask at the end.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : This is the information which I have got from the Ministry of Textiles. I am sharing it with you. If there is any further clarification, you may please write to the Minister of Textiles.

SHRI ANIL BASU : The JCI is doing a token purchase. They are not intervening in the market.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : They are intervening and buying if it goes below the MSP. We cannot buy when the prices are above MSP.

Hon. Members have raised many other questions. There were some questions about the Pay Commission. As I said in answer to a question, it is true that there is an additional commitment of about Rs. 1600 crore to Rs. 2000 crore. But we hope that 50 per cent of the arrears which are being ploughed back into the provident fund and locked in for two years will, to a large extent, offset that additional cash outflow.

On VDIS, we have answered questions. It is proceeding satisfactorily. I think it will be a reasonable success. Hon. Members know that I have not taken credit for any amount. Sky is the limit. I am confident that at the present pace of progress of the Scheme, it will not be a reasonable or much significant amount of taxes. The only time when I will take stock, as I have said, in order to maintain complete confidentiality and inspire confidence, is at the end of the period. In the meanwhile, the Commissioners of Income-Tax have been instructed to motivate as many people as possible to declare their income under VDIS and to maintain complete confidentiality.

On calamity relief, the last Finance Commission gave Rs. 7,000 crore, Rs. 6,300 crore are with the States and Rs. 700 crore are with the Centre. There is a Committee headed by my hon. colleague, Shri Chaturanan Mishra. We are as generous as we can be. We have already overdrawn the Central Account. The Central Account allows only Rs. 140 crore a year. We have already overdrawn that Account. But I have not held back that money. Every time, the Committee

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

has allotted money to the State, I have provided additional funds to the Calamity Relief Fund.

The case of Himachal Pradesh will go to the Calamity Relief Fund. The Minister has promised to intervene exactly at five o'clock.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : What about Punjab?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : A team will first go to Himachal Pradesh. If they find that the water has flowed into Punjab and has affected Punjab, I will request the Minister to send the team to Punjab also.

It is presure now to debate that. Let us first settle our own problems as a result of the Pay Commission. Then, we can talk about support to the States.

There was a question about Bhutan. I think, these are sensitive issues. I should not give off-the-cuff answers. Bhutan is a part of our region. We are good friends of Bhutan. We have our own political perceptions. But that should not interfere with good neighbourly relations with Bhutan. The Taala project is a project that we have promised to fund. The bulk of the power will flows in to India. I think, we should spend Rs. 40 crore for Bhutan.

The other political issues must be raised at other fora. We should not mix it up with Rs. 40 crore that we are giving to Bhutan.

Some question was raised about Shri Dorji. I do not want to go into the details. I was in Kuala Lumpur. I participated in ASEAN meet. You know the position that I took regarding Myanmar. My position is very well clear. I said that all countries in the world must walk the road of freedom and democracy. And Myanmar should follow. That is our position ever since Mahatma Gandhi started the campaign from South Africa.

But the point is that Shri Dorji has been placed under judicial remand on a legal request of extradition made by Bhutan. The matter is before an Indian court. I have no doubt that an Indian court under an Indian law will treat the matter fairly and justly. Shri Dorji is being defended by lawyers of his own choice in these proceedings. An Indian court is one of the freest courts in the world where a man's rights can be defended and protected.

Frankly, I cannot afford to speak for long because you would have to take up this for voting in the next few minutes...(Interruptions)

I have got answers for virtually every point mentioned. I will write to the hon. Members individually or I will request the Ministers concerned to write to the hon. Members individually.

I respectfully appeal to the House to vote to the Demands for Supplementary Grants.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Demands for Supplementary Grants (General) for 1997-98 to vote. The question is :

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1998 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 2, 4 to 6, 9 to 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 26, 28, 34, 35, 38, 43, 46, 47, 50, 52, 54, 55, 57 to 59, 62, 66, 67, 70, 74, 77, 78, 80, 81, 83, 86, 88, 89, 98, to 102."

The Motion was adopted.

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1997-98 submitted to the Vote of the House

No	Title of Demand	Amount of Demands for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
2.	Other Services of Dept. of Agr. and Cooperation	1,00,000	-
4.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	37,50,00,000	-
5.	Department of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals	2,50,00,000	-
6.	Department of Fertilizers	46,99,00,000	1,00,000
9.	Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	50,00,000	-
10.	Ministry of Coal	2,50,00,000	-
11.	Department of Commerce	2,00,00,000	-

	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
14. Department of Telecommunications	42,97,00,000	-
15. Ministry of Defence	5,50,00,000	-
22. Ministry of Environment and Forests	1,00,000	-
23. Ministry of External Affairs	40,00,00,000	-
26. Payments to Financial Institutions	-	85,00,00,000
28. Transfer to State and Union Territory Governments	285,00,00,000	-
34. Department of Revenue	7,20,00,000	-
35. Direct Taxes	93,30,00,000	-
38. Ministry of Food	125,00,00,000	-
43. Ministry of Home Affairs	15,00,00,000	-
46. Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	108,00,00,000	-
47. Transfers to Union Territory Governments	16,37,00,000	21,56,00,000
50. Department of Culture	4,76,00,000	-
52. Industrial Development and Industrial Policy and Promotion	1,00,000	-
54. Department of Heavy Industry	106,76,00,000	18,01,00,000
55. Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro. and Rural Industries	1,01,00,000	-
57. Broadcasting Services	2,00,000	2,00,000
58. Ministry of Labour	4,50,00,000	-
59. Law and Justice	73,00,000	-
62. Ministry of Mines	17,00,00,000	-
66. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	50,00,000	-
67. Planning	1,00,000	-
70. Ministry of Power	200,00,00,000	697,50,00,000
74. Department of Science and Technology	50,00,00,000	-
77. Ministry of Steel	34,00,00,000	-
78. Surface Transport	95,01,00,000	-
80. Ports, Lighthouses and Shipping	1,00,00,000	-
81. Ministry of Textiles	10,18,00,000	249,87,00,000
83. Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	-	1,00,000
86. Ministry of Water Resources	2,50,00,000	-
88. Atomic Energy	1,50,00,000	-
89. Nuclear Power Schemes	-	147,00,00,000
98. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11,48,00,000	2,72,00,000
99. Chandigarh	5,52,00,000	1,35,00,000
100. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	80,00,000	1,91,00,000
101. Daman and Diu	-	2,36,00,000
102. Lakshadweep	1,77,00,000	1,50,00,000
Grand Total	1379,41,00,000	1228,82,00,000

16.55 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : Item No. 8 Shri Chidambaram to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, anticipating Shri Ram Naik, I want to say that the draft notification was laid in the Lok Sabha on 20th...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : Let me raise it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There is no time. There is simply no time. We have to go at five o'clock.

SHRI RAM NAIK : This is unfair.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Tell me what is to be done.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Let the House know about it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am telling you what it is. All right.

Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I introduce the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall express my views in brief. The Minister of Finance while

presenting budget in this House had said that the limit for plant and machinery of small scale industries would be increased from Rs. 60 lakh to Rs. 3 crore under demand 55 which belongs to small scale industry and agro and rural industry. Now, six months have passed but it has not been increased so far. I want to know as to when that limit will be increased.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The draft notification was placed in the Lok Sabha on the 29th of March, 1997, and in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st of March, 1997. As per Rule 11 B (iii), the notification has to lie in Parliament for 30 sitting days. Thirty sitting days will be over today. Therefore, it will come into force, maybe tomorrow or the day after...*(Interruptions)* I will respond to you in writing. Please allow it to be passed.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : I shall express my views in one-two sentences. Firstly, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you to demand No. 55. The Khadi and Village Industry is facing great crisis at present and lakhs of labourers have been rendered unemployed for want of any such concession in this regard. This is 50th anniversary of our independence and we know very well that how much love Mahatma Gandhi had for 'Swadeshi' and Khadi. Due to this decision of withdrawal of rebate being provided to Khadi and Village Industries, about 80 lakh people have become unemployed and the Khadi and Village Industries which come under the small scale industry sector are facing great crisis.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, he will confine to only one item and I will reply on the rest. The rebate was 10 per cent throughout the year and an additional 10 per cent for a period of 90 days. We have changed that. Up to tomorrow we continue 10 per cent but in the 12 month period beginning tomorrow, 15th of August, 1997 to 14th of August, 1998, it will be 15 per cent throughout the year. As against 10 per cent, it is now going to be 15 per cent throughout the year. I have given money to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Shri Surendra Mohan has met me. There is no report of any retrenchment of any worker from the KVIC. If there is a report, let it be brought to my notice, I will take action.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India

for the services of the financial year 1997-98 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the schedule stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now request the hon. Minister for Agriculture to give some information regarding Himachal Pradesh, if he so wishes.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Members have raised the matter of floods that occurred in Himachal Pradesh. The Chair has directed the Minister of Agriculture to make a statement in this regard. I am trying to contact Himachal Pradesh since 9.00 A.M. today but could not succeed. I have contacted the Chief Minister just now. He has come back from the tour of affected areas. 133 people are missing. We do not know whether they have died or not. I cannot say anything about it at once. He told me that they should be provided about Rs. 20 crore at once. Roads have been blocked

there. It is not possible to transport fruits etc. as roads have been blocked. We have given Rs. 10 crore from the calamity relief fund. Our team under the leadership of Joint Secretary, Shri Chadha will go there on 18th August. We will do the rest after receiving report from there.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Many persons are missing and have been washed away in the rivers...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : I have given a notice in connection with Bihar. When George Fernandes was speaking in this regard, I also wanted to speak on it...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Speaker, has told that one-two Members have been left in the Zero Hour. They should be allowed to speak. Shri Ram Kripal Yadav will speak first.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I should also be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It contains the name of Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I should be allowed to speak on this issue. Shri George was also speaking on the same issue on which he wants to speak but at 1.00 P.M. the House was adjourned till 2.00 P.M. Later on, when discussion was started, the question was raised again and it was told that he will get the opportunity to speak. If he wants to raise that issue, then the other side should also get the opportunity to speak. This is my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : George Saheb is not here.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : It is a separate issue that he is not here but it is such a subject that other side's view should also be heard.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Lok Sabha also wanted to raise this issue in the morning...(Interruptions). The observations made by the Patna High Court regarding Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no precedent of starting debate on any point raised during the zero hour.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : He had given an adjournment motion. He was told that he would be permitted to speak on this point later.

[English]

SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH (Chitradurga) : My notice is also there. I have given notice on the zero hour. I have given notice on the same subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may be with the speaker.

[Translation]

It is not with me now.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : My notice is also there on this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Pappu Ji, I don't have the notice before me. Perhaps it is with the speaker. Whatever he orders, we would abide by that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : I should be given the opportunity to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You people are not allowing to speak. I am asking you to speak.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak on all important subject. The situation which is developing today is a subject of concern, particularly the situation arising in Bihar. This country is being run under our Government, our constitution and there is a law. Everyone, Judiciary, Executive and Legislature have their own jurisdiction. But it seems that the way judiciary is overacting in Bihar, democracy cannot be saved. The observation being made by the judiciary today...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Zero Hour is not meant for speeches. Please make your points precisely.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am making my Point.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the situation in Bihar is conducive for the imposition of President's rule...*(Interruptions)* After the incident of 6 December, 1992 the Governments of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Himachal Pradesh were dismissed, Why?...*(Interruptions)* If he gets the opportunity to speak, we should also be allowed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you please protect me. You have permitted me to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should speak to the point.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking to the point only. Obviously, the democracy is in danger today. You and this House too will come under this situation in future...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ram Kripalji, please don't react. You continue your speech whatever interruption is there.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I am expressing my sentiments here. The way judiciary is passing orders sometimes for use of Army, sometimes for imposition of Article 356, will democracy be saved?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was telling that every one has its separate jurisdiction. Under which law the judiciary talks about calling the Army to arrest a person. This is a matter of concern that their observations are for

scrapping a democratically elected Government and army is being called out on the advice of an officer. Everybody should stick to their rules and regulations. The democracy cannot be saved, if the judiciary works in this fashion. This is our main cause of concern.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, where it has been provided that the High Court should decide about invoking Article 356 as has been observed by them against the Government of Bihar yesterday. They have observed without any investigation that our officers are corrupt and are hand in glove with the state leaders, hence Article 356 should be invoked.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ram Kripalji, how much more time will you take?

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I am making my point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Zero hour is not meant for full speech. You will have to go by the conventions of Lok Sabha.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Has judiciary has not decided about it on the basis of C.A.G. Report?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : What is the condition of Judiciary in Maharashtra...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : There is Jungle Raj in Bihar. That is why people had to go to Jail...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I want to say that similar observation has come on Hawala Scandal and a situation had come for Politicians to retire from politics. Court's order in the Hawala case was that it was fit for trial and seven person were chargesheeted on that basis. Top leaders were charge sheeted in the Hawala case but when it was to be investigated, it was said that it was not even fit for lodging an F.I.R. If such things continue to happen, the democracy can certainly not be saved...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say that the court's orders against Kamal Nathji ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are going out of your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : The C.B.I. officer is going the wrong way. The Home Minister had said that he will examine it. It has already been examined but examination* report has not yet come. What action is being taken on it?

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dasmunsi, in Zero Hour, there is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I was on a point of order. When I was on my legs when the commotion started. The ruling was that after the Supplementary Demands for Grants, it will be also heard along with others and I sat down. If you do not allow me, I will not say anything.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am informed that Shri George Fernandes was on his legs so the Chair had given a ruling at the time that he would be given a chance to speak.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, you may go through the proceedings. The House reassembled at 2 o'clock, when I was on my point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, I am now informed that you were also on your legs at that time, so you may please speak.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Thank you, Sir. My point of order is confined to Article 356. I am not defending or opposing any individual or any party. I am defending the institution and the parliamentary democracy. It is not important whether I rule the country today or someone else rules it. What is important is that the parliamentary democracy must survive.

Article 356 makes it abundantly clear that any State can go under President's Rule based on the report of the Governor, on the prevailing situation of the law and order of that State. The decision would be taken by the Cabinet and then the President's Rule shall be imposed. That is the practice. If that is wrong, that could be questioned by the Court.

The Supreme Court and the High Courts have every right to justify whether the imposition is right or wrong. But at no point of time in the Constitution there is a provision that any High Court or the Supreme Court can direct the Prime Minister or the Government or anybody to dissolve the elected Government.

If we encourage this observation, sitting in Parliament, just for our political advantage, we are committing a great...*(Interruptions)* let me conclude...*(Interruptions)* I am addressing the Chair...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Karunanidhi Government was also dismissed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : They used to criticise the dynastic rule, now they are supporting...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I can only submit whether any Government should continue or not, I am not defending. It is upto the Governor...*(Interruptions)* Why Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat is disturbing me when I am not questioning him.

[Translation]

What is this?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

This Parliament will be run by the Constitution and nothing else. This country should be governed by the Constitution and nothing else. Right from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Speaker of the Parliament and myself are bound to go through the Constitution and nothing else.

If the Constitution permits that a High Court or a Supreme Court Judge has a right to give a direction to the Governor of a State to dissolve the Government and if tomorrow the Supreme Court Judge gives a direction...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, you have made your point.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : No, Sir. My humble submission is that please do not take it lightly. It is a glaring example of judicial activism encroaching upon the right of the elected Legislature, encroaching upon the right of the Constitutional authority of a Governor...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, you have made your point.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Before I conclude, I would like to say that it is not a matter of Janat Dal or Congress or any other Party. A Government can be dissolved but not at the instance and direction of the Court. I condemn this kind of method of judicial activism, which will interfere or encroach upon the democracy...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say that...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order in Zero Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Chairman, Sir, you do not have any notice from Nitish Ji and still

[Shri Mohammad Ali Ashraf Fatmi]

he is getting chance to speak again and again
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am told that when zero Hour was over at that time George Saheb was speaking
...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Let the name of George Saheb be called...(Interruptions). No other member will speak. We have given a notice on the situation of Bihar...(Interruptions) You please see, our names are there...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I had with me the name of Shri Ram Kripalji and he has made his point on a point of order. Now I will give two minutes to Shri Nitish Kumar after that we will conclude this.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Chairman Sir, I have listened the points attentively. In the meantime...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Kripal Yadav had a full opportunity and now I want to give two minutes to Shri Nitish Kumar.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : When Shri Ram Kripalji was speaking, I was listening attentively. This is not the way; he is interrupting...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : If he has given a notice...(Interruptions) so did I.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Mr. Fatmi, you cannot challenge the Chair.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I am not challenging the Chair. I have only said that I have given a Notice...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing is going on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I have given the notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : When Ram Kripalji was speaking, at that time no body had interrupted.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : I have given the Notice. Please give me a chance. Why Nitishji should get a chance to speak?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am told that he was speaking.

[English]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Sir, what is a special thing in him? Sir, I have given a notice. So, please give me time to speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Sir, is it Bihar Asembly or Parliament?...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, he is challenging your authority. He cannot do so...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Have you given a notice?...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will get a chance too but please take your seat.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given chance to Shri Nitish Ji...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Fatmi, you are exceeding the limits. We may consider the point of view of only one Member and not of the other, this is not proper.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Shri Nitish Ji. If you too have give a notice then you will speak after him. After that we will wind it up.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This is an issue, which is very important for parliamentary democracy, as has been underlined by Shri P.R. Dasmunsi because this concerns the relationship between the Legislature and the Judiciary.

I suggest that we should not use harsh words. If the Judiciary commits a mistake, that does not entitle us to commit a mistake either. So, what I suggest is that instead of further proceeding with this discussion, let the Speaker call a meeting of the leaders of various Parties and discuss this matter as to what to do about such pronouncements from different High Courts about Article 356 or any other Article of the Constitution. I therefore, request you that let such a thing happen, instead of prolonging this discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I entirely agree with you. This is a matter concerning our Constitution.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman Sir, you please listen me for a minute...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jaswant Singh.

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You had called my name...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : We have given a notice on this issue, so this is our right to speak first...(Interruptions) We shall not allow the business of the House one to be transacted who has given a notice, will speak first...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever is happening in the House is not good.

(Interruptions)

17.23 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Anil Kumar Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table.

17.23 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Anand Mohan came and stood on the floor near the table.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House is adjourned for half-an-hour.

17.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifty-Three Minutes past Seventeen of the Clock.

17.53 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifty-Three Minutes past Seventeen of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I really do not know how to express my anguish. What has happened today, on the floor of the House, is most unfortunate. It is not becoming of the great institution of Parliament. I do not think, I am going to tolerate it. We are leaders of this nation. I think, every one of us has to maintain the minimum standards of discipline. I had watched the proceedings on the video. I am going to watch it again - twice or thrice - and I will be compelled to take disciplinary action but not today because I want to be very sure about it.

17.54 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE
AND
PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTIONS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL*

MR. SPEAKER : We now go to the next item on the List of Business. Item Nos. 10 and 11 will be taken up together. I now call Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 13 of 1997) promulgated by the President on June 5, 1997."

Sir, in 1952 the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Act was enacted. At that time there was no need for paying security deposit. There was only one condition that two representatives have to propose and second. Due to this, hundreds of people used to file nominations and create a lot of problems. In 1974 an amendment was made introducing security deposit and increasing the number of proposers and seconders to ten in the case of President and five in the case of Vice-President. That was also not sufficient. In spite of the provision for payment of deposit of Rs. 2,500 and ten and five proposers and seconders for the President and the Vice-President respectively, a lot of people used to file nomination. Persons who could not get even one or two

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II Section 2, dated 13.8.1997.

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]

votes filed nominations which has resulted in the loss of dignity of this highest office of the country.

I am very happy that during 1997 the Election Commission has given a suggestion that the security deposit should be increased to Rs. 15,000 and the number of proposers should be fifty for the President and fifteen for the Vice-President. An Ordinance was issued to this effect. Now, it has come to the Lok Sabha for passing. It is a very important and practical amendment. By this we will not give an opportunity to most of the non-serious candidates who just want to file nominations for fun and to see their names in the newspapers. One more difficulty is that you will find more than thirty or forty people in the ballot papers which will be very irksome and cumbersome. At first we objected to this because we felt that this security deposit of Rs. 15,000 was not sufficient. The value of rupee has gone down. This should be much more. So, instead of Rs. 15,000, it should have been Rs. 25,000 or Rs. 30,000. However, it is not going to matter much. So, I support the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952 be taken into consideration.”

Sir, my hon. friend, Shri Subbarami Reddy has already explained the principles of this Bill and the necessity of passing this Bill. So, I do not think I have to explain it in detail.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved :

“That this House disapproves of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 13 of 1997) promulgated by the President on June 5, 1997.”

“That the Bill further to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as this Bill is concerned and as Shri Reddy has said now that all parties are of the same opinion that this Bill has been introduced to eliminate those candidates who were not serious, I want to say that the Members of the United Front talk about consensus. It would be better if these matters are brought with consensus. This is unfortunate that without consensus

the Government has created the same position for itself in the Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not digress to that.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : It will be proper if we give priority to these matters. I want that elections of the President and the Vice President should be kept above all controversies. In this matter we should rise above the party lines. When the Government view these matters on party lines, then the persons who are in high positions become victim of unnecessary comments and controversies. I hope that at least in future the Government would pay due attention in this regard and would take any other step only with consensus. I support the Bill on behalf of my party.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, this was brought by the Government after having discussion with all the political parties. So, there is no question of objecting to it. I support the Bill with the wish that it will be passed by the Rajya Sabha tomorrow.

SHRI SEBASTIAN PAUL (Ernakulam) : Sir, I support the Bill. It will definitely bring seriousness to the election to the highest constitutional office of the country. I cannot go into the details of the Bill for want of time but I fully support the Bill.

18.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Bill. I want to say that a person named Dharti Pakad who is a President of my constituency comes to me time and again for getting his nomination papers signed and I feel very uncomfortable.

As my friend Shri Jain was telling earlier that discussion was going on since a long time regarding electoral reform. This is unfortunate that whichever party comes to power, the ruling party does not consider this matter seriously and the issue of electoral reforms is discussed only in piece meal. We should consider this matter seriously and take a decision. This is very important and I request you that much awaited decisions regarding electoral reforms should be taken immediately on the basis of all such matters which have been decided by consensus. I do not want to say more and I support this Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, do you want to reply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Sir, I thank all the hon. Members for supporting this.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House disapproves of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 13 of 1997) promulgated by the President on June 5, 1997."

The motion was negatived.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHWAKARMA (Hazaribagh) : I beg to move : for "Rs. Seven thousand" Substitute "Rs. Fifteen thousand." (2)

Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to mention only one thing that the office of President is the highest office of the country. It is a good step that the number of supporters have been increased by this amendment. But we should not assess the office of President in terms of money only because in our country any such person can also become President who is a renouncer and ascetic and for whom money is not very important. So I have given my amendment.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Are you pressing your amendment?

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHWAKARMA : I am withdrawing it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his amendment?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Amendment Made :

Page 1, lines 3 and 4,—

for "Second Amendment" substitute—
"Amendment" (1)

(Shri Ramakant D. Khalap)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Speaker Sir, this is third stage of Bill so I have to say something. I support this Bill but I want to make a request to the Government. The President, the Vice-President and the Prime Minister of this country should be a man who is a citizen of this country and also born in this country. This is very necessary. We know that today multinational companies are busy in the work of globalisation and they have the capacity to spend billions of money in any country of the world and they have ruined the democratic system in many countries. We also know that there are some powerful countries in the world who not only make current plan but draft their planning of foreign policy for coming 50 to 200 years. Therefore, Mr. Speaker Sir, I would request the Government that we should bring such a Bill by which only that person can become the President, the Vice-President and the Prime Minister who is not only a

[Shri George Fernandes]

citizen of this country but born in this country too. This is my request to the Government.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : What about the position if they were born in Bangladesh or Pakistan?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : When such a Bill will be introduced then we will discuss on this issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a suggestion. I do not think that the Government is responding to it here and now.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.06 hrs.

COTTON GINNING AND PRESSING FACTORIES (REPEAL) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to repeal the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925, be taken into consideration."

This Bill was introduced on 11th December, 1995 and was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Sir, you may extend the time of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : I think that has already been decided.

(Interruptions)

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : Sir, it will take only five minutes for me.

This is a very simple Bill. It was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Commerce by the then Speaker. The Parliamentary Standing Committee, in their final report in March, 1996, recommended repeal

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II - Section 2, dated 13.8.97.

of this Bill. But the Bill could not be passed due to procedural requirements.

This is a very old Bill and it was amended once in 1982. Since we have passed the Cotton Control Act and cotton was also brought under Essential Commodities Act, we feel that this has become redundant. That is why, I am requesting the House to allow the Bill to be passed.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to repeal the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925, be taken into consideration."

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL (Erandol) : Sir, as pointed out by the hon. Minister, this was already introduced but after it was introduced and discussed, the Lok Sabha was dissolved. I do not think that it would happen now also. Somehow this Bill is really not so helpful to the industry and therefore, I support the Bill.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur) : Sir, I support the Bill. I want to say something in favour of the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 12 of 1925. Though I support it, although I would like to point out one thing. I urge upon the Government to provide some incentive and modernisation efforts to ensure quality processing of cotton and charging remunerative prices for the services provided for and not to exploit the labourers. This is my submission. There have been many changes in the pattern of processing, marketing and consumption of other cotton seeds with the opening up of our economy. Modernisation of ginning and processing factories are essential due to the changes in the present industrial scenario. Government should look into the problems of labourers who are working in the factories and ginning the cotton from cotton-seeds. My submission is that their services should be protected.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, you have noted it down. Everybody is supporting it. The question is :

"That the Bill to repeal the Cotton Ginning and Press Factories Act, 1925, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, the Enacting formula, and the Long Title stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed.

The motion was adopted.

18.14 hrs.

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri S.R. Bommai, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to amend the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to amend the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome the objective of Indira Gandhi National Open University (Amendment) Bill, 1997 introduced by the Government because amendment has been made in section 3 and 6. The following proviso would be added in sub-section of section 3 of Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, "Study centre could be opened outside India with prior approval of chancellor." The words, "Study centres outside India" would be added alongwith with "throughout India" in section 6.

Sir, it is a matter of great happiness that earlier we used to hear about Nalanda and Takshila that there were big centres of education and students from foreign countries visited these centres for study. For the first

time Indira Gandhi National Open University has gained lot of importance in spreading informal education. It has become a boon for those private students who are getting education through correspondence courses and distant education. As large number of immigrants, who know Indian languages and non-resident Indians are living in United Arab Emirate, Mauritius etc. They want to set up such type of centres in their countries so that they could also take benefit of these centres. To extend this facility, original Indira Gandhi Open University Act was enacted in 1985 and 225 study centres at 17 regional centres are in existence since 1987 onwards. Through these centres there are 746 students in the first year, 6000 in the second year and 8,000 in the third year but as against the number of faculties opened the required number of students therein are not adequate and moreover, the medium of instructions is also English.

Sir, through you I would urge upon the Government that on the one hand the students could not get admission in colleges and there is a large number of students in queue for getting admission and there is a problem of discipline, the people in service cannot get education after getting admission, the people living in villages or the people who want to get education in the morning and evening, they can also not get education, therefore when such University has been opened to get them educated, then all the Indian languages should be the medium of instruction.

We are celebrating the 50th anniversary of independence, therefore, alongwith English, Hindi should also be made the medium of instructions in the examinations of Indira Gandhi Open University and study centres of correspondence and remote education. Besides, it would be better if Minister should clarify as to what will be the system of examination in the centres being opened in foreign countries and how the centres will be controlled. The Headquarters of the Indira Gandhi Open University is in Delhi but its centres have been opened in other states also and complaints of irregularities being committed there have been received in regard to the appointment. I would like to request the Government to make efforts to remove those irregularities so that the services of Indira Gandhi Open University can be utilized properly in the country as well as abroad. Indian culture, knowledge, traditions and social features should reach foreign countries and the people living there can also be benefited there from.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : When a Professor speaks on a University, I know that there can be no end.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to say such things which are in favour of the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II-Section 2, dated 13.8.97.

[Shri George Fernandes]

I would like to point out that whenever any such institutions are established by the Government. They are named after some particular persons. The country should think over it. Such a situation is prevailing in our country where feudalism has already been in existence. Today on the occasion of 50th anniversary of independence, we should take a vow to abandon feudalistic traditions. Smt. Indira Gandhi was one of the Prime Ministers of this country who made her contribution in the effective functioning of the Government of this country.

18.17 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it troubles us that whenever any hospital, university, airport, road, building, cremation ground or any trust set up by the Government are named they are named after the persons of one particular family. We have objection to all such things. But this system is continuing in our country. Today approximately 18 crore people are unemployed but the employment scheme is named after such person who really laid the foundation of unemployment in the country. In this country crores of people are homeless but the housing scheme is named after a person who is responsible for rendering the people homeless. There is no drinking water facility in the villages but this scheme is in the hands of those persons who had created water scarcity. So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, they contributed during their life time and after death money should be utilised in their names for developmental work. This thing has a bitter taste for some persons but such matters do not give decency or elegance to any democratic country and democratic thinking. So, I request the Government Bomma Saheb is sitting here who has been a disciple of M.N. Roy. He has been a person of radical thinking and he is against feudalism. I believe that when such type of Bill will be introduced in the House in future, then he will pay due attention on the question of changing the name wherever it is required. Thousands of people have sacrificed their lives in the freedom struggle. Lakhs of people have lost their lives but I can give you a list of thousands prominent persons. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request the Minister of Human Resource Development to look into this particular matter of changing the name and after due consideration come before the House.

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I am on my legs not to support this Bill because there are lakhs of villages in the country which do not have even primary schools. This is my challenge. Government should conduct a survey. The students have to walk 20 to 50 Kms. distance

for reaching inter-college, high school or degree colleges. We are giving permission to open their branches in foreign countries but the people of our own country, who are taking pain and working together for the development of the country, have not been provided with education facilities to their children and youth. I do not understand when somebody is suffering from cancer in your house, why are you worried about cough and cold? I want to say that the money which you are spending in foreign countries for opening its branches, why this fund is not being utilised for providing educational facilities in our own country? It is a matter of pain for me because many scams are taking place in the Indira Gandhi Open University but no provision has been made in the Bill to check such scams and punish the guilty. I am giving you a small example. On 10th March I had written a letter to Hon'ble Education Minister. I call him Education Minister because Human Resource Development Minister wants to develop human in the form of resources. In other words, he wants to create emotionless human. If human will become resources there, his soul will die. There will be no sentiments and pain. Now I correct my mistake and say that I sent a signed letter to the Minister of Human Resource Development. I would like to give one example. On 16th December, 1996 tender No. F-No.-1-35 M.D.D.-96-97 was invited duly signed by the Assistant Vice-Chancellor for supplying 800 M.T. of paper. One of the conditions of this tender was that the supplier must be a manufacturer of paper. The specification of the paper mentioned in the tender was that the size of the paper would be 30 X 40 Cms. The name of this quality was surface size offset printing. This was the situation. The condition for weight was 61 X 88 C.M.A. and 70 to 80 G.S.M. The tender came from such person who does not manufacture paper. I forwarded his name also. The cost of 800 M T paper was Rs. 2 crore and there is a scam to the tune of Rs. 20 lakh in this deal. They have supplied the paper of inferior quality. The Government should investigate into this matter. The tender was awarded to such companies which do not manufacture paper. I do not know whether their headquarters is in Delhi or not. Such a situation has been created under the very nose of the Government. There should be some standard. If Central Government get the paper at the rate of Rs. 21 per Kg. then the rate of Rs. 22-23 per Kg. for this paper can be charged from the Government. We have such examples that if this is available at the rate of Rs. 21 then the Government would purchase the same thing at the rate of Rs. 27 from some where else. Government is run on faith. The situation is that I have not received any reply from the Minister. As a courtesy the Department should have written two lines to me. When a hon'ble Member gave a starred question on this issue then I was deeply pained. In this regard the reply came that Nidar ji had raised this question. I

mean to say that you open its branches in foreign countries and take any amount of fund because that does not go from our pocket. That is hard earned money of the people of entire country. We have got right to spend this money. One thing should be ensured that the funds allocated should not be misused and it should be spend for the purpose for which it has been allocated. The Students and teachers should be benefited from it. We should protect the general morale of people. I would like to say to the Minister of Human Resource Development that one more clause should be added in the Bill that ethics and Sacraments would invariably be taught in this University because any student of this university, if he unfortunately becomes an MP then he may behave in a decent and polite manner.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this piece of legislation. This Amendment Bill enables us to have more Study Centres at distant places and in foreign countries.

The hon. Member Shri George Fernandes has raised a very flimsy argument regarding the change of name. When Shri George Fernandes came to power — though it was for a very few months — he changed the name of Willington Hospital to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. We have great respect for Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia who had contributed his life for the services of the nation. It is a practice the world over where people give the names of eminent personalities, eminent political leaders and eminent statesmen who contributed their entire life for the service of that particular nation to airports, institutions, hospitals and roads. We are not ashamed to name our Airport, our Trust, our Hospital, and our schemes like Rozgar Yojana in the name of eminent persons like Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi. We are rather proud of it. In the past, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was alive, I knew Shri George Fernandes was critical of her. But I have a small request to him that she is no more and he should shelve his animosity against her. He should appreciate the services rendered by Shrimati Indira Gandhi throughout her life to this great nation.

I do not want to take much time of this House. This Indira Gandhi National Open University has done tremendous work. Now opening its Study Centres outside the country to conduct programmes will definitely add more prestige to our country.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I do not want to say much. This university has completed its 12 years. I would like to say that its output should be evaluated. I have written

three letters to the Minister of Human Resource Development that the degrees awarded by this university to the students are not being recognised by some universities and the students are also not getting admission in some other institutions. I come from Rohelkhand area and I know that students of Indira Gandhi Open University are not given admission there. In spite of my repeated letters, no action has been taken so far. As Shri Nidar ji was telling that we are celebrating 50th anniversary of our Independence, so on this occasion, the Government should issue orders to open primary schools in 5.5 lakh villages in the country.

[English]

SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, I would like to extend my support to this Bill which has been piloted by the Minister of Human Resource Development. I see this as a good initiative on behalf of the Government. But I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one thing. Many Study Centres have been established all over the country and many new professional courses have been introduced over there. But there is one shortcoming. The University is not teaching at the various Centres in the regional languages. This is a serious lacuna.

Another thing is, the aspect of diversity of our country is totally kept out of the mind of the University authorities who are running this Indira Gandhi National Open University. I hope, the Government will look into these two aspects.

I am extending my support to this initiative of the Government.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, this University was established in 1985. My hon. friend Shri George Fernandes objected to the name of this University. The name has been given ten years back when the Act was passed by the Parliament.

Now, I am bringing only a small amendment. Therefore, the question of changing the name does not arise. But I do see a point in what Shri Fernandes has suggested and I would like to say that whenever we give a name to an institution or a university we must keep in mind all the national leaders; they may belong to any party and whether it is Shri M.N. Roy, I do not want to say...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I want to say that.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Therefore, the question of naming depends on the time the Government takes a decision; and now Parliament has already passed it. Therefore, only an amendment is there to this Act. But of course, the Government would keep in mind the suggestion of Shri George Fernandes.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I thank the hon. Minister for this.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Mukundapuram) : Sir, we do not understand which suggestion of Shri George Fernandes the Government is going to keep in mind...(Interruptions) We are not saying that. If a partisan opinion is expressed and if that too is politically based, how can the hon. Minister say that the Government would take care of that?...(Interruptions) This is not the way...(Interruptions)

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I would request the hon. Member to please listen to me...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : No, Sir, the hon. Minister is not supposed to express an opinion which is not a part of it. This is not the way.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Sir, what I am saying is...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : What does it mean?...(Interruptions) They were in the Government including the hon. Minister at that time and we know that the name of a hospital was changed to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. We have respect for Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia but the whole contribution of that Government was that within two months they changed the name of that hospital. People are saying that that name should not be given...(Interruptions) What is the contribution of the previous Prime Minister to the country? This is nothing but due to political bias. This is not correct.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I supported what he has...(Interruptions)

SHRI A.C. JOS (Idukki) : No, the hon. Minister said 'that the Government would keep in mind'...(Interruptions) Sir, when an hon. Minister says it on the floor of the House, it is a very serious thing...(Interruptions) I do not understand what the hon. Minister means by that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister reply, please.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I only said that the names of all the national leaders, irrespective of the party, should be kept in mind. That is the only thing I said and I support it, I am not opposing it.

The very purpose of this University is only to give an opportunity to the people who are not able to get continuous normal education because of poverty, unemployment and backwardness. The University gives distance and correspondence education.

I am proud to say that 20 per cent of the students of this University are women. The speciality of this University is that it opens a centre in a college, the

teachers of that college teach them and the material of that college is used. There were correspondence courses in various universities but there was no teaching like this University has. Here actual teaching takes place.

There are only 268 centres in this country. I want it to be expanded. There is another opportunity which is available in this University and which is not available in other universities, that is, a science student cannot take arts subject in other universities. Here in this University, there can be a combination of an art subject and a science subject. Some people, who are employed and who could not continue their education, can take advantage of these centres. This should be expanded more, particularly in hilly and other areas, in this country, I agree.

Now, we are opening it outside the country because there are a number of NRI Indians who are demanding Indian degrees and Indian education. To help them, to aid them, we are opening this University. They are self-financing. We are not investing a single pie there. Teachers will be given honorarium. They are self-financing. The Government is not incurring any expenditure. We are giving our own degrees to most of the people, who are Indians. Therefore, this is a proper system and I appeal to everybody to support it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Long Title stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.37 hrs.

INCOME-TAX (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move ** for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

SHRI GEORGE FERANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we have not seen this Bill. I do not know what the Bill is...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I have only introduced the Bill...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GEORGE FERANDES : We did not get a copy of it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : It is being circulated.

SHRI GEORGE FERANDES : We wanted even to oppose its introduction. I do not know what the Bill is...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The hon. Speaker has passed a direction...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11 A.M.

18.38 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 14, 1997/Shravana 23, 1919 (Saka).

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** Moved with the Recommendation of the President.