

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. III contains Nos. 11 to 19)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CONTENTS

[Thirteenth Series, Vol. III, Second Session, 1999/1921 (Saka)]

No. 18, Wednesday, December 22, 1999/Pausa 1, 1921 (Saka)

| SUBJECT | COLUMNS |
|--|---------|
| OBITUARY REFERENCE..... | 1—2 |
| ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS | |
| *Starred Questions Nos. 341, 343, 344 and 346 | 3—25 |
| WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS | |
| Starred Questions Nos. 342, 345 and 347-360 | 26—51 |
| Unstarred Questions Nos. 3404-3583 | 51—385 |
| SHORT NOTICE QUESTION No. 2..... | 386—387 |
| PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE | 388—404 |
| MOTION RE: FOURTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE | 403—406 |
| OBSERVATION BY SPEAKER | 407 |
| RE : OBSERVATION OF PARLIAMENTARY ETIQUETTE | 407—415 |
| RE: INCREASE IN ACCIDENTS IN INDIAN AIR FORCE PLANES ESPECIALLY MIG AIRCRATS | 415—420 |
| RE: RELAXATIONS OF STANDARDS IN MATTERS OF RESERVATION IN PROMOTION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES & SCHEDULED TRIBES | 420—422 |
| RE: COMMUNAL TENSION ARISING OUT OF SHILANYAS IN HALMODI VILLAGE IN SURAT, GUJARAT | 423—426 |
| MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 | 427—432 |
| (i) Need for early start of work on Bar-Bilara rail line in Pali district in Rajasthan | |
| Shri Pusp Jain | 427 . |
| (ii) Need to take effective steps to make the Daman Ganga river and nearby areas in Gujarat toxic free | |
| Shri P.S. Gadhavi..... | 427 |

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

| SUBJECT | COLUMNS |
|---|----------|
| (iii) Need to provide better postal services in Erandol parliamentary constituency, Maharashtra Shri Annasaheb M.K. Patil | 428 |
| (iv) Need to expedite construction of a rail Bridge over the river Ganga between Patna and Sonepur in Bihar Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy | 428 |
| (v) Need to accord early approval to the proposal for installation of hand pumps in Bihar with the financial assistance of World Bank Shri Rajo Singh | 429 |
| (vi) Need for early construction of Ganga Barrage in Kanpur, U.P. Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal | 429 |
| (vii) Need to set up Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Aquaculture at village Sathangudi in Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar | 430 |
| (viii) Need to lay broad gauge railway line between new Minaguri and Jogikhopa via Baxirhat, Galakganj, Gouripur Dhubari and Belasipara, West Bengal Shrimati Minati Sen | 430 |
| (ix) Need to introduce one more shuttle train between Vizag and Kirandal in Andhra Pradesh Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi | 431 |
| (x) Need to ensure procurement of entire amount of cotton by agencies in Maharashtra with a view to protect the interests of cotton growers Shri Chandrakant Khaire | 431 |
| (xi) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Orissa to check the recurrence of flood in the State particularly in the districts of Bhadrak and Balasore Shri Arjun Sethi | 431 |
| (xii) Need to clear the proposal of Government of Kerala for release of 100 hectares of forest Land for all-round development of Sabarimala Shrine Shri K. Francis George | 432 |
| COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL | 433—453 |
| Motion to consider | 433 |
| Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi | 433, 447 |
| Shri Pravin Rashtrapal | 435 |
| Shri Anadi Sahu | 435 |
| Shri Swadesh Chakraborty | 438 |
| Shri P.H. Pandiyani | 441 |

| SUBJECT | COLUMNS |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale | 443 |
| Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh | 446 |
| Clauses 2 to 7 and 1 | 453 |
| Motion to pass | 453 |
| TRADE MARKS BILL | 454—474, 475—477, 478—488 |
| Motion to consider | 454 |
| Shri Murasoli Maran | 454 |
| Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni | 455 |
| Shri V.P. Singh Badnore | 458 |
| Shri Bikram Keshari Deo | 460 |
| Shri Trilochan Kanungo | 461 |
| Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan | 466 |
| Dr. B.B. Ramaiah | 467 |
| Shri Rupchand Pal | 470 |
| Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel | 475 |
| Shri Annasaheb M.K. Patil | 478 |
| Shri T.M. Selvaganpathi | 479 |
| Shri Murasoli Maran | 483 |
| Clauses 2 to 159 and 1 | 488 |
| Motion to Pass | 488 |
| MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA | 474 |
| STATEMENT BY MINISTER | 478 |
| TENTATIVE PROPOSALS FOR REVISION OF WAGES IN RESPECT OF WORKING JOURNALISTS AND NON-JOURNALISTS NEWSPAPER AND NEWS AGENCY EMPLOYEES | |
| Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya | |
| GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF GOODS (REGISTRATION AAND PROTECTION) BILL | 488—497 |
| Motion to consider | 488 |
| Shri Murasoli Maran | 488 |
| Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan | 489 |
| Shri P.H. Pandiyan | 491 |
| Shri Bikram Keshari Deo | 493 |
| Shri Rupchand Pal | 494 |
| Shri Trilochan Kanungo | 495 |
| Clauses 2 to 87 and 1 | 497 |
| Motion to pass | 497 |

| SUBJECT | COLUMNS |
|---|---------|
| MOTION RE: CONCURRENCE OF THE HOUSE TO JOIN JOINT COMMITTEE ON PATENTS (AMENDMENTS) BILL | 498—499 |
| SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL | 500—512 |
| Motion to consider | 500 |
| Shri Yashwant Sinha | 500 |
| Shri Moinul Hassan | 501 |
| Shri V.P. Singh Badnore | 503 |
| Shri P.H. Pandiyan | 504 |
| Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi | 505 |
| Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari | 508 |
| Clauses 2, 25 and 1 | 512 |
| Motion to Pass | 512 |

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 22, 1999/Pausa 1, 1921 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri G.I. Patel.

Shri Patel was a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha representing Gandhinagar parliamentary constituency of Gujarat from 1984 to 1989.

Shri Patel was a leading operator in the housing finance sector. He started his political career as the Chairman of the Municipal School Board in the seventies.

An active social and political worker, Shri Patel was associated with various organisations in the State. He worked for the welfare of the downtrodden.

Shri G.I. Patel passed away on 8 December, 1999 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat, at the age of 69.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

11.01 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Q. No. 341.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the State President of Shiv Sena, Shri Murlī Bohra has been murdered in Rajasthan...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You may raise it after the Question hour. You raise it in the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you after the Question Hour and not now. Q. No. 341, Dr. (Shrimati) Suguna Kumari.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, Bohra ji has been murdered in Rajasthan...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that you may raise it after the Question Hour. Do not waste the time of the House. Please understand.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an apprehension of riot breaking at there. Disturbance has been created there...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am appealing to you to please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, our State President Bohra ji has been murdered brutally in Rajasthan ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is important. So, please do not waste the time of the House. Dr. (Shrimati) Suguna Kumari.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: I would like to raise a very important issue about the situation in Gujarat...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not proper. I will allow you after the Question Hour. I will not allow you now. Q. No. 341, Dr. Suguna Kumari.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. Do not waste the time of the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, this is a very important issue...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I am telling that I will allow you in the 'Zero Hour'.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.05 hrs.

Requirement of Uranium

*341. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum requirement of uranium for the ten operating reactors in the country;

(b) the amount of uranium being supplied by the Uranium Corporation of India against the requirement; and

(c) the measures taken to replenish the stock and meet the potential uranium shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The

present annual requirement of natural uranium for the eight operating reactors based on the Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR) technology is around 250 tonnes. Two operating reactors, based on the Boiling Water Reactor (BWR) technology, utilise imported enriched uranium.

(b) The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL) has been supplying the required quantity of natural uranium.

(c) Considering the available stocks and level of production, there is no national threat of uranium shortage for the operating nuclear power plants.

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to state that uranium is a highly valuable metal. For the developing and traditionally rich countries, which are very rich in uranium reserves and the countries which are having a lot of deficit in respect of electric power, the nuclear power is the cheapest. The thermal power is the costliest power to generate. Then, the hydro power is next to thermal power in generation cost. So, as I mentioned earlier, the nuclear power is the cheapest. It is also free from pollution except when a Cheronobyl like accident occurs. With good safety standards, I foresee that India would have to depend on nuclear power in future.

Therefore, through you, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is not true that uranium is smuggled from India - from the States like Bihar, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu - to our neighbouring country Pakistan. How many cases were booked? What preventive measures are contemplated?

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, I am afraid that it does not come under the purview of this question. I would be happy to react to the hon. Member in respect of anything that comes under this particular head.

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: What safety measures are available or taken to prevent nuclear radiation from the storage points. I would like to know whether they are followed up strictly. How many cases of more than permitted levels of radiation have been recorded in the last three years. I want to know one more thing. Was there any problem of radiation at the Nuclear Fuel Complex at Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Suguna Kumari, I think this is about requirement of uranium.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: I will answer that question. First of all, let me just say that it is the UCIL,

which was incorporated in 1967 and which is a public sector undertaking under this Department, which is the sole producer of uranium required for the nuclear power programme and for research.

There was the problem of theft. This was investigated and found to be false as every gram of uranium is accounted for and it is under strict survey.

As far as the health hazard is concerned, this was from the discharge from the tailing ponds. People say that the water bodies get infected. This is not the case. As regards the raffinate cake, which is being brought back from the NFC in Hyderabad, there was a theory perhaps that it is becoming a dumping ground. This is coming back. But it is coming back for reprocessing.

As far as the health hazard allegation is concerned, this has been investigated by a team of specialists and doctors from the BARC, the TATA Main Hospital, Jamshedpur and the State Government's own doctors. They have unanimously stated that the ailments which have been seen have nothing to do with the UCIL's operations. Regular monitoring mechanism exist there right from the inception. The health physics unit of the BARC, independent of the UCIL, regularly monitors all these parameters.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH (Shillong): Mr. Sepaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the House that there has been exploration and mining of uranium-based minerals in Meghalaya at a place called Domia Siat which is in West Khasi Hills in my constituency. Now there is a slow down in the exploration. But, meanwhile, there has been illegal mining of uranium-based minerals known as yellow cakes. These yellow cakes are being exported and smuggled through Bangladesh under the aegis of the ISI and they have fallen into the hands of Pakistan and the Middle East countries. There has been detection some time back. A sizable quantum of yellow cakes was recovered. But the smuggling goes on merrily. I would like to know whether the Minister is aware of this smuggling and also the fact that exploration is slowing down.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: We are in the process for meeting the additional requirements of uranium for the Nuclear Power Corporation in the coming years. The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research has been looking at exploring and prospecting new uranium deposits. Amongst that is one that the hon. Member mentioned just now which is Domia Siat in Meghalaya. But only an initial feasibility report has been prepared.

The commercial exploration by UCIL can commence in the near future. It has not started as yet.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, to run these reactors and for production of uranium, heavy water is very much essential. Sometime in the past, there was a Heavy Water Plant at Talcher in the State of Orissa and that has been closed now due to shutting down of the Urea Plant situated nearby. I would like to know whether the shutting down of this Heavy Water Plant at Talcher has not affected the production of uranium in the country. If so, I would further like to know whether that Heavy Water Plant is going to be made operational very soon.

SHRIMATI VASUNDAHRA RAJE: Sir, this is a question which is very specific. I will be happy to provide the information to the hon. Member at a later date.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are large deposits of uranium in Bihar. I would like to know as to how much uranium is produced in Bihar and how many places in the State are yet to be surveyed for exploring uranium?

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Sir, at the moment, there are three underground mines operating at Jaduguda, Batin and Narwa Pahar in Bihar. A Uranium Mill at Jaduguda and two plants at Mosabuni and Rakha are there for recovering uranium from copper tallings obtained from Hindustan Copper Limited. The company is also running a plant for recovering the by-products which are copper concentrates, molybdenum and magnetite.

DR. V. SAROJA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the hon. Minister's reply, it is stated that two operating reactors based on the Boiling Water Reactor Technology are utilising imported enriched uranium. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that we are importing enriched uranium from the United States of America, France, Canada and China. If so, I would like to know the details. Then, is there any agreement which we have entered into with these countries for a certain period in which they will continuously supply enriched uranium to us?

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, what the hon. Member is speaking about is the Boiling Water Reactor Units at Tarapur. The enriched uranium for meeting the fuel requirements of these two units at Tarapur was initially supplied by the United States of America and later, it was imported from France and China. Further imports will be negotiated as per the requirements, taking into account the available stocks and the rate of consumption. This fuel is also fabricated at the Nuclear Fuel Complex and it has adequate production capacity

there. The idea here is also to try and use something called MOX, which is Mixed Oxide fuel, so that our dependency on imported enriched uranium is minimised. We are also about to put up two Light Water Reactors which are proposed to be set up at Koodankulam and these will be set up with Russian assistance. They will be supplied initially by the Russians and then we will be establishing an indigenous facility for fabrication of this fuel.

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether it is true that uranium reserves were found in Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and they are better in quality than the ones found at Jaduguda in Bihar. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the steps taken to augment the exploration of uranium in promising areas, as already there is a shortage of uranium and part of it is smuggled to other countries.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, at the moment, we have enough supplies available as well as stockpiled. As far as the kind of uranium availability is concerned, yes, it is true that these are better deposits than the ones which we had found before. What we are looking at are explorations at Domiciat in Meghalaya and at Mohuldin and Baghjata in Bihar and active exploration is just now going on at Lambapur and Pedagattu in Andhra Pradesh and Wakhym in Meghalaya. A promising deposit has been located at Gogi in Karnataka in 1996 and further exploration of that reserve and estimation of that is in progress.

Another interesting line that has come out of this is the feasibility for chemical extraction of uranium which is contained in phosphoric acid used in fertiliser plants using rock phosphate feed.

Just now, I also mentioned the boiling water reactors. So, taking into consideration all these, we do not believe that there is any threat of shortage of natural uranium required for the needs of the pressurised heavy water reactors in operation as well as those planned for the future.

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 342, Shri Ashok N. Mohol — not present. Shri Shivaji Vithalrao Kamble is also not present.

Lifting of Sanctions

*343. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a move in the U.S. Senate to introduce a legislation that will grant India permanent waiver from the sanctions brought against it for having tested nuclear device last year;

(b) if so, whether India has welcomed the U.S. move; and

(c) the extent to which India has agreed to co-operate with U.S. after the sanctions are lifted?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no such move at present in the U.S. Senate. The US Congress has, however, passed the Defence Appropriations Act 2000 in October 1999, after it was approved both in the US Senate and the House of Representatives, which grants the US President waiver authority with respect to restrictions imposed on India. There is no definitive time period attached to the waiver authority.

(b) The Government regards this as a step in the right direction. However, the Government maintains that all restrictions are counter-productive and should be lifted.

(c) The Government has stated its intention to broaden and deepen relations with the U.S. on the basis of mutuality of interests. Potential for mutually beneficial co-operation exists in a number of areas such as trade and investment, energy and environment, science and technology, and education and culture. It will be possible to achieve the full potential of such co-operation once restrictions have been lifted.

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his answer that there is no such move at present in the U.S. Senate. But I wish to bring it to your notice...

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Reddy, you have to bring it to the notice of the Minister and not to me! Through me, you address the Minister.

Shri Geete, would you like to ask a supplementary?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: No, Sir.

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Sir, the US Senate has decided to have free textile trade with 48 nations. In this connection, with the US imposing sanctions and restricting our country is not yet helping India in any way. At the same time, it is affecting the decision of the US Senate which will be detrimental to the Indian trade and economy. Around \$ 2.2 billion worth of textile exports are getting affected by this decision of the US Senate. There appears to be a dilemma in this decision of the U.S. On the one hand, it has lifted sanctions in the last week, while on the other, it is having trade by allowing African countries duty-free and quota-free imports into America. So, we will be affected. Our trade of garments

worth about \$2.2 billion will be affected. Is there any plan or strategy by the Government to counter this decision of the US Senate?

MR. SPEAKER: It is affecting the export of garments.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the aspect of textile exports is governed by totally different sets of international regulations.

Regarding the other aspect about whether there is a strategy or not, the Government has always held that these unilateral restrictions imposed on India by the United States are both unjustified and counter-productive.

As far as the broader question of its impact on the Indian economy is concerned, the Indian economy has demonstrated its resilience to withstand the impact of these restrictions. In fact, the economy is growing exactly at the rate which is satisfactory. And a study of the impact of the US restrictions on India conducted by the International Trade Commission of the United States itself, released in September this year, has also concluded that restrictions upon India had relatively minimal impact on India's overall economy.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, there is an item in the newspaper today that the US now thinks in terms of allowing India to have the minimum nuclear deterrent. In this connection, I want to ask the hon. Minister, does the Government of India have any relationship with the ensuing visit of the President of the USA with regard to this determining of this minimum nuclear deterrent and the waiver of the unjustified sanctions imposed by the USA after the Pokhran Test.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, the determination of security and its requirement is sovereign function and only the Government of India will decide what the minimum nuclear deterrent is. The position of the Government of India is explicit and clear. It is a sovereign function. We will decide what the security considerations are and we will determine what the minimum nuclear deterrent will be.

The second aspect is about the linkage with the proposed visit by the US President. We establish no such linkage and no such conditionalities on any State visit.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, US has imposed sanctions against India and is observing them strictly. According to the Minister of External Affairs these sanctions have not affected our economy and

international market at all or impact of these sanctions is negligible but I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how did they oppose the sanctions. Do you agree with me that through foreign companies our country is being exploited economically in view of the sanctions imposed by US? If so, will you impose certain ban on US companies?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already stated and it has also been established in a study conducted by the US that impact of these sanctions had been negligible on the Indian economy so far as the issue of private companies is concerned I would like to say that despite sanctions trade, business and production of these companies have increased. The second part of the question is that whether a ban will be imposed against US companies. I would like to say that this suggestion of the hon'ble member would be conveyed to the Commerce Minister.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in exchange for possessing minimum nuclear deterrent, whether India has agreed to sign the CTBT or not.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I had made it very clear that there are no conditionalities. The determination of India's security concerns is a sovereign function and it is not dictated by any country, leave alone, the USA. The decision on the Test Ban Treaty is totally a separate aspect and not connected with this at all.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear that US imposed sanctions against India including several organisations which are conducting research in the field of nuclear science, after the Pokhran-II nuclear tests. Those sanctions have not been lifted yet. The provisions of CTBT are discriminatory and as on date US has continued the ban on the technique of its dual utilization. It has also not officially accepted our security perceptions and our concerns about it. Apart from it, US has not given us recognition as Atomic Power State. CTBT has not been ratified by the Congress in their own country. Despite all these points US keeps on advising and pressurising us to sign the CTBT. The Government is trying to create consensus on CTBT and I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether it underlines the fact that under the pressure from US Government, our Government is trying to act against the interests of the nation and is going to sign the CTBT?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not correct. Though this question is not linked with sanctions but I would like to clarify that earlier also neither the Government has taken any action under pressure nor it is going to do so in future. Had the Government been pressurised it would not have been able to conduct nuclear tests in 1998. What is happening for the last one or two years reveals that the Government is not working under pressure.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, in real sense the sanction could not have its impact, which we have gauged in different forms, on our Indian economy. People have a doubt as to why they imposed sanction and what for they are going to withdraw it. I want to know whether there is any hidden agenda. It is not only related with CTBT? People are asking questions about this. Please make it clear if it is not an obligatory that India will have to sign CTBT. I want to know whether there is any hidden agenda behind it or they are unilaterally going to lift the sanctions.

MR. SPEAKER: Hidden agenda of America!

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I have no difficulty in informing the hon. Member that there is no hidden agenda. The imposition of the sanctions was a unilateral act. We clearly said, from the beginning, it is most unjustified, it is counter-productive, and its total lifting will contribute towards the creation of a suitable environment. That unilateral lifting, if the United States of America moves away from, sanctions is a step by the United States in the right direction.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question has already been answer by the hon. Minister. I was going to ask the same question. I want to know whether it is simply the personal rapport which the Minister has built with the Secretary of State of the United States or whether there is something more than simply what we are made to understand because the unilateral lifting of sanctions for us seems to be somehow tied up with some understanding or agreement, which the country has not yet come to know about. Since the Minister has now assured that there is no hidden agenda behind the withdrawal of sanction, I am glad about it but I hope really that this is the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, I have no difficulty in answering the hon. Member, who is my dear friend of long-standing. Again, let me repeat, Sir, there is no hidden understanding or agenda. Secondly, Government to Government relations are never based on personal rapport

or an absence of rapport. Thirdly, as I have stated earlier, the imposition of the sanctions, which we clearly said, is uncalled for and counter-productive. It was a unilateral action. If the United States of America begins to see light and moves away from an unproductive and counter-productive action, it is for the United States to judge that.

THE BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the hon. Minister held nine rounds of talks with Ms. Strobe Talbott. May I know from the Minister of External Affairs as to what are the matters which were discussed during these nine rounds of talks with Ms. Strobe Talbott? Also I want to know whether some of the thermal power projects have been affected because of the sanctions imposed by the United States of America.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, the first part of the Question put by the hon. Member does not really arise but I can answer it. If you want me to answer it, I will answer it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is quite relevant. It is connected with this Question.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: We place the agenda for discussion, and the broad agenda of discussion really related to non-proliferation, disarmament issues and the broadening of Indo-U.S. relations. The second part is relating to whether the sanctions have affected any of the power projects marginally. I would say yes. Thirdly, because in recognition of this, the United States of America themselves proposed an increased cooperation in the power sector. Following upon which their Energy Secretary has visited India and has proposed that in the energy sector, notwithstanding the sanctions, there should be enhanced cooperation between India and the United States of America.

Natural Disasters

*344. *SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the States in the country are prone to natural disasters like cyclones, landslides and hailstorms due to which millions of people are affected every year;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to evolve a national level mechanism to combat natural disasters; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) On account of its geographical position and climate, most parts of the country are vulnerable to natural disasters like flood, cyclone, drought, earthquake, hailstorm, landslide etc., in varying degrees.

2. Institutional arrangements already exist, at national and State levels to minimize the impact of, and to respond adequately to, such natural disasters. Many plan programmes are being implemented exclusively for combating natural disasters and many other programmes contain components of disaster mitigation. These include Flood Control and Soil Conservation Schemes, Drought Prone Areas Programme, Desert Development Programme and Watershed Development Programmes.

3. A National Contingency Action Plan (NCAP) has been notified to facilitate launching of relief operations without delay. The NCAP identifies the initiatives required to be taken by various agencies at the Central and State Levels, in the wake of natural calamities, sets down the procedures and determines the focal points in the administrative machinery.

4. A specific Central Sector Scheme on natural disaster management is also being implemented from 1993 to enhance the national capability for disaster reduction, preparedness and mitigation. A High Powered Committee has been constituted in August, 1999 to review the existing mechanism for disaster mitigation and response in the country and prepare a comprehensive disaster management plan.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Almost 55 per cent of our land area in the Sub-Continent is prone to earthquakes, eight per cent to cyclones and five per cent to floods. If so, has any specific plan been drawn out to create a disaster proof environment in these areas?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is correct that ours is a vast country with different geographical features. In such a climate we have to face different type of natural calamities like cyclone, flood, drought, earthquake and landslides. People of this country have to face different type of natural disasters in different geographical areas as some areas fall on coastal belt.

Some areas are drought prone and some are flood prone. State governments launch different schemes and take flood control measures to counter such problems. Some programmes are also launched for drought prone areas. So far as earthquake is concerned I would like to say that advance warning cannot be given about it. We can only advise people about the technology to be used in construction of their houses to avoid the losses due to earthquake. Nothing more can be done in this regard.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Firstly, coping with such disasters requires human and functional commitments by the administration. Secondly there has to be competent and technically effective advance warning system. That is the responsibility of the Government. Thirdly, we must have permanent institutions and mechanisms to deal with disaster management. And, lastly, exactly as we have standard levels of administration and operational procedures to deal with war and conflict, India should also have a comprehensive blue or red book containing procedures and operational steps to deal with natural disasters.

Could the Minister be kind enough to throw light on this?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, so far as the issue of developing a mechanism raised by the hon'ble Member is concerned, I would like to say that such a mechanism exists. There is a National Crisis Management Committee at Central level which work under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary. Besides, there is a Crisis Management Group which works under the Chairmanship of the Central Relief Commissioner. Relief Operation is a State subject and these Crisis Management Groups work under the leadership of Chief Secretary. Relief Commissioners work under him. The District Magistrate or his office works as a focal point and coordinates all the activities at district level. As regards developing further mechanism, it may be stated that under the Chairmanship of former Agriculture Secretary, Shri J.C. Pant, a high power committee has been constituted to give suggestions in this regard as to what measures should be taken or what type of plan should be formulated to tackle such situations. Under different codes relief programmes are launched at different places in that situation. The Government has also issued guidelines about the measures to be taken in this regard. Apart from it, there is a central sector scheme for development of resources. Through this Scheme assistance is given to training Institutes of Public Administration which impart training to

their officials respond quickly in such a situations. Contingency plan is formulated at Centre, State and district level. They are always prepared to act according to the procedure of blue book reference to which was made by the hon. Member. A contingency plan is formulated to deal with the problems of flood prone and drought prone areas and all the possible assistance is given by the Government of India.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one issue. Whenever there are floods or any other disasters in Bihar, relief is not available. All these associations or Government organisations which are formed to appease the people or to take care of the people are not forthcoming to help. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Shri S.D.N.R. Wadiyar to put his Supplementary.

Madam, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: What is the use of all these plans, if the common man is not being aided at proper time?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, so far as the questions raised by the hon'ble lady Member regarding Bihar is concerned, she can solve this problem in the month of March.

[English]

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: The United Nations declared the current decade as "International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction" and with that grew up a Plan that by the year 2000 A.D. all countries should have a comprehensive national assessment of risk of natural hazards taking into account the developmental plans.

Secondly, mitigation plan at the national level or at the local level involving long-term prevention and preparedness and community awareness should be there.

Thirdly, ready access to international, global, regional, national and local warning systems and dissemination of warnings should be there.

The hon. Minister has submitted in his reply that the Government has a National Contingency Plan that has been notified to facilitate the launching of relief operations.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister : Does the National Contingency Plan confirm to the plan in conformity to the U.N. Disaster Reduction Plan?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, the United Nations has declared the current decade as "International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction" and India has contributed in it. India has its own experience in this matter. The initiatives taken by India have been appreciated internationally. If the hon'ble lady Member desires, I will send her a copy of the paper prepared and presented in the international Conference in this regard so that she could get information in this regard.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever the natural calamity occurs in any State, the State Government provides assistance as per their revenue manual. But this assistance varies from State to State. For example, if a person is killed in the natural calamity some States pay Rs. 25 thousand and some States pay Rs. 50 thousand as compensation to his dependents. If that calamity is declared as national calamity even one lakh rupees are paid as compensation. Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether he would consider fixing a uniform norm at national level in regard to payment of compensation in cases of people affected by natural calamity?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, providing relief is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Union Government provides assistance in this regard. Earlier there was a different procedure of providing assistance. Calamity Relief Fund was constituted after the Ninth Finance Commission. The Tenth Finance Commission improved it further and the National Calamity Relief Fund was constituted. To provide relief is the responsibility of the State Governments and they have relief codes according to which they work.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Hon. Speaker, Sir, may I know, through you, about one thing from the hon. Minister? After the recent flood and cyclone in West Bengal, how much money did the West Bengal Government want and how much has been despatched?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, detailed information about what was sought by the Government of West Bengal and how much was made available to the State Government will be furnished.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: You have not given even half the money... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, there are some natural calamities like water logging and floods about which we know in advance in my Parliamentary constituency Machhlishahar the problem of water logging has taken an alarming proportion and the attention of the Government has been drawn towards it time and again but no arrangements have been made in this regard so far. The farmers are on the verge of starvation. Will the Minister send a team to Machhlishahar and Badlapur Tehsil of Jaunpur district, and Patti Tehsil of Pratapganj district to assess the damage caused to the crops of the farmers? The houses of the farmers have been destroyed there due to water logging. What arrangement will be made in future for the farmers who are on the verge of starvation? What is the solution if such natural calamities strike and what assistance will be given to the affected people?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, if natural calamities occur somewhere there are ways and means to deal with them. There are guidelines in this regard which specifically indicate as to what should be done in any particular situation. Each State has contingency plan in this regard and they act accordingly. The Government of India provides assistance. The State Governments have their own Calamity Relief Fund. The Union Government contributes 75 percent to it and 25 percent is contributed by the State Government.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: I want to know whether the 75 percent funds which are contributed by the Union Government are being utilised or not? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon'ble Minister is replying.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: The hon'ble Member should understand that undertaking relief work is the State subject. The Centre provides assistance to undertake relief work.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Do you not ensure whether money contributed by the Union Government is being utilised properly or not?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: So far as the question of sending a team is concerned, in the event of a severe natural calamity in any State if the State Government wants additional assistance, it submits a memorandum to the Union Government. On receipt of their memorandum a Central team is constituted. On the basis of the memorandum if it is considered that there exists a rare severity or natural disaster, a committee is constituted which assesses the situation there. The situation is discussed on return of the said committee. Finally the Ministerial group recommends to the national committee.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: I asked whether the Government would send a central team to Pratapganj and Jaunpur or not?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You ask the State Government about it.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Sir, this is an important question. Whenever the natural calamities occur be it cyclone or drought or hailstorm, the Government's reaction will be there temporarily and then they forget. That is why there is a demand to have a National Institute of Disaster Management. I think at the time of Orissa cyclone, hon. Minister of Defence, Shri George Fernandes has also gone to the Press saying that the Government of India is thinking to have, to develop a National Institute of Disaster Management. But the answer of the hon. Minister says that a Central Sector Scheme on natural disaster management is there from 1993. Perhaps, he is mentioning about the Committee under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary. He also said that a High Powered Committee has been constituted in August, 1999. Perhaps, it is under the chairmanship of Shri J.C. Pant.

But these are not going to effect any permanent solution to these disasters.

It is only an *ad hoc* arrangement. Will the Prime Minister be kind enough to say that the National Institute of Disaster Management will be on permanent basis to study the contingency plan, the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission and all other things which are going to be evolved so that a permanent Institute may be there to look upon these disasters?

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have mentioned about Shri J.C. Pant who is the former Agriculture Secretary under whose chairmanship a high power committee has been constituted which will suggest

as to what plan can be formulated for all disaster management and what could be the mechanism in this regard. This Committee has been constituted in August, 1999 and it will submit its report within six months. The Government are waiting for the report of the said Committee and the Government will take proper decision thereon. That Committee is working on specific disasters like cyclone, earthquake, flood and drought for which a sub group has been constituted and it is studying these disasters in detail. Opinion of the experts is being sought on it and recommendations of the said committee are awaited. So far as central sector is concerned, it is mainly related with Human Resource Development. Administrators are trained in this field. National Centre for Disaster and Indian Institute of Public Administration have been set up here. Apart from this National Disaster Management Faculty has been set up and the said faculty has provided assistance to sixteen States which is considered cent percent assistance.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has very categorically mentioned in (a) to (c) that the geographical position and climate makes India vulnerable to natural disasters. Also, he has mentioned about relief in para 2, 3 and 4. So, the emphasis is only on relief. Now, they have constituted a High-Powered Committee. We had made a demand during the debate on cyclone in Orissa whether some of the States like West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar which are successively and chronically affected by weather-related natural calamities and disasters, will be given special status category—like the Himalayan States or the Scheduled seven States—as you are doing for Tribal Development Block because my State, West Bengal, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, for the last 35 years, have been subjected to natural calamities. I would like to know whether such chronically affected areas will get special attention and focus, and a programme, apart from what the Finance Commission or the Planning Commission has been doing.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever has been done so far has been done on the basis of recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission. A National Fund of only Rs. 700 crores was constituted by the Tenth Finance Commission but far more money has been released already.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: A loss of Rs. 50 thousand crores has been suffered there. What can be done with Rs. 5-7 thousand crores?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Please listen to my point fully. This is basically for relief. So far as Orissa is concerned which you have mentioned, a high powered task force under the chairmanship of Minister of Defence has been set up in this regard and that task force is doing its work. It has suggested to create the Orissa Cyclone Reconstruction High Power Authority. The Government are considering it and this is a mandate about the chronically affected areas in respect of which there is a need to do much more than this. The said task force will submit its report to the J.C. Pant Committee within six months and there will be a mention of all these things in that report and the Government would take appropriate decision thereon.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question is about tackling the natural calamities and is confined to that only. I would like to draw the attention of the Government that land sliding took place in my constituency in 1998 due to which more than hundred people died. Again more than hundred people died due to earthquake in 1999. You are talking about the situation in the aftermath of the earthquake or Natural Calamity the details of which are already there. But it would be better to take action prior to occurrence of these things which will minimise the loss and people will be aware of it in advance. There is a slight mention about mitigation of disaster in it. Will the Government formulate activity of the pre-disaster plan to minimise the natural calamities so that prior warning could be given to the people about landsliding and soil erosion? Had prior warning been given in Orissa properly the loss would have been less. Will the Government set up any committee on the lines of J.C. Pant Committee to formulate the pre-disaster plan so that people could get prior warning and the loss could be minimised?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the question of issuing prior warnings of sounding alert is concerned, in case of apprehension of cyclone alert is sounded 48 hours in advance and warning is issued 24 hours in advance. So far as Orissa is concerned, warning was given there well in advance. There has been a lot of discussion on this issue in the House also. This is not the question here...*(Interruptions)*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: You please tell about the soil conservation, it is not only the question of sounding warning.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: So far as the question of sub-group of J.C. Pant Committee is concerned, it is considering all the points raised in your question.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister...(*Interruptions*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to say...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, please understand that this is not a debate. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record, except Shri Bhuria's supplementary.

...(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, please take your seat, this is not a debate.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would like to say that like other parts of the country, Madhya Pradesh was also hit by devastating floods. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. What is this? Please take your seat. Please understand that I have not allowed you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: In Madhya Pradesh extensive damage has been caused to standing crop on about 61785 hectares of land, 27 people were killed, 654 cattle perished and 29168 houses were destroyed due to floods. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has demanded about Rs. 75.00 crores from the Union Government to deal with the problem of floods. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the demanded amount has been provided to Madhya Pradesh Government? If not, what are the reasons therefor?

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, similarly, the State is in the grip of severe drought. The State Government have demanded Rs. 351.61 crores from the Union Government

to deal with the drought problem. But not a single penny has been provided to the Madhya Pradesh Government. The hon'ble Prime Minister is sitting here and he hails from Madhya Pradesh but he has contested and won the election for the Lok Sabha from Uttar Pradesh but he should not forget Madhya Pradesh. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the said amount has been provided to Madhya Pradesh?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, there had been a detailed discussion in this House regarding the National Fund for Calamity Relief which was constituted on the basis of the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission. It is not as if relief is provided only on demand by any State Government. National Relief Committee is the sub-committee of the N.D.C. When a memorandum from any State Government is received and if the calamity in the State is considered of rare severity a central team is sent to the concerned State to assess the situation there and on return of the said team the meeting of the inter-ministerial group takes place.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Hon'ble Minister Sir, please tell as to how much funds have been made available to the State Government so far. I want to know only this but he is not saying anything about this. By giving a vague reply he is deliberately discriminating against the State Government of Madhya Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*) No amount has been made available to Madhya Pradesh so far. Large number of people are dying there.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria, what is this? This is not a debate, please take your seat. What is this? This Minister is giving the reply.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: This is not the procedure. The hon. Member wanted to know as to how much money has been given to Madhya Pradesh in relation to their demand, and that is all.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: How much amount have you released?

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you speaking so loudly?

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Rajesh Pilot has risen without having waited for me to complete my submission kindly listen to me first...(*Interruptions*)

* Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: You have sat throughout the debate. The issue is not that a demand is made by the Government and it is fulfilled by the Central Government. If you...(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to enquire about the funds allocated out of the demand made...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: If you do not want to listen to me, I won't reply. I am going to sit down...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nitish Kumar, I appeal to you to address the Chair.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an amount of Rs. 102 crore was released for Madhya Pradesh in 1997-98 under National Fund for Calamity Relief...(Interruptions)

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have enquired about the year 1998-99. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: No funds have been released during 1998-99. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 345. Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba Mandlik—Not present.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 346. Shri Rattan Lal Kataria.

...(Interruptions)

Promotion of Export in Agricultural Sector

*346. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to make agriculture export oriented, to bring in diversification and make more capital investment in the agriculture sector; and

(b) the percentage of agricultural contribution in the total exports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The Government is promoting agricultural production to meet domestic demand as also to generate surpluses for exports. For export oriented agriculture, the Government is implementing programmes for production and supply of quality seeds/improved planting material and crop management and is also providing support for post-harvest management and marketing.

(b) The percentage of agricultural contribution in the total exports of the country was around 15 per cent during the year 1998-99. This does not include value of exports of plantation crops namely: tea, coffee & rubber.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. This is too much.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would request Hon'ble Member to tell me about the Memorandum which he is referring to. He should clearly tell me as to whether it is about flood or drought. I shall be able to give a reply only when he gives me the complete information...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria, he is now replying to another question. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that this is Question Hour. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria, this is too much.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: It was an unrelated question. It was not related to any particular State, still I have given the reply. If a proper question is asked. I shall certainly reply to it...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister is not replying to the question and is making a speech instead. The District Magistrate of Gorakhpur did not extend any relief to the farmers. Instead of extending relief to the people affected by floods, the farmers were beaten up and held under N.S.A. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Shri Mulayam Singh ji, you rise all of a sudden. You should have listened to me first. You have been a Chief Minister. It does not look nice to point out such things to you...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: You are not empowered to stop us from speaking...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are not empowered to stop us from speaking...(Interruptions) Only the Chair can direct us...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Singh Yadav, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Devendra Singh Yadav, Shri Tufani Saroj and some other hon. Members came near the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir they have been provided to create disturbance...(Interruptions) Such behaviour is improper...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Singh Yadav, please go to your seat. This is too much.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Singh Yadav, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Question hour is over.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Singh Yadav, please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Eradication of Child Labour

*342. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI SHIVAJI VITHAL RAO KAMBLE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects/schemes being implemented in the country for the complete eradication of child labour;

(b) whether the Government have ever reviewed the success of these projects/schemes;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the funds provided by the Union Government to State Governments for these projects/schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(e) the State-wise achievements made during the above period;

(f) the funds provided under the International Programme for Eradication of Child Labour to each State and the actual funds utilised by these States during each of the last three years;

(g) whether the Government propose to start new projects with a view to eradicate child labour system; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (h) Government of India has been implementing two schemes, namely the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and the Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations. The major activity under the scheme of NCLPs is running of special schools/centres for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work through non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, health care, stipend etc. Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid, voluntary organisations take up action-oriented projects for the benefit of working children.

The NCLPs have been evaluated by five Institutes of Social Science Research in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan and by inter-ministerial teams comprising of the representatives of Ministries of Labour, Finance, Deptt. of Women & Child Development and Planning Commission. The reports received show, *inter alia*, that the magnitude of the child labour problem can be considerably reduced through effective implementation of rehabilitation measures undertaken by the projects and that there is a need to continue special schools. The performance of NCLPs is being continuously monitored through periodic reports of project activities and reviews undertaken at the centre, State and district level. A Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Labour Secretary has been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the NCLPs. Grant-in-Aid projects are monitored through periodic reports, field visits and inspections undertaken by the Central Government, State Governments and District Administrations. All State Governments have been addressed regarding comprehensive evaluation of projects which is an ongoing and continuous process.

Under the scheme of NCLPs, funds are not released to State Governments but directly to the Child Labour Project Societies constituted at the District level under the Chairpersonship of the District Collector. Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid, funds are not released to State Governments but directly to the concerned voluntary organisations.

Funds released under both the above schemes for the last 3 years are as follows:

| Year | NCLP | Grant-in-Aid (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 1996-97 | 3303.20 | 62.55 |
| 1997-98 | 1268.34 | 38.01 |
| 1998-99 | 2642.70 | 93.07 |

Under the scheme of NCLPs, 85 child labour projects are under implementation in 10 child labour endemic States for coverage of 1.8 lakh children. Under the Grant-in-Aid scheme, 83 voluntary organisations are implementing projects.

The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) is a global programmes launched by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in December, 1991. India was the first country to join IPEC in 1992 when it signed a MOU with ILO. Under the programme, funds are not allocated State-wise but are provided directly by the ILO to implementing partners such as Central Employers' and Trade Union Organisations and NGOs after approval of the action programme by the IPEC National Steering Committee. Budget allocation and commitment made under IPEC in India during 1992-99 is US\$ 6.9 million (Rs. 29 crores approximately). Under the prevailing system, once an amount is committed for a project, the funds do not lapse at the end of the financial year but get carried over to the subsequent years and are utilised for the purpose for which the commitment is made. IPEC action programmes have been implemented by NGOs, Trade Unions, Employers' Organisations, Government and Semi-Government Institutions. During the period 1992-99, a total of 154 action programmes have been taken up for coverage of 90,500 children.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CEA) in its meeting held on 20.1.99, approved continuance of the scheme of National Child Labour Projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan and expansion of projects from 76 to 100. New projects are being sanctioned on the basis of need after receipt of proposals from the State Governments.

Subsidies to Farmers

*345. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the subsidies granted to the farmers directly or indirectly;

(b) the subsidies out of them granted to small and marginal farmers as well as to relatively poor sections of farmers;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain that the benefit of subsidies reach the targetted farmers; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) The major agricultural subsidies given

to the farmers are in terms of subsidised prices of fertilizers, lower charges for irrigation and power and subsidies given on seeds, farm machinery etc. A statement giving details of the subsidies given to agriculture sector under these various headings, since 1993-94 as compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation is enclosed. Information about the percentage of subsidies out of total subsidies for agriculture sector which is going to small and marginal farmers, is not maintained. The Government have not sponsored any studies to ascertain whether the benefits of the subsidies are reaching the targetted farmers. However, the Central Government is implementing several schemes targetting specially small and marginal farmers and certain subsidies/incentives are inbuilt into these schemes. As per the information received from the Central Statistical Organisation, subsidies amounting to Rs. 905 crores were given to small and marginal farmers in 1996-97 for components like seeds, agro-mechanisation etc.

Statement*Details of Subsidies to Agriculture Sector*

(Rs. in Crore)

| Item | 1993-94 (Actual) | 1994-95 (Actual) | 1995-96 (Actual) | 1996-97 (Actual) | 1997-98 (Actual) | 1998-99 (Revised) | 1999-2000 (Budgeted) |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Subsidy to Agriculture Sector through Inputs | | | | | | | |
| 1. Fertiliser | 4562 | 5769 | 6735 | 7578 | 9918 | 11388 | 13250 |
| 2. Electricity* | 2400 | 2338 | 1828 | 8310 | NA | NA | NA |
| 3. Irrigation [⊙] | 5872 | 6769 | 7909 | 9256 | 9778+ | NA | NA |
| 4. Other Subsidies given to Small & Marginal Farmers** | 1169 | 1176 | 985 | 905 | NA | NA | NA |

Sources: 1. Fertilisers: Expenditure Budget 1999-2000. Vol. I of Central Government.

2. to 4. Electricity and irrigation & other subsidies: Central Statistical Organisation.

Note:— * Electricity includes all subsidies to Electricity Boards and Corporations. Separate estimates of electricity subsidy accountable exclusively to agricultural sector is not available.

⊙ The rates for supply of water to farmers are kept low as a matter of policy resulting in losses to Govt. Irrigation system. The excess of operating costs over the gross revenue is treated as imputed irrigation subsidy.

+ Quick estimates.

NA : Not Available.

** Include subsidies on items like seeds, agricultural machinery & equipment etc.

Bilateral Initiatives between India and Japan

*347. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL:

Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had discussed the issue of ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose kept in Japan during his visit to Japan in November, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Japan have agreed on various bilateral initiatives including security dialogue, Japanese investment in India, lifting of the economic sanctions against India and the signing of C.T.B.T. etc. during his visit;

(d) if so, the details of the discussions and the outcome thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) I visited Japan from November 23–26, 1999. I met Prime Minister Obuchi, Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Minister for Internal Trade & Industry T. Fukaya, and Director General of Self Defence Agency T. Kawara. I also met Japanese Parliamentarians, academicians, Indologists, members of the press and others. During these meetings, we discussed various aspects of bilateral relations, regional issues and international issues of mutual interest.

The issue of the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose did not figure in any of my official meetings.

During discussions, both sides agreed that India-Japan relations should be normalised and developed in the interests of peace and stability in Asia and the world. We also agreed that dialogue at various levels should continue in order to enhance awareness and understanding of each other's views and concerns.

The two sides have agreed, in principle, to a security dialogue. The details in this regard are to be worked out through diplomatic channels.

In regard to economic cooperation and investment, the Japanese side indicated that, in follow-up of the Investment Dialogue which took place in New Delhi in August 1999, a MITI - sponsored economic mission would

visit India early next year. The India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee (IJBC) is also scheduled to meet in New Delhi in February 2000.

On the nuclear issue, I stated India's position. The Japanese side expressed the hope that India would sign the CTBT at an early date. The Japanese side reiterated their position that India's signing of the CTBT would enable them to review the economic sanctions imposed by them.

I reiterated the invitation to Prime Minister Obuchi and Foreign Minister Kono to visit India at their early convenience. We agreed that the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations, in AD 2002, should be commemorated in a befitting manner. During my meeting with Foreign Minister Kono I conveyed, on behalf of Government of India, an invitation to their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan to visit India in AD 2002. We agreed also to coordinate and cooperate in international fora including in regard to reform of the UN system and restructuring of the UN Security Council.

ESI Hospitals

*348. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ESI hospitals at present in each State/Union Territory;

(b) the criteria followed for selection of site for establishment of ESI hospital;

(c) whether there are complaints about the unsatisfactory services rendered by ESI hospitals;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(e) whether the Government propose to establish more of these hospitals; and

(f) if so, the locations identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (f) As per the prescribed norms, the ESI Corporation generally constructs four hospital beds per one thousand insured persons (IPs). Number of insured persons at a particular centre, existing medical facilities, possible industrial growth in the area, recommendations

of the State Government etc. are kept in view before sanctioning a new ESI hospital. For the sake of viability, the Corporation generally constructs minimum 50 bedded hospital at Centres having 12,500 IPs. Details of ESI hospitals at present Statewise are given in enclosed Statement. The ESI Corporation has started/completed construction of new ESI hospitals at Chandigarh, Mandi Gobindgarh (Punjab), Rourkela (Orissa), Jammu (J&K), Rohini (Delh), Ankleshwar (Gujarat), Nizamabad (Andhra Pradesh), Kolhapur, Chinchwad and Bibewad (Maharashtra), Bhilwara and Pali (Rajasthan) and Durgapur (West Bengal). The Corporation has also agreed, in principle, to construct new hospitals at Bahadurgarh and Gurgaon (Haryana), Jabalpur (MP), Udaipur, Alwar & Bhiwadi (Rajasthan), Ludhiana (Punjab), Ranipet (Tamil Nadu) and Garshyam Nagar (West Bengal).

2. Under the ESI Act, 1948, the responsibility for administration of medical care vests in the State Governments/UT Administrations except in Delhi and NOIDA where it is being administered by the ESIC directly. There have been sporadic complaints about lack of medical and para-medical staff, shortage of drugs/dressings, lack of equipments etc. in ESI hospitals/dispensaries. Such complaints, as and when received, are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for taking appropriate remedial measures. In order to improve medical care facilities in ESI hospitals/dispensaries, the ESI Corporation has recently formulated an Action Plan and forwarded the same to the State Governments for implementation in consultation with ESI Corporation. The Action Plan includes *inter-alia* provision of modern equipments in hospitals, establishment of Regional trauma centres, establishment of super-speciality services, blood banks, cancer prevention centres, development of indigenous system of medicine, provision of necessary equipments in dispensaries etc. In order to improve resource position of the State Governments, the Corporation has also increased the ceiling on expenditure on medical care from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 600/- per I.P. per annum w.e.f. 1.4.1999.

Statement

Number of ESI Hospitals in the country, State-wise

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/ Union Territories | No. of Hospitals |
|---------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 10 |
| 2. | Assam | 1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------|------------------|------------|
| 3. | Bihar | 6 |
| 4. | Delhi | 3 |
| 5. | Goa | 1 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 11 |
| 7. | Haryana | 5 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 9 |
| 10. | Kerala | 13 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 7 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 13 |
| 13. | Orissa | 5 |
| 14. | Pondicherry | 1 |
| 15. | Punjab | 7 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 3 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 9 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 16 |
| 19. | West Bengal | 13 |
| Total | | 134 |

Migration of Farmers

*349. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to non-remunerative pricing policy of the Government for farm products, the farmers in various States are migrating from villages to towns and cities in search of jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to find out a permanent solution for the problems faced by the rural youths and farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities fixed by the Government are remunerative. These cover not only the cost of production but also provide a reasonable margin of profit as an incentive to the farmers to invest and improve production and productivity.

However, migration takes place from rural to urban areas due to various reasons. As per the 49th round (January to June 1993) of the National Sample Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), the main reasons for movements of households are to take up employment, search of better employment and expectations of better wages and living conditions, shifting of the workers by the contractors from one place of work to another place of work, education, etc.

The problem of migration is sought to be tackled through a multi-dimensional course of action viz., improvement of infrastructural facilities, diversification to non-farm activities, skill improvement programmes, financial assistance to promote self-employment, optimising the use of land resources etc., through a variety of rural development, employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes.

Conference on Space Application

*350. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Ministerial Conference on Space Application for Substantive Development in Asia and Pacific organised by United Nations Economic and Social Commission was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made at the Conference;

(c) the member countries who participated in this Conference;

(d) the main decisions arrived at in regard to space application in critical areas like food, security, illiteracy and disease management; and

(e) the manner in which it is likely to benefit the country in the development of space and allied matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir. India hosted the Second Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission (UN-ESCAP) for Asia and the Pacific on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific during November 15-20, 1999 at New Delhi.

(b) and (d) The conference deliberated on the achievements of the countries of the Asia Pacific region in utilising space technology for national development and identified strategy and action plan towards enhanced use of space technology in various fields. The Conference drafted the Delhi Declaration launching the second phase of the Regional Space applications Programme of ESCAP for action oriented result driven programme for optimising human and financial resources in the region through cooperation in the areas of environmental and natural resource management, food, security, capacity building, human resource development and education, poverty alleviation, weather forecasting, natural disaster management, health care and hygiene and sustainable development towards improving the quality of life.

(c) Representatives from 25 countries and 11 UN and other organisations participated in the Conference.

(e) The Conference provided a good opportunity to highlight India's role as a leading space player in the Asia Pacific region. Several countries have expressed interest for expanded cooperation with India in the area of Space technology and applications. This is also expected to result in a greater role for India in the commercial sector.

Protest Lodged Against the Charter of OSCE

*351. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has lodged its protest against the charter adopted by the 54 member Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe;

(b) whether adoption of this Charter makes it possible for certain groups of nations to intervene in other regions in the name of security;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the likely impact of the adoption of the policy of intervention on the sovereignty of the nations; and

(e) the reaction of the Government on this matter and the steps taken to ensure the protection of sovereignty of nations against intervention by outside countries?

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

(b) to (e) No, Sir. The Charter adopted by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, concerns only the OSCE countries in Europe and the areas explicitly mentioned in its documents. The OSCE's areas of interests and operations are confined to Europe and do not include India or even South Asia. The OSCE's Charter does not allow intervention by this organisation in other regions and therefore, does not pose a threat to the sovereignty of nations. It has, therefore, not been found necessary for the Government to react in this regard.

Mutilated Bodies Sent by Pakistan during Kargil War

*352. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Government has taken up the issue of six Indian soldiers with Pakistan who were tortured to death on being captured and subsequent mutilation of their bodies by the Pakistan soldiers during the Kargil conflict in June, 1999 on resumption of bilateral talks with Pakistan;

(b) the response of Pakistan thereto;

(c) if so, whether Indian Government has also raised this issue at any appropriate international organisations dealing with Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law for taking up this matter with Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) An Air Force Officer and 6 Army personnel, who were taken prisoner by Pakistan during its armed intrusion and aggression in the Kargil Sector of Jammu & Kashmir were tortured, subjected to inhuman treatment, and killed in captivity. Government conveyed the anguish and deep anger of the people of India to the Foreign Minister of Pakistan during his visit to Delhi on June 12, 1999. Government also underlined that these acts constituted a gross violation of the Geneva Convention, and demanded of Pakistan that the guilty be identified and punished.

The attention of the international community was drawn to these brutal acts of Pakistan, including through our statement to the UN General Assembly in New York on September 22, 1999. Government will continue to take up the matter in appropriate international forums.

[Translation]

Drought Conditions in M.P. and Other States

*353. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of State Governments including the Government of Madhya Pradesh have presented memoranda to the Union Government in regard to the prevailing severe drought situation therein;

(b) if so, the seriousness of the situation and the financial assistance sought by the State Governments;

(c) whether the Union Government have sanctioned the amount for the State to deal with the prevailing drought situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) According to information received from the State Governments, some parts of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Tripura have been affected by drought conditions in varying degrees. Memoranda seeking financial assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for relief measures in the wake of drought conditions have

been received from these States. The funds sought are as follows:—

| (Rs. in crore) | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| S.No. | State | Funds Sought |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 720.36 |
| 2. | Gujarat | 425.86 |
| 3. | Himachal Pradesh | 51.18 |
| 4. | Jammu & Kashmir | 214.47 |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 361.61 |
| 6. | Manipur | 26.93 |
| 7. | Mizoram | 23.02 |
| 8. | Rajasthan | 1144.40 |
| 9. | Tripura | 108.95 |

2. After considering the memoranda, it has been decided to release Rs. 75.36 crore to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 73.42 crore to Jammu & Kashmir, Rs. 4.93 crore to Manipur and Rs. 5.34 crore to Tripura from the NFCR. The requests of the remaining States are under consideration in accordance with the established procedure.

Funds in Aid of Super Cyclone Victims

*354. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) details of the funds and relief material received by the Union Government from various Government Offices, Public Sector Undertakings and other Private Organisations in the aid of super cyclone that had hit Orissa recently, Organisation-wise;

(b) whether the funds so collected have been released to Government of Orissa;

(c) if so, when and the project earmarked to be financed by the above funds; and

(d) whether the Government have also drawn any foolproof strategy to ensure that the funds so collected on this count to reach the affected people?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Government of India have not made any collections in cash or kind for relief measures in the wake of the Super cyclone of Orissa.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

India's Nuclear Programme

*355. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will be capping its nuclear programme if it signs and ratifies the C.T.B.T.;

(b) if so, what will happen to India's strategy to have minimum nuclear deterrent;

(c) whether the nuclear powers have appreciated India's policy of minimum nuclear deterrent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, options available to India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No Sir. The CTBT seeks only to ban nuclear explosive testing.

(b) The tests conducted by India in May 1998 have given us the basic capability for maintaining a minimum nuclear deterrent.

(c) and (d) Following our nuclear tests, India has been engaged in bilateral discussions with key interlocutors on a range of issues relating to security, disarmament and non-proliferation. India's security concerns and our requirement for a minimum nuclear deterrent has been explained during these discussions. These talks have led to a better appreciation of India's position on this matter.

National Child Labour Projects

*356. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered setting up of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) in the super cyclone affected areas of Orissa, alongwith hostel facilities as a special case for the affected children, who may otherwise end up as child labour;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) Schemes, 16 Child Labour projects have been set up in Orissa for rehabilitation of 31,456 working children through 511 special schools/centres. Government has received projects proposals from the Government of Orissa for setting up National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) in 10 super cyclone affected districts namely, Puri, Khurda, Cuttack, Kendrapada, Jagatsingpur, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Balasore, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj. Action has already been initiated on the proposals. NCLP for district Cuttack has already been sanctioned.

Insurance Scheme for Aquaculture Farmers

*357. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to insure aquaculture farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether aquaculture farmers are also likely to be covered under the Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Scheme on Insurance of Fish in Pond (Freshwater) which is under operation since 1978 is applicable to Fry/Fingerlings/Fish in stock ponds and Breeders and covers only total loss due to an accident or disease contracted or occurring during the period of insurance. The rates of premium are:

| Type | Basic premium | Optional cover (floods & allied risks) by charging additional premium |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| A. For Bank financed and other projects | 2.4% gross on peak value | 1-2% gross on peak value |
| B. For Schemes through Fish Farmers Development Agencies/ Integrated Rural Development Programme and other similar subsidized projects | 3.0% net on average value | 1.7% net on average value |

A Brackishwater Prawn Insurance Scheme was introduced in 1991-92. A new Aquaculture Insurance Scheme for shrimp/prawn has been formulated with effect from 1.1.1999. The Scheme will be applicable to duly licensed farms, or farms in accordance with the Government's Notification. It covers only total loss or destruction of shrimp/prawn as defined in the Scheme and the cover will be offered only to grow-out ponds. The premium rates charged are as under:

(1) *Basic Cover:*

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (i) for highly cyclone prone zones (Eastern Coast) | 3% gross |
| (ii) others | 2% gross |

(2) *Comprehensive Cover* 4% in addition to premium fixed for basic cover.

(c) and (d) Insurance of aquaculture farms is not covered under the Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana.

Calamity Relief Fund

*358. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the operational guidelines and funding details of Calamity Relief Fund and National Fund for Calamity Relief;

(b) their allocation and tenure; and

(c) the assistance sought from both the funds and the amount released to each State during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted, on the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission, to enable the State Governments to undertake relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities. Statement I indicating the State-wise annual allocation of CRF for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000 is enclosed. The annual allocation of CRF is contributed by the Central and State Government concerned in the ratio of 3:1. The contribution Government of India is automatically released to the State Governments in four equal quarterly instalments. The quarterly instalments are also released in advance if and when need arises. A State level Committee headed by

the Chief Secretary is competent to incur expenditure necessary for the relief and rehabilitation measures, on the basis of norms approved by an Expert Committee constituted by Government of India.

The National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) has been constituted with an original corpus of Rs. 700.00 crore to provide additional assistance to State Governments in the event of calamities of rare severity. The NFCR is managed by a National Calamity Relief Committee, which is a sub-Committee of the National Development Council headed by Agriculture Minister and consisting of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, two Union Ministers and five Chief Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister annually by rotation as members. Statement II indicating the assistance sought by various State Governments and funds released from NFCR during the last three years and current year is enclosed.

Statement I

Calamity Relief Fund for 1995-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

| State | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | Total 1995-2000 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 11721 | 12419 | 13105 | 13773 | 14359 | 65377 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 664 | 704 | 743 | 781 | 813 | 3705 |
| 3. Assam | 4720 | 5001 | 5277 | 5547 | 5783 | 26328 |
| 4. Bihar | 4904 | 5196 | 5483 | 5763 | 6007 | 27353 |
| 5. Goa | 101 | 107 | 113 | 119 | 124 | 564 |
| 6. Gujarat | 13176 | 13960 | 14731 | 15483 | 16140 | 73490 |
| 7. Haryana | 2365 | 2505 | 2644 | 2779 | 2897 | 13190 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 2544 | 2695 | 2844 | 2989 | 3116 | 14188 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | | 1860 | 1971 | 2079 | 2184 | 2279 | 10374 |
| 10. Karnataka | | 3949 | 4185 | 4416 | 4641 | 4839 | 22030 |
| 11. Kerala | | 5229 | 5540 | 5847 | 6144 | 6405 | 29165 |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | | 4821 | 5108 | 5389 | 5665 | 5905 | 26888 |
| 13. Maharashtra | | 6437 | 6820 | 7197 | 7564 | 7885 | 35903 |
| 14. Manipur | | 235 | 248 | 261 | 275 | 287 | 1306 |
| 15. Meghalaya | | 263 | 279 | 295 | 309 | 323 | 1469 |
| 16. Mizoram | | 120 | 127 | 133 | 140 | 147 | 667 |
| 17. Nagaland | | 160 | 171 | 180 | 188 | 196 | 895 |
| 18. Orissa | | 4625 | 4901 | 5172 | 5436 | 5667 | 25801 |
| 19. Punjab | | 5111 | 5415 | 5715 | 6005 | 6261 | 28507 |
| 20. Rajasthan | | 16899 | 17904 | 18893 | 19856 | 20700 | 94252 |
| 21. Sikkim | | 444 | 471 | 497 | 523 | 544 | 2479 |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | | 5602 | 5935 | 6263 | 6583 | 6863 | 31245 |
| 23. Tripura | | 424 | 449 | 475 | 499 | 520 | 2367 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | | 11809 | 12512 | 13203 | 13876 | 14467 | 65867 |
| 25. West Bengal | | 4844 | 5132 | 5416 | 5692 | 5933 | 27017 |
| Total | | 113026 | 119755 | 126371 | 132815 | 138460 | 630427 |

Statement II**Statement of Funds Sought and Released from the NFCR to State Governments**

(Rs. in crore)

| S.No. | State | Funds Sought from NFCR | | | | Funds Released from NFCR | | | |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000** | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2819.37 | 1159.28 | 600.00 | 760.36 | 142.00 | 42.00 | 26.50 | |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 110.53 | 105.15 | 200.23 | | 3.00 | NIL | 13.47 | |
| 3. | Assam | 415.91 | | 1001.98 | | 21.00 | | 59.90 | |
| 4. | Bihar | 251.32 | 428.82 | 1003.75 | 534.03 | 7.00 | 10.00 | 11.45 | |
| 5. | Gujarat | 282.01 | 664.33 | 810.65 | 520.93 | NIL | 86.90 | 55.36 | |
| 6. | Haryana | 102.00 | | 757.29 | | NIL | | 13.27 | |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 458.37 | 609.78 | 266.06 | 259.42 | 10.56 | 24.80 | NIL | |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 273.97 | | | 214.47 | NIL | | | |
| 9. | Karnataka | 621.55 | 723.00 | 1352.13 | | NIL | 32.20 | 39.78 | |
| 10. | Kerala | 342.00 | 1106.26 | 1499.63 | | NIL | 12.91 | NIL | |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 256.19 | 2759.11 | 251.34 | 556.88 | NIL | 102.76 | NIL | |
| 12. | Maharashtra | | 156.76 | 152.26 | | | NIL | NIL | |
| 13. | Manipur | | 59.13 | | 26.93 | | NIL | | |
| 14. | Mizoram | | | | 23.02 | | | | |
| 15. | Orissa | 570.70 | 151.50 | 445.59 | 7145.79 | 54.00 | NIL | NIL | *500.00 |
| 16. | Punjab | | 347.72 | 1140.60 | | | NIL | NIL | |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 321.00 | 51.18 | 959.62 | 1144.40 | NIL | NIL | 21.98 | |
| 18. | Sikkim | 43.92 | 107.39 | 141.41 | | 5.52 | 7.00 | 7.67 | |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 621.55 | | | | 25.00 | | | |
| 20. | Tripura | | | 30.11 | 158.80 | | | 5.05 | |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 589.00 | 566.07 | 2254.30 | 339.55 | NIL | NIL | 131.15 | |
| 22. | West Bengal | 309.00 | 177.00 | 804.43 | 894.19 | NIL | NIL | 66.33 | |

* Ad-hoc assistance.

** The Memoranda for additional assistance under consideration.

US Ship in Bay of Bengal

*359. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken a serious view about the reported expedition by U.S. Scientists to the Bay of Bengal to study the development of monsoon without any intimation to the Indian Government;

(b) if so, whether any protest has been lodged with the U.S. Government on this issue;

(c) if so, the response of the U.S. Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Government are aware that an Oceanographic and Meteorological Research Vessel of the United States of America gathered ocean and atmospheric data in the Indian Ocean Region, including the Bay of Bengal. The vessel operated off the West Coast of India from 4th March 1999 to 23rd March 1999, and thereafter, moved from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal for carrying out similar observations. Throughout this period, the Vessel stayed outside the Exclusive Economic Zone *i.e.*, beyond 2000 Nautical miles from the Indian coast-line; no prior clearance was therefore required.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Funds for I.T. Projects

*360. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from State Government for setting up Information Technology projects;

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

(c) the financial assistance sought by each State; and

(d) the reaction of Union Government thereto and the time by which the funds are likely to be released particularly to the State of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Ministry of Information Technology supports a variety of projects and programmes in Information Technology being implemented by different agencies in the States. The details in this regard including that of Kerala are given in the Statement enclosed. No specific allocation of funds for projects in the Information Technology sector is made Statewise. However, funds are made available to the States where specific projects are taken up for implementation.

Statement**Details regarding Projects/Programmes supported by the Ministry of Information Technology**

1. Distribution Automation System for Electric Utilities, Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), Kerala.
2. Solar-cum-electrical Drier for Copra (Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, Kerala).
3. Distribution Automation System for Electric Utilities, Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board (APSEB)—Andhra Pradesh.
4. Andhra Pradesh Irrigation Information System (Department of Irrigation, Government of Andhra Pradesh).
5. Development and Deployment of Multipurpose, Multilingual, Multimedia, Scalable Information Warehouse based on PARAM Open frame Architecture for State Level Governance of Andhra Pradesh.
6. Community Information Network for Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. VOICE (Vijayawada Online Information Centre), Andhra Pradesh.
7. Development of E-Commerce Technologies, Andhra Pradesh.
8. Development of Tourism Information System for Andhra Pradesh, Travel and Tourism Development Corporation, Andhra Pradesh.
9. Automation of Okhla Waste Water Treatment Plant (Delhi Jal Board).
10. Automation of Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant (Delhi Jal Board).

11. Development of Automation of Rubber Roller Sheller for Rice Mills, Central Food Technology Research Institute, Mysore, Kamataka.
12. Canal Control & Communication Phase-II (Irrigation Deptt., Government of Maharashtra).
13. Development of agri instrumentation systems like soil moisture indication system, Fertilizer testing kit, Crop technology multimedia software etc., Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishva Vidyalyaya (JNKVV) Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
14. Development of microprocessor based weaving machine for handloom industry, Behrampur University, Behrampur, Orissa.
15. Development of electronic monitoring and control system for mushroom cultivation, Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani, Rajasthan.
16. Intelligent System for Automated Virtual Terrain Mapping [Centre for Computer & Communication Technology (CCCT), Govt. of Sikkim].
17. Development of Electronic Governance* for Citizen Facilitation using IT (Sikkim Connect)/ Centre for Computer & Communication Technology, Gangtok, Sikkim.
18. Gender Unit Project, Instt. of Management, Development, Uttar Pradesh.
19. Distribution Automation System for electric utilities (West Bengal State Electricity Board), West Bengal.
20. IT Application for Teesta Mahananda Link Canal and Project Management (Govt. of West Bengal).
21. Establishment of nationwide high speed ATM test-bed.

[Translation]

Sheep and Goat Rearing

3404. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the important role played by the sheep and goat rearing in providing employment and generating income for the economically backward rural people;

(b) if so, the details of the policy prepared for the development of this sector;

(c) the amount released during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the targets fixed in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The policy being implemented aims at genetic upgradation of stock, improvement of infrastructure facilities, imparting of training and providing financial assistance for purchase of livestock. For genetic upgradation, high quality Rams are produced in the Central Sheep Breeding Farm at Hissar, which also provides training to farmers. An annual target of 750 Rams is fixed for the Farm, which has been almost achieved.

A centrally sponsored scheme for assistance to States on a 50:50 basis called the National Ram/Buck Production Programme is being implemented since the 8th Plan.

In addition, the Central Wool Development Board also has two major schemes being implemented, viz. Integrated Sheep & Wool Development Programme and Machine Shearing-cum-Training Programme. The target is for covering 25 lakhs Sheep during 9th Plan in sheep rearing, wool development, health coverage, breed improvement and marketing assistance. More than 20 lakh sheep have been covered by the Board during first 2 years of 9th Plan. In sheep shearing-cum-training, the target was to import and distribute 80 wool shearing machines, which has been achieved.

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, and the Central Wool Development Board have released a sum of Rs. 324.07 lakhs and Rs. 489.70 lakhs respectively to the State Governments and concerned organizations during the first two years of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) Does not arise.

Autonomous Bodies

3405. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of autonomous bodies in the country;

(b) whether the educational qualifications prescribed for departmental examination for the posts of junior and senior clerks in these autonomous bodies are quite different from each other; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to

(c) The information is not centrally maintained.

[*English*]

Ban on Import of Duty Free Steel

3406. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has demanded an immediate ban on import of duty free steel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Financial Service Scheme

3407. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Financial Service Scheme formulated for the small scale industries is functioning in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the financial assistance/services provided in each State particularly in Bihar during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Small Industries Development Bank of India's (SIDBI) financial services schemes are functioning in the whole country.

(b) Financial Assistance is provided for:—

(i) setting up of new projects;

(ii) expansion, diversification, modernisation, technology upgradation, quality improvement, rehabilitation of existing units;

(iii) strengthening of marketing capabilities of SSI units.

(c) The State-wise assistance sanctioned and disbursed by SIDBI in the country including Bihar during the last three years is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise Assistance Sanctioned & Disbursed by SIDBI during the last three years

(Rs. in crores)

| | Assistance Under all Schemes | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | 1996-97 | | 1997-98 | | 1998-99 | |
| | Sanctioned | Disbursed | Sanctioned | Disbursed | Sanctioned | Disbursed |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Eastern Region | | | | | | |
| Bihar | 92.93 | 78.38 | 105.69 | 97.69 | 95.86 | 78.72 |
| Orissa | 100.29 | 67.08 | 159.78 | 124.06 | 169.47 | 116.54 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Sikkim | 2.57 | 2.55 | 2.04 | 2.01 | 6.58 | 6.14 |
| West Bengal | 196.47 | 165.29 | 309.22 | 219.09 | 314.58 | 208.66 |
| A&N Islands | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| Total: | 392.26 | 313.30 | 576.73 | 442.85 | 586.57 | 410.14 |
| North Eastern Region | | | | | | |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 0.83 | 0.91 | 1.48 | 1.67 | 1.49 | 1.47 |
| Assam | 10.10 | 6.86 | 17.34 | 10.06 | 8.19 | 9.65 |
| Manipur | 2.12 | 2.09 | 2.53 | 2.42 | 3.69 | 0.68 |
| Meghalaya | 8.64 | 4.36 | 5.00 | 6.56 | 5.07 | 2.94 |
| Mizoram | 0.94 | 0.93 | 0.70 | 0.70 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| Nagaland | 1.42 | 1.24 | 1.54 | 1.52 | 1.46 | 1.42 |
| Tripura | 4.82 | 4.78 | 4.07 | 3.83 | 3.99 | 3.80 |
| Total: | 28.87 | 21.17 | 32.66 | 26.76 | 24.87 | 20.94 |
| Northern Region | | | | | | |
| Haryana | 452.88 | 302.89 | 472.05 | 288.39 | 378.09 | 324.70 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 36.10 | 29.55 | 54.48 | 34.05 | 40.74 | 40.74 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 10.88 | 9.92 | 16.83 | 12.90 | 20.20 | 16.64 |
| Punjab | 190.08 | 129.95 | 218.84 | 176.74 | 237.99 | 153.97 |
| Rajasthan | 190.15 | 146.58 | 315.62 | 225.49 | 192.03 | 161.59 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 445.41 | 319.75 | 525.43 | 375.18 | 293.19 | 292.12 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Chandigarh | 9.18 | 5.35 | 8.81 | 5.12 | 4.62 | 2.86 |
| Delhi | 395.27 | 253.23 | 526.37 | 289.86 | 186.53 | 190.37 |
| Total: | 1729.95 | 1197.22 | 2138.43 | 1407.73 | 1353.39 | 1182.99 |
| Western Region | | | | | | |
| Goa | 85.33 | 41.62 | 107.51 | 89.64 | 111.44 | 97.95 |
| Gujarat | 624.52 | 372.71 | 816.82 | 589.75 | 679.46 | 423.03 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 169.53 | 136.86 | 193.90 | 154.24 | 243.37 | 194.14 |
| Maharashtra | 1144.08 | 708.49 | 1176.82 | 835.71 | 849.77 | 827.82 |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 6.43 | 2.03 | 28.73 | 20.82 | 15.74 | 16.13 |
| Daman & Diu | 6.33 | 1.69 | 4.04 | 3.80 | 0.24 | 0.73 |
| Total: | 2036.22 | 1263.40 | 2327.82 | 1693.96 | 1900.02 | 1559.80 |
| Southern Region | | | | | | |
| Andhra Pradesh | 316.82 | 228.96 | 362.70 | 252.63 | 174.80 | 160.68 |
| Karnataka | 673.26 | 552.82 | 567.11 | 388.03 | 468.38 | 376.82 |
| Kerala | 320.99 | 258.22 | 391.53 | 291.10 | 348.13 | 205.11 |
| Tamil nadu | 894.35 | 689.09 | 935.81 | 657.70 | 535.45 | 364.00 |
| Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Pondicherry | 12.00 | 8.12 | 8.13 | 7.33 | 7.08 | 4.39 |
| Total | 2217.42 | 1735.22 | 2265.28 | 1598.79 | 1533.84 | 1111.00 |
| Total: | 6404.71 | 4530.31 | 7340.92 | 5168.09 | 5398.69 | 4284.87 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Factoring | 60.00 | 44.00 | 70.00 | 59.00 | 132.00 | 118.00 |
| LOC to Other Institutions | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 700.00 | 425.00 |
| LOC for OTECI Operations | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NSIC | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Venture Capital to Institutions | 7.00 | 3.34 | 58.00 | 7.42 | 44.50 | 12.24 |
| Contribution to VCF-NFSIT | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 40.00 | 0.00 |
| Assistance Under P & D | 13.61 | 6.79 | 15.24 | 6.19 | 23.65 | 9.39 |
| STL to Banks | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2541.00 | 1435.67 |
| LOC to RTDM | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Grand Total | 6485.32 | 4584.69 | 7484.16 | 5240.70 | 8879.84 | 6285.17 |

[English]

Sexual Harassment at Working Places

3408. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing cases of women molestation and of harassment in working places in the country;

(b) if so, the number of cases brought to the notice of the Government during the last year; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to reduce these incidents?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had in its judgement dated 13.8.1997 in the case of

Visakha vs. State of Rajasthan, laid down detailed guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women at the work place. The guidelines also lay down the procedure for setting up an appropriate Complaints Mechanism which envisages setting up of a Complaints Committee in each office. The Complaints Committee was to be headed by a woman and to involve a third party. These guidelines have the force of law under Article 141 of the Constitution of India.

The Government have taken a number of initiatives to give effect to these guidelines. These include circulation of the guidelines for action as indicated therein, to all Secretaries to the Government of India, Chief Secretaries of the States/Union Territories, Chairmen-cum-Managing Directors of Central Public Sector Undertakings. Most of these authorities have since reported that action has been taken in accordance with the directives.

The Government has amended the Conduct Rules applicable to Central Government employees and officers of the All India Services, with a view to implementing the

guidelines in Government offices. Amendments have also been made to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 so that sexual harassment of women at work place in the private sector could constitute an offence for which a workman is liable for disciplinary action.

Data on the number of complaints in this regard in each office is not being maintained.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

3409. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers including officers as on date at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) the total land in terms of acres owned or occupied by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(c) whether any land has been surrendered by VSP to Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The total number of workers including officers as on 30.11.99 at the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is 17,292.

(b) The total land occupied by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is 20422 acres of land.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Ash Pond of D.S.P.

3410. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ash pond of Durgapur Steel Plant has been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons for changing the contractual agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Investment of Agro and Rural Industries in Punjab

3411. SHRI SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the investment made in Punjab for Agro and Rural Industries till date;

(b) whether the Union Government have prepared a list of Agro and Rural Industries entitled to various benefits/concessions and loan in the State of Punjab;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total number of beneficiaries and the total amount of loans granted under each category; and

(e) the number of applications pending for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has disbursed Rs. 950.85 lakhs as grant and Rs. 1268.16 lakhs as loan as on 31.3.1999 to Punjab for Agro and Rural Industries (including Khadi programme).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The details in respect of employment and loans provided during 1998-99 to Punjab is given in enclosed Statement.

(e) Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme, loans for village industries are released directly by the banks. Information in respect of loan applications pending with banks is not maintained centrally.

Statement*Industry-wise Loan Disbursed by KVIC during the year 1998-99***Punjab State**(Rs. in lakhs)
(Employment in lakh persons)

| Sl. No. | Industries | Employment | KVIC | | |
|------------|---------------------------|------------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Grant | Loan | CBC |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| I. | Khadi | | | | |
| 1. | Cotton | 0.71 | 345.73 | 11.45 | — |
| 2. | Woollen | 0.06 | | — | — |
| II. | Village Industries | | — | — | — |
| 1. | Pottery | 0.20 | — | — | — |
| 2. | Lime | 0.01 | — | — | — |
| 3. | Agarbatti | * | — | — | — |
| 4. | HMP | * | — | — | — |
| 5. | Bamboo & Cane | 0.06 | — | — | — |
| 6. | Bee-Keeping | * | — | — | — |
| 7. | Ghani Oil | * | — | — | — |
| 8. | Gur & Khandasari | 0.11 | — | — | — |
| 9. | PCPI | 0.04 | — | — | — |
| 10. | Forest Plant & Fruits | 0.02 | — | — | — |
| 11. | Fruits Processing | 0.01 | — | — | — |
| 12. | Fibre | 0.17 | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|--------------------------------|------|--------|--------|---------|
| 13. | Soap | 0.01 | — | — | 7.96 |
| 14. | Leather | 0.14 | 2.50 | — | — |
| 15. | Polymer | • | — | — | — |
| 16. | Bio-gas | — | — | — | — |
| 17. | C & B | 0.17 | — | — | — |
| 18. | Aluminium | • | — | — | — |
| 19. | Electronics | • | — | — | — |
| 20. | Textiles | 0.01 | — | — | — |
| 21. | Service | 0.01 | — | — | — |
| 22. | Polyvastra | — | 7.78 | 1.21 | — |
| | Others (REGP), St. Brd etc. | — | 3.11 | 591.73 | 1247.54 |
| Total | | 1.73 | 359.12 | 604.39 | 1255.50 |

*Indicate less than 500.

[*Translation*]

Subsidy for Drip Irrigation

3412. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are encouraging the drip irrigation scheme and are also providing maximum subsidy for this purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of subsidy provided for this purpose during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is providing assistance for drip irrigation under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Use of Plastics in Agriculture. The assistance given is 90% of the total cost of the drip system to Small, Marginal, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe and Women farmers subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare and 70% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- per hectare for the other category farmers.

(c) A statement indicating the funds allocated under the scheme to the State Governments during the current year is enclosed.

Statement**Outlay under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Use of Plastics in Agriculture during 1999-2000**

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | State | Total Outlay | Outlay for Drip Irrigation |
|---------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1277.50 | 1251.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 42.20 | 9.45 |
| 3. | Assam | 14.95 | 7.20 |
| 4. | Bihar | 34.70 | 15.30 |
| 5. | Goa | 22.33 | 10.58 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 230.23 | 210.60 |
| 7. | Haryana | 96.70 | 74.25 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 33.43 | 2.66 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 483.30 | 11.93 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2372.88 | 2331.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 365.43 | 348.30 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 221.13 | 205.88 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2703.95 | 2652.75 |
| 14. | Manipur | 30.10 | 14.85 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 34.20 | 13.95 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 38.10 | 13.95 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| 17. | Nagaland | 41.85 | 19.35 |
| 18. | Orissa | 14.85 | 12.60 |
| 19. | Punjab | 98.68 | 82.80 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 309.70 | 297.90 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 43.20 | 5.85 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 1052.25 | 1026.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 26.67 | 11.52 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 234.58 | 227.70 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 8.43 | 1.80 |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 5.59 | 4.45 |
| 27. | Daman & Diu | 5.86 | 4.45 |
| 28. | Delhi | 1.10 | 0.95 |
| 29. | Lakshadweep | 5.86 | 4.45 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31. | Andaman & Nicobar | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 32. | Pondicherry | 1.86 | 1.40 |
| Total | | 9851.57 | 8874.85 |

*[English]***Norms for Transfer**

3413. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN:
SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the norms for transfers are not being followed in Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of Government employees on deputation at Kendriya Bhandar, 'P' Block, New Delhi as on date and since when they are working in their present positions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar is a Society registered under Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972. It adopted certain guidelines in November, 1998 on rotation of operational staff subject to certain conditions. These guidelines will be kept in view by Kendriya Bhandar while making transfer of officials in future.

(c) There is no Government employee on deputation to Kendriya Bhandar 'P' Block, New Delhi as on date.

Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council

3414. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the demands of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council of West Bengal so far as plan development fund is concerned; and

(b) the response of the Union Government on these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, Planning Commission supplements the efforts of the State Governments in the development of Hill Areas through the Hill Areas Development Programme. Under this programme funds are allocated to the designated hill areas of Darjeeling district. Planning Commission has not received any request for additional funds in the current year from the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Steel Plant

3415. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise number of small, medium and big steel plants in Maharashtra and other States particularly in Tribal dominated areas;

(b) the number of licences issued during the last three years for the establishment of steel plants particularly in above mentioned areas and the number of applications still pending; and

(c) the time by which decision is likely to be taken on the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Number of steel plants in medium and large scale sectors in the country are given in enclosed Statement. Besides these, there are large number of induction furnace based steel plants mainly in small scale sector scattered all over the country.

(b) and (c) As per the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, 'Iron & Steel' industry has been exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing, except for certain locational restrictions. In terms of this policy, approval of the Union Government for industrial licence is requested only if the project is proposed to be located within 25 Kms. from the periphery of the standard urban area limits of a city having a population of more than 10 lakh according to the 1991 census, and this location is not within areas designated as 'industrial area' by State Governments before July 25, 1991. During last three years, one industrial licence has been issued for setting up a steel plant. Presently, no application is pending.

Statement

| S.No. | State of Units | Total No. |
|-------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 9 |
| 2. | Assam | 2 |
| 3. | Bihar | 8 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|------------------|----|
| 4. | Chandigarh | 1 |
| 5. | Delhi | 2 |
| 6. | Goa | 1 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 9 |
| 8. | Haryana | 13 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 4 |
| 10. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 14 |
| 12. | Kerala | 1 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 18 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 33 |
| 15. | Orissa | 3 |
| 16. | Pondicherry | 3 |
| 17. | Punjab | 9 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 7 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 7 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 27 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 27 |

(English)

Review of Core Sector

3416. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performance of major projects in various sectors of Maharashtra particularly in Core Sector;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof sector-wise in terms of targets set;

(c) whether there is any shortfalls in Core Sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The review by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation of the major central sector projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above in core sectors in the State of Maharashtra, reveals that out of 25 such projects under implementation, one project is ahead of schedule, 4 projects are on schedule and the balance 20 projects have been delayed with respect to their latest approved dates ranging from 3 months to 69 months. Out of 25 projects, 14 projects have reported cost overrun ranging from 9% to 195% over the latest approved cost. Against the total anticipated cost of Rs. 16880.6 crores of these projects, Rs. 4187.12 crores have been spent up to 1.11.1999.

(d) The reasons for shortfalls in execution of the projects vary from project to project. In general, the reasons include delay in land acquisition, late start of work on projects, delay in award of work contracts, delay in supply of equipment, poor project management and fund constraints. The remedial steps taken to achieve targets include:

- (i) Monthly as well as Quarterly monitoring by the Government. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help the management in taking remedial measures;
- (ii) Indepth critical reviews of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries. Coordination with the respective State Governments, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies;

- (iii) Reviewing status of fabrication of equipment with suppliers as well as turnkey contractors;
- (iv) Inter-ministerial coordination and holding facilitation meetings among concerned parties;
- (v) Setting up of Empowered Committee for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving of land acquisition and other problems; and
- (vi) Making funds available to complete the projects on schedule.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra

3417. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Raigarh district of Maharashtra has been closed by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reopen this closed Krishi Vigyan Kendra;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be reopened; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has not established any Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in Raigarh district of Maharashtra.

(c) to (e) The ICAR has identified the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Station (ZARS) under Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth (KV), Dapoli to take the additional functions of KKV. This will provide a strong linkage between technology generation, assessment and refinement, and dissemination.

Construction of Dams

3418. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of recent cyclone, the Union Government are contemplating to allocate additional funds to the State Government of Orissa for construction of large side-dams across the various river banks in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which additional funds are likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Farming without Agro-Chemicals

3419. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many innovative farmers have been practising farming without use of agro-chemicals and are getting record production;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of a recent publication 'Plenty for All' by Prof. S.A. Dhabolkar which laid emphasis on use of solar energy and conservation of water with astonishing yields; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Organic farming without the use of agro-chemicals is being tried by a number of innovative farmers all over the country in different production systems including crop, horticulture and livestock components.

However, there is not enough evidence to show that with the use of organic only, a record production can be obtained.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A group discussion was organized involving Prof. S.A. Dhabolkar and prominent organic farmers from all over the country for developing a strategy for taking up research for providing the merits of organic farming scientifically. Some of the programmes of the ICAR are exclusively addressing to issues of organic farming. A network programme on organic farming is also being proposed.

Dialogues on Security Matters with Turkey

3420. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Turkey decided on December 1, 1999 to enhance their co-operation dialogues on security matters;

(b) if so, whether both the countries have also discussed regarding the restructuring of the United Nations and developments in South Asian Regions; and

(c) if so, the details of other issues discussed and agreed upon by both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Under Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Turkey visited New Delhi from 29th November to 2nd December, 1999 for foreign office consultations. All aspects of bilateral relations and regional and international issues of mutual interest, including security matters, developments in the South Asian region and restructuring of the UN, were discussed.

Increase of MPLADS

3421. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand to increase the amount allocated under MPLADS for super cyclone affected areas of Orissa during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Request has been received for raising the allocation under MPLADS from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 10 crore for the year 1999-2000 in respect of thirteen (13) Parliamentary Constituencies of Orissa, affected by the recent cyclones.

(c) Under the MPLAD Scheme, only Rs. 2 crores per year per constituency can be allotted. Alternate proposals, however, have been put forward to help the cyclone affected areas. These are under discussion.

Multi-National Seed Companies

3422. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether multi-national seed companies are aggressively acquiring Indian seed companies;

(b) if so, whether these multi-national companies are creating monopoly in the seed distribution in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith long-term effect on food security and national security; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken by the Union Government for the restrictions of foreign participation in seed business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) No, Sir.

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

(d) Government has formulated a well defined policy for import and export for seeds and planting material. Export of seeds and planting material is governed by EXIM Policy wherein a selected number of crops are designated as Restricted items for export. Import of seeds and planting material, except seeds of vegetables and flowers, is governed by the New Policy on Seed Development, 1988, read with Plants, Fruits & Seeds Order, 1989, under which the material proposed for import has to undergo testing in the All India Co-ordinated Multi-location Trials of ICAR for yield and other attributes, before clearance for bulk import. In addition, the EXIM Committee of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation considers the proposals for export and import of seeds/planting material based on the availability and requirement of seed in the country. Hence, well-defined procedures exist to regulate foreign participation in the seed business.

[Translation]

Production of Flowers

3423. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of flowers in the country. State-wise;

(b) the facilities provided to boost the production of flowers;

(c) the quantum of flowers exported during the last three years;

(d) whether the facility of cold storage is available at the Mumbai airport for storing flowers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) According to the production estimates compiled by the National Horticulture Board, during 1997-98, production of loose flowers in the country was 365685.6 mt and that of cut flowers was 6121.52 lakh numbers. State-wise production figures are at annexure.

(b) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme for the development of Commercial Floriculture throughout the country with the following major components:—

- (i) Modal Floriculture Centre.
- (ii) Area Expansion.
- (iii) Establishment of Nurseries.
- (iv) Training of Farmers.
- (v) Protected Cultivation including shade-nets and Green Houses.
- (vi) Handling Unit.

Besides DAC, the National Horticulture Board is also providing assistance for floriculture development through their various programmes like 'Development of Marketing of Horticultural Produce through participation In Soft Loan' and Introduction of New Technologies and Concepts in Horticulture.

(c) As per the estimates provided by Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority the value of flowers exported during last three years is as under:

| Year | Rs. in crores |
|---------|---------------|
| 1996-97 | 63.00 |
| 1997-98 | 81.00 |
| 1998-99 | 97.00 |

(d) and (e) At present, there is one walk in type cold storage at Mumbai Airport for storage of perishable products.

Statement

Production of flowers during 1997-98

| | Loose in MT | Cut in lakh Nos. |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 32900 | |
| Assam | 79 | |
| Bihar | 1710 | 3 |
| Delhi | 10274 | |
| Haryana | 33040 | 483 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 589 | 185 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 1.6 | 78.5 |
| Karnataka | 124290 | |
| Madhya Pradesh | 13127 | |
| Maharashtra | 33250 | |
| Manipur | 29 | |
| Punjab | 3355 | |
| Rajasthan | 2585 | |
| Sikkim | 1 | 0.023 |
| Tamil Nadu | 92097 | |
| UP Hills | 195 | |
| UP Plain | — | 160 |
| West Bengal | 17685 | 5312 |
| Daman & Diu | 51 | |
| Pondicherry | 427 | |
| Total | 365685.6 | 6121.523 |

[English]

Construction Work of Super Speciality Hospital

3424. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction work of Super Speciality Hospital in Quilon, Kerala is progressing as per schedule;
- (b) if not, the reasons for the delay in construction;
- (c) whether the ESI Corporation has taken any step to expedite the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The proposal for establishment of a super speciality hospital at Asramam in Kollam District, Kerala has since been approved by the ESI Corporation. The functional requirement for this kind of hospital under the ESI Scheme was deliberated upon in a Committee comprising medical experts, engineers and architects. The site of the proposed hospital has been inspected and its design and other functional requirements have been finalised. Initially, the project was to be entrusted to the State Public Works Department. Subsequently, based on the request of the Government of Kerala, the project has been entrusted to the Central Public Works Department. Further necessary action for sanctioning the estimates so as to start construction work of the hospital will be taken as and when the same is received from the Central Public Works Department.

Production of Red Banana

3425. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the production of red banana is diminishing in Andaman Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by the Union Government to stop the slide in the production of red banana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Information about the production of red banana exclusively is not being maintained by the Government. However, production of red banana is decreasing in the Andaman Islands due to the popularity of other varieties

of banana like Cheena and Champa which can grow under adverse weather conditions like heavy rainfall and high wind speed and are also more remunerative to the farmers as compared to red banana.

(c) The germplasm of red banana along with the germplasm of other native varieties of banana are being maintained by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at their Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair. The Central Government is also providing assistance to the State and Union Territory Governments including UT Government of Andaman & Nicobar Islands for taking up production programmes of fruits which also include banana under the Central Sector Scheme on Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone Fruits. An outlay of Rs. 14.69 lakhs has been earmarked for the Union Territory Government of Andaman & Nicobar Islands during the current year 1999-2000.

Provident Pension for Cashew Workers in Kerala

3426. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cashew workers getting provident fund Pensions in Kerala which was introduced recently;
- (b) the total number of applications received from cashew workers;
- (c) the number of applications accepted and number of them rejected;
- (d) the reasons for rejection;
- (e) whether the Union Government propose to reconsider and allow all the cashew workers to be covered under the pensions;
- (f) whether the Union Government has withdrawn the age limitation and cut-off-date; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) As on 30th Nov., 1999, there were 12,155 pension cases relating to cashew industry serviced in Kerala Region. The EPF authorities have rejected 2217 claims due to discrepancies noticed in date of birth, nomination and non-fulfilment of eligibility conditions.

- (e) and (f) No, Sir.
- (g) Does not arise.

Bihar Farmers Weep as Government Sleeps

3427. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Bihar farmers weep as Government sleeps" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 8, 1999;

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

(c) whether the farmers in Bihar have been forced to buy sub-standard/spurious seeds at high rates resulting in fall in wheat production and rise in prices;

(d) whether a major scandal has taken place in the distribution of seeds in the flood-hit districts of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of India is not aware of the facts reported in the news item as the subject under reference is under purview of the State Government.

(c) As per the information received from the Government of Bihar, the requirement of Wheat seed in the State is 2 lakh quintals against which the availability is 2.003 lakh quintals. As adequate quantity of seed is available, the farmers of Bihar have not been forced to buy sub-standard/spurious seeds at high rates.

(d) and (e) Government of India is not aware of any major scandal in distribution of seeds.

Homoeopathic/Ayurvedic Medicines for Livestock

3428. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Homoeopathic/Ayurvedic medicines are also being found useful for treatment of livestock;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken for early introduction of the system for the benefit of livestock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The research conducted in livestock using these medicines showed encouraging results and found useful. These medicines are in use for the treatment of livestock diseases.

(c) Does not arise.

National Rehabilitation Policy

3429. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy in the country for the displaced families of major and medium irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the policy is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) There is at present no National Resettlement & Rehabilitation Policy. However, in the year 1980, the then Union Ministry of Irrigation had issued directives to all the States regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons due to major reservoir projects. Programmes for resettlement & rehabilitation of persons affected by reservoir projects are presently carried out by the State Governments/project authorities as an integral part of the project based on their own policies which vary from State to State and Project to Project. Steps have been initiated for adopting a National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of persons affected by reservoir projects to get over the shortcomings in the implementation of resettlement and rehabilitation programmes. A draft policy document in this regard has been prepared by the National Water Board for consideration of the National Water Resources Council. However, the consideration/adoption of the said Policy by the National Water Resources Council depends on further modifications, if considered necessary, after the "National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of persons or families adversely affected or displaced on account of compulsory acquisition of land" and "Amendment to the Land Acquisition Act, 1894" presently under consideration by the Government is finalised in consultation with the States and various voluntary organisations.

Employment Scheme

3430. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in Uttar Pradesh under the one person from one family employment scheme of the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the number of such persons who have not been provided employment from each family under the said scheme in each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide job to one person from each family under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Union Government is not implementing one person from one family employment scheme in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Keskar and Pritam Singh Committee

3431. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to implement the "Keskar and Pritam Singh Committee report" in regard to checking of soil erosion and control of flood caused by the river Ganges and its tributaries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): To examine the bank erosion problem of the river Ganga/Padma in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad in West Bengal, Planning Commission constituted an Experts' Committee in September, 1996 which submitted its report in December, 1996 recommending short term and long term measures, costing Rs. 315 crore and Rs. 612 crore respectively for tackling the erosion problem in various reaches lying upstream and downstream of the Farakka Barrage in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad in West Bengal. The long and short term measures were prioritised and the schemes were allocated between the Centre and the Government of West Bengal based on their respective jurisdiction for providing funds by the Planning Commission, and their execution subsequently. The recommendations made by the Pritam Singh Committee have been taken into consideration by the Experts Committee in their suggestions for remedial measures.

Flood Control schemes are planned and executed by the State Governments as per their own priority with

Central Assistance and funds allocated by the Planning Commission under State Flood Control Sector.

At the request of the State Government, an amount of Rs. 30 crore as additional Central Assistance was provided by the Centre as a special case to the Government of West Bengal during the financial year 1998-99 for execution of short term measures.

[Translation]

Inclusion of India Among Nuclear Nations

3432. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will be included among the nuclear nations after rejection of Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by US Senate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government have stated that India is a nuclear weapon State. This is simply a question of fact, and is not related to the US Senate rejection of the ratification of the CTBT.

[English]

Unified Kashmir Liberation Army by Pakistan

3433. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Sharif leaves for S. Arabia" appearing in the *Hindu* dated July 19, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the guerilla organisations engaged in the Kashmir Jihad had decided to set up a "Kashmir Liberation Army" to put up a unified struggle against Indian army to achieve their objective;

(c) if so, whether the information about formation of the unified Kashmir Liberation Army is correct; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Government are aware of terrorist groups operating in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Government have also seen the report appearing in *The Hindu* on July 19, 1999 about a new terrorist organisation called the Kashmir Liberation Army. There has been, however, no concrete information about such a group so far. Government will continue to take all necessary steps to safeguard the safety and territorial integrity of the country.

Weavers depending on KVIC

3434. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of weavers and other workers depending on Khadi and Village Industries in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Khadi Industry is in a financial wrap; and

(c) if so, the steps taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to protect and popularise Khadi in the country particularly in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) 46,000 persons (approximately) are engaged in Khadi programme and 1.96 lakhs persons (approximately) are engaged in village industries in Karnataka.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Survey for Uranium

3435. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey was conducted recently for uranium;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the extent of success achieved by the Government in identifying the uranium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of the Department of Atomic Energy, has recently conducted exploratory surveys for Uranium in parts of Solan, Simur, Bilaspur, Kangra and Mandi Districts of Himachal Pradesh. These surveys have led to preliminary identification of uranium anomalies of variable dimensions associated with sand stones in some parts of Solan District. Further detailed exploration, including drilling, is necessary and has accordingly been planned by the AMD to establish the viability of these anomalies.

[*Translation*]

Funds for Bokaro Steel Plant

3436. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for various development works in the Bokaro Steel Plant during the last three years and current year, year-wise;

(b) the details of works undertaken;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the development works undertaken by the above steel plant; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The amount allocated for various development works by SAIL to Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) and the details of works

undertaken by BSL during the last three years and the current year is as follows:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| | Amount - Allocated for Development Works | | | |
|--|--|---------|---------|-----------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
| | 190.00 | 160.00 | 115.00 | 58.00 |

Details of Works Undertaken

| Nature of Work | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Construction of school buildings | 08 | 03 | — | — |
| Rigging of Hand Pumps | 50 | 50 | 51 | 30 |
| Construction/renovation of community Irrigation Wells | 22 | 03 | — | — |
| Construction of Causeway | 01 | — | — | — |
| Construction/Repairing of Road | 40 KM | 20 KM | 7 KM | 2KM |

(c) and (d) The Government does not review peripheral development works undertaken by the Steel plant of SAIL.

[English]

Agreement with Austria

3437. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently entered into trade and other agreements with Austria;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indians in Austria have been involved in promoting bilateral relationship;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether India would benefit by such involvement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Bilateral Economic Cooperation Agreement between India and Austria was signed during the visit of the Austrian Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Dr. Hannes Farnleitner to India from 8-14 Feb. 1999. The agreement provides for continuing, developing and expanding economic, industrial, technical and technological cooperation between the two countries.

A Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and a Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement between India and Austria were signed on 8 November 1999 during the President's visit to Austria. The Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement replaces the earlier Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation, which was signed in 1963 and provides for lower rates of taxation *vis-a-vis* the prevalent rates. The Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement provides for the protection of foreign investments and incorporates national treatment for them.

(c) to (f) The Indian residents in Austria remain in regular touch with the Embassy of India in Vienna, particularly through the office bearers of the various Indian associations. Their suggestions and inputs are taken into consideration and contribute to the bilateral relationship.

Dairy Development in Rural Areas

3438. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate to give further thrust to animal husbandry and dairy development sector for the development of rural economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to provide chilling plants, cold storage and refrigerated vehicles for the growth of Dairy Development Sector In Thar desert of Western Rajasthan where cattle breeding is the main source of income; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Though the primary responsibility for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development is that of the State Governments, Government of India has plans for supporting the efforts of the State Government in this regard.

The thrust of the Central Government in the Ninth Plan is in the following areas:—

- Upgradation of Genetic Resources.
- Development of Feed and Fodder.
- Animal Health Care and Management.
- Processing and Marketing of Livestock products. and
- Development of Animal Husbandry Statistics and Information System.

(c) and (d) The Milk Unions in Rajasthan have submitted plans to the respective District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) for various activities to be funded under the "Swaran Jayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana". The details of the activities are as under:

- (i) Strengthening the existing infrastructure and expanding the capacities of the dairy plants.

(ii) Procurement of milk cans for handling milk procurement from villages.

(iii) Installation of Auto Milk Collection Stations (AMCS) and Electronics Milkotesters (EMTs) at village level cooperative societies.

The details of the plan proposals pertaining to the districts in western Rajasthan area as follows:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| Milk Union | Districts | Amount |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Jodhpur | Jodhpur, Jaisalmer Barmer, Nagaur | 210.62 |
| Jalore-Sirohi | Jalore, Sirohi | 100.00 |
| Pali | Pali | 96.55 |

The Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation (RCDF) has received financial assistance from the DRDA during 1998-99 for purchasing some bulk coolers, refrigerated vans, electronic milkotesters, etc., for Jodhpur and Jalore milkshed covering Jodhpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, Jalore and Sirohi districts. The details are given below:—

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------|
| Jodhpur | — | Rs. 119 Lakhs |
| Jalore | — | Rs. 5 Lakhs |

Upgradation of Nuclear Arms

3439. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government analysed the implications of US plan to provide Theatre Missile Defence System (TMD) over the Asia Pacific region;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken effective steps to upgrade nuclear arms to maintain minimum nuclear deterrence;

(c) whether the Government would impress upon US Government not to provide TMD cover to Asia Pacific region in order to avoid nuclear arms race in the region;

(d) if so, whether China's view on this issue was ascertained;

(e) if so, whether joint diplomatic efforts would be made for keeping the region free from nuclear arms race; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government monitors carefully strategic modernisation programmes in the region and beyond. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

(c) Government have discussed with the US bilaterally the possible impact of US plans to deploy ballistic missile defence systems on disarmament and international security.

(d) to (f) In the context of the Conference on Disarmament and the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, India and China have discussed developments related to ballistic missile defence systems and the constitution of an Ad Hoc Committee in the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS). India also voted in favour of the resolution on the preservation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty sponsored by Russia, China and Belarus in the UN General Assembly this year. During the visit of the External Affairs Minister of China in June 1999, India and China agreed to begin a dialogue on security issues. The Government look forward to discussing issues of mutual concern with China during the course of this dialogue.

[Translation]

Joint Ventures in Steel Sector

3440. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks have been held between India and China recently to have joint-ventures in the steel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) A Chinese delegation visited India from 22nd to 26th November, 1999. Collaboration in the area of technology transfer and enhanced co-operation in the iron and steel sector figured during the discussions between the two sides.

[English]

Sardar Sarovar Dam

3441. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to non-availability to Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) assistance, procurement of Turbo-Generating Sets for River Bed Power House of the Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to solve the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After detailed negotiations and project appraisal, a Loan Agreement IDP 33 was signed between Government of India and OECF-Japan on 25.11.85 for procurement of 6x200 MW Turbo Generating (T.G.) Sets for River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project. A fixed price contract for an amount of Yen 24.64 billion plus Rs. 35.51 crores (Indian component) was consequently signed with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation Limited, Japan on 13.08.1987. However, due to objections raised in Japan on Environmental, Resettlement and Rehabilitation issues OECF suspended the loan assistance after release of first slice of 10% advance payment of Yen 2.85 billion. In the absence of OECF loan, it was not possible to get the Letter of Credit released and arrange import of TG Sets.

(c) The Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of India constituted a Negotiating Team consisting of representatives of Government of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat and agencies of Government of India to negotiate various problematic issues with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation Limited. After protracted negotiations by Negotiating Team, the matter was finalised in November, 1998 and M/s. Sumitomo Corporation Limited came up with the offer of Supplier's Credit of Japanese yen 22.11 billion to meet the Japanese portion of the cost of the Turbo-Generator Sets on conditions acceptable to all the parties. After Government of Gujarat gave guarantee followed by counter guarantee by Government of India, the consignment of TG Sets have started arriving at Kevadia in Gujarat from 25.5.99.

Closure of Industries

3442. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industries in last two years declared closed, State-wise;

(b) whether in most of the cases it was closed after the liberalisation;

(c) the number of workers affected due to these closures, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to rehabilitate these affected workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The number of industries declared closed and the number of workers affected due to these closures State-wise, in the last two years is mentioned at the Annexure.

There are wide variations in terms of units closed both before and after liberalisation and such variations could be attributed to various reasons.

(d) The Govt. of India has established the National Renewal Fund (NRF) to provide funds, where, necessary for compensation of employees affected by restructuring or closure of industrial units. The fund also provides assistance to cover the cost of retraining and redeployment of workers affected by modernisation, technology upgradation and industrial restructuring.

Statement**State-wise Number of Closures and Workers Affected During 1997-99**

| | 1997 (P) | | 1998 (P) | | 1999 (P) (Jan.-Sep.) | |
|-------------------|----------|-----|----------|-------|-------------------------|-----|
| | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 1 | 64 | — | — | 1 | 65 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Assam | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bihar | 2 | 43 | 4 | 219 | 3 | 90 |
| Goa | 2 | 71 | 2 | 36 | 2 | 29 |
| Gujarat | 21 | 848 | 34 | 1,067 | 9 | 189 |
| Haryana | — | — | 2 | 83 | — | — |
| H.P. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| J&K | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Karnataka | 2 | 159 | 3 | 182 | 2 | 91 |
| Kerala | 3 | 53 | — | — | 3 | 147 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----------------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| Madhya Pradesh | 2 | 2,888 | 4 | 274 | 3 | 83 |
| Maharashtra | 7 | 207 | 1 | 70 | — | — |
| Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Meghalaya | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Mizoram | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Nagaland | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Orissa | 4 | 352 | 13 | 2,537 | 2 | 139 |
| Punjab | 1 | 19 | 1 | 1,425 | 51 | 8,202 |
| Rajasthan | 8 | 1,469 | 1 | 350 | 2 | 180 |
| Sikkim | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tamil Nadu | 2 | 176 | 7 | 94 | 1 | 39 |
| Tripura | 55 | 3,247 | 42 | 742 | 3 | 19 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 22 | 3,003 | 38 | 5,190 | 3 | 198 |
| West Bengal | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| A&N Islands | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Chandigarh | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dadra & Nagar Haveli | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Delhi | 2 | 192 | 2 | 607 | — | — |
| Daman & Diu | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lakshadweep | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pondicherry | 20 | 353 | 21 | 510 | — | — |
| Grand Total | 154 | 12,944 | 175 | 13,386 | 85 | 9,471 |

A = Number of Units Closed.

B = Number of Workers Affected.

— = Nil

- = Not Available

(P) = Provisional

Source : Labour Bureau, Shimla.

Plan Fund for States

3443. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States have not availed the plan budget funds fully earmarked by the Planning Commission;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to include measures to improve and streamline State plan expenditure; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) A statement giving State-wise details of actual expenditure *vis-a-vis* approved Plan outlay during the last three years is annexed which indicates that many States have not been able to achieve the plan outlay. The main reason for these States not achieving the Plan outlay is their inability to raise the projected levels of States' own resources.

(c) and (d) Planning Commission has been impressing upon the States to raise more resources, *inter-alia*, by improving the performance of State level enterprises and curtailing their non plan expenditure so that sufficient funds are available to finance the plan. Various suggestions have also been made to improve the design and implementation of projects/schemes for better output, the details of which are covered in the Ninth Plan Document which has been placed in the Parliament House Library.

Statement

Statement Giving Details Regarding Approved Outlay/Actual Expenditure for Annual Plans 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. in crores)

| Sl. No. | States | Originally Approved Outlay | | | Actual Expenditure | | |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|---------|----------|
| | | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2989.00 | 3579.55 | 4678.95 | 3052.26 | 3707.23 | 4678.95 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 520.00 | 600.00 | 625.00 | 430.93 | 489.38 | 471.58 |
| 3. | Assam | 1434.00 | 1510.28 | 1650.00 | 1101.62 | 1283.18 | 1389.37 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2143.91 | 2268.42 | 3768.74 | 1549.28 | 1711.43 | 1850.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 250.00 | 230.56 | 291.34 | 199.12 | 185.99* | 234.77 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 3378.00 | 4509.62 | 5450.00 | 3080.13 | 3905.07 | 5450.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 1433.65 | 1576.04 | 2260.00 | 1235.29 | 1303.61 | 1800.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 900.50 | 1008.00 | 1440.00 | 918.33 | 1294.33 | 1444.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----------------|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1250.00 | 1551.81 | 1900.00 | 1260.46 | 1496.28 | 1750.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 4360.00 | 4153.59 | 5353.00 | 3972.54 | 4424.48 | 5131.54 |
| 11. | Kerala | 2207.27 | 2851.10 | 3100.00 | 2106.73 | 2867.62 | 3039.09 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 3144.80 | 3718.15 | 3700.00 | 2759.71 | 3343.91 | 3426.12 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 8319.67 | 8393.19 | 11600.73 | 6856.77 | 7938.03 | 11600.73 |
| 14. | Manipur | 350.00 | 410.00 | 425.00 | 387.17 | 345.28 | 408.08 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 370.00 | 382.00 | 400.00 | 253.88 | 248.83 | 302.50 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 281.00 | 290.00 | 333.00 | 286.77 | 295.25 | 284.55 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 290.00 | 291.00 | 300.00 | 265.67 | 236.13 | 300.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 2205.50 | 2529.46 | 3084.43 | 2003.97 | 2037.14 | 3084.43 |
| 19. | Punjab | 1857.05 | 2100.01 | 2500.00 | 1794.39 | 2008.80 | 2500.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 3310.49 | 3514.42 | 4300.00 | 3131.41 | 3987.35 | 4025.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 192.00 | 220.00 | 237.00 | 192.79 | 190.12 | 218.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 3719.05 | 4004.90 | 4500.00 | 3726.37 | 4010.83 | 4500.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 370.00 | 439.91 | 440.00 | 369.96 | 412.59 | 379.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 6549.03 | 7246.57 | 10260.00 | 5674.73 | 5652.36 | 5887.32 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 3158.63 | 3907.62 | 4594.85 | 2426.51 | 2840.10 | 2749.45 |
| Total (States) | | 54983.55 | 61286.20 | 77192.04 | 49016.79 | 56215.12 | 66902.48 |

* Actual Expenditure not available, Revised Outlay taken.

Production of Iron Ore

3444. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of iron ores in the country and the total production of iron ore as on December, 1999, State-wise;

(b) the details of demand and supply of this iron ore in the country at present;

(c) the quantity of export and import of this iron ore at present;

(d) whether China is likely to import iron ore from India; and

(e) if so, the details of effect on Indian industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The total quantum of recoverable reserves of iron ore as on 1.4.95 is 13,460 million tonnes in the country. The total production of iron ore during April-September, 1999 is 31774 thousand tonnes. Its State-wise break-up is as under:

| State | Quantity ('000 tonnes) |
|----------------|------------------------|
| India | 31774 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 166 |
| Bihar | 5763 |
| Goa | 5380 |
| Karnataka | 7216 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 8070 |
| Maharashtra | 11 |
| Orissa | 5165 |
| Rajasthan | 3 |

(b) As per the report of the Sub-Group-II of Working Group on Iron and Steel for the 9th Five Year Plan,

constituted by the Ministry of Steel in July, 1996 supply and demand position of iron ore is as follows:

(i) The production target of Steel by 2001-02 is 42.02 million tonnes. Similarly production target for sponge iron is 6.68 million tonnes and that for pig iron is 4.85 million tonnes by 2002.

(ii) To meet the above production target, the requirement of various grades/Specifications of iron ore/Pellets are estimated to be in the range of 65 to 70 million tonnes, excluding export target, per annum by 2001-02, assuming a proximate norm of 1.6 tonnes of iron ore per tonne of hot metal/sponge iron.

(iii) The estimated availability of iron ore (lumps/fines/concentrates/pellets) will be of the order of 106.59 million tonnes by 2001-02. Similarly the availability by 2006-07 (end of 10th Plan) would be around 121.27 million tonnes.

(c) The quantity of exports and imports of iron ore for the last three years is given below:

| Exports/Imports | 1995-96 | 1996-97 | 1997-98 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Exports ('000 tonnes) | 31770 | 29650 | 35260 |
| Imports ('000 tonnes) | 879 | 853 | 372 |

(d) China is importing Iron Ore from India. The quantum of iron ore exported to China by MMTC for the last three years is as follows:

| Year | Quantity (Lakh Tonnes) | Value (Rs. Crores) |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1996-97 | 15.23 | 87.03 |
| 1997-98 | 25.23 | 152.41 |
| 1998-99 | 25.21 | 175.61 |

(e) Export of High Grade Iron ore from the country is allowed only of the production that is surplus to domestic demand. Therefore, export of iron ore will not have any adverse effect on domestic iron and steel industry. Increase in iron ore export will help the domestic industry.

All India Forests Service

3445. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific quota in All India Forests Service for the officers of State Forests Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the criteria for selection;

(c) whether any disparity in selection for All India Forests Services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Recruitment by promotion from the State Forest Service to the Indian Forest Service is made in all States subject to the ceiling of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the number of senior duty posts in the State Government, central deputation reserve, State deputation reserve, and the training reserve in relation to that State, as fixed in the Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Regulations, 1966, from time to time. The criteria for selection of State Forest Service officers for promotion to the Indian Forest Service is laid down in the IFS (Appointment by Promotion) Regulations, 1966, as amended from time to time. The selection is based on seniority cum merit from amongst the permanent members of the State Forest Service who have completed not less than 8 years of continuous service in posts included in the State Forest Service.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Guidelines for Investigation

3446. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated November 25, 1999 captioned "HC asks Centre to lay down guidelines"; and

(b) if so, the matter reported therein and action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item refers to the hearing of a Writ Petition filed in the Delhi High Court relating to CBI investigation into the irregularities in the purchase of equipments by G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi. No direction to the Central Government for framing guidelines for investigation of cases has been given in the matter, which is sub-judice.

Beypore-Kallal Canal

3447. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any project report from the State Government of Kerala for the development of Beypore-Kallal canal;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Rural and Urban Poverty

3448. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rural, Urban poverty up in post-reforms period" appearing in 'Business Standard' dated September 3, 1999;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item captioned 'Rural, urban poverty up in post-reforms period', appearing in 'Business Standard' dated the 3rd September, 1999 is based on the India Development Report, 1999-2000, prepared by Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai in May, 1999.

(b) The news-item has reported that:

- (i) Rural and Urban poverty increased during the first two years of the post-reforms period.
- (ii) There has been an increase in the absolute number of poor in the post-1991 period. This is in sharp contrast to the 1980s when the number of poor actually declined.
- (iii) Urban poverty declined much faster than rural poverty in the post-reforms era. The phenomenon of faster decline of rural poverty in the 1980s has been halted in the post-1991 period.
- (iv) The impact of economic reforms on the poor in India so far has been better than in some of the Latin American countries but worse than in some of the East Asian countries.

(c) The observations made in the Report are based on the poverty estimates made by the Planning Commission and quoted in Table 3.3 (page-52) of the Report. The percentage of people living below the poverty line, and quoted in the Table, are found to decline from 39.1 per cent in 1987-88 to 37.3 per cent in 1993-94 in rural areas, and from 38.2 per cent to 32.4 per cent during the corresponding period in urban areas. For the country as a whole, the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined from 38.9 per cent in 1987-88 to 36 per cent in 1993-94. Thus, it is not true that poverty increased during this period. However, due to increase in population, the absolute number of people living below the poverty line has increased by about 13 million, during this period. It is also true that urban poverty has declined faster than rural poverty.

With regard to the impact of economic reforms on the poor in India *vis-a-vis* other countries, the estimates of poverty for India are not comparable to those of other nations due to differences in methodology.

Since the latest estimates of poverty are available for the year 1993-94, no inference can be drawn about the post-reform period. As the estimates of poverty are made from the large-sample survey consumer expenditure data of the National Sample Survey Organisation, the impact of economic reforms on the poor can be captured when the results of the large survey of consumption expenditure of the National Sample Survey Organisation of the 56th Round (July 1999-2000) are available.

[English]

Anti-Dumping Provision

3449. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Government had filed a case against SAIL under anti-dumping provision in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such cases slapped against the Indian steel producers by the advanced countries in Europe and America and the quantity of steel involved therein and the total loss due to the same;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the measures taken to ensure immediate stoppage of dumping of steel in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The US Department of Commerce has announced provisional duty for supply of CTL plates to USA as given below:

| | | |
|----------------------|---|--------|
| Anti-dumping Duty | — | 58.5% |
| Counter-veiling Duty | — | 14.45% |

(c) The following are the cases currently under investigation against the Indian steel companies:—

| Sl.No. | Product | Country |
|--------|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Hot Rolled Coils | European Union |
| 2. | Quarto Plates | European Union |
| 3. | Carbon Steel Plates | USA |
| 4. | Carbon Steel Plates | Canada |

At this stage, it is very difficult to estimate the quantity and value of steel involved in the above investigations. However, as opportunity to export in future will depend upon the outcome of the cases, loss in terms of losing good markets may have a bearing on both volume and value.

(d) Anti-Dumping investigations in various countries are carried out under the provisions of "WTO Agreement on Anti-Dumping". In the event of any breach of the Agreement by any country while carrying out Anti-Dumping investigations, Government of India may take recourse to the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of WTO.

(e) Government of India has set up the "Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties" in the Ministry of Commerce headed by the Designated Authority. The Designated Authority on receipt of an application on behalf of the concerned domestic industry or otherwise, initiates necessary action for investigations and subsequent imposition of Anti-Dumping Duties, when there is sufficient evidence that the dumped imports are causing or threatening to cause material injury to the Indian industry producing like articles. On a petition received from SAIL and others, India has already imposed Anti-Dumping Duties on the imports of Hot Rolled Coils from the CIS countries.

Karnataka Milk Federation

3450. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance/loan given by National Dairy Development Board to Karnataka Milk Federation during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 upto September, 1999;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the amount given by NDDB was misused and spent for other purposes;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the details of loan repaid so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to initiate an inquiry into the misuse of financial assistance/loan given to Karnataka Milk Federation; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) The National Dairy Development Board

(NDDB) has disbursed the following amounts as Assistance/Loan to the Karnataka Milk Federation and its affiliated unions.

| Total Assistance | | (Rs. in Lakh) |
|------------------|---------|---------------|
| 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
| 280.15 | 490.83 | 854.71 |

In addition to the above, the assistance was given to the KMF and its unions during these 3 years under the various other programmes is as under:—

| (Rs. in lakh) | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-----------|
| | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
| (i) Advance to Dharwad Milk union Under the scheme "Assistance to Co-Operatives" | 250.54 | Nil | Nil |
| (ii) Technology Mission On Dairy Development | 138.41 | 22.11 | 34.61 |
| (iii) EEC-PIA Programme | Nil | 1.13 | 21.44 |

(b) and (c) NDDB has informed that they have not received any complaints of misuse or diversion of funds for other purpose by the KMF. The Assistance/ Loan sanctioned by NDDB for these 3 years carries a moratorium of 2 years against the first instalment due in November, 1999. Rs. 4.12 lakh has been paid by KMF to NDDB.

(d) and (e) No Sir, in view of the above, question does not arise.

Assistance of Agricultural Projects

3451. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal seeking assistance for various agricultural projects from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra for the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) No separate proposal other than proposals under the ongoing central sector/centrally sponsored schemes have been received by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra. The details of funds released under the ongoing schemes upto 30.9.99 are as follow:—

| State | Amount released (Rs. Crores) |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 38.67 |
| Orissa | 13.49 |
| Maharashtra | 44.95 |

Relationship between Andhra Pradesh and New Jersey

3452. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for clearance of sister State relationship between Andhra Pradesh and New Jersey, USA in the areas of economic development, scientific research, tourism and culture; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Andhra Pradesh Government had proposed entering into a sister-state relationship with the US State of New Jersey in the areas of economic development, scientific research, tourism, culture etc. From the past experience with such proposals and looking at the areas of interest, it was suggested to the Andhra Pradesh Government to enter into an economic relationship with New Jersey with the participation of chambers of commerce etc. A modified proposal is awaited.

[*Translation*]

Crop Insurance Scheme

3453. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign Insurance Companies are likely to be involved in the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the Foreign Insurance Companies which have approached the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Involvement of foreign insurance companies in the Crop Insurance depends upon the provisions made for private insurance companies to transact Crop Insurance business in the proposed Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Bill.

(c) No foreign company has approached for Crop Insurance.

[*English*]

Production of Steel

3454. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:
DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel producing Public Sector Undertakings running in loss as well as in profit during the last three years and till date:

(b) the losses suffered by each steel plants during the above period alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to make loss making Steel Plant profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) There are two public sector steel producing companies i.e. Steel Authority

of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL). Their plant-wise details of net profit/loss (-) for

the last three years and first half of 1999-2000, are as under:—

| (Rs. in crore) | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--------------------------|
| Plant | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1st half of 1999-2000 |
| A—SAIL | | | | |
| Bhilai Steel Plant | 684 | 701 | 301 | (-) 173 |
| Bokaro Steel Plant | 357 | 367 | (-) 165 | (-) 176 |
| Durgapur Steel Plant | (-) 236 | (-) 509 | (-) 719 | (-) 378 |
| Rourkela Steel Plant | (-) 316 | (-) 374 | (-) 765 | (-) 536 |
| Alloy Steel Plant | (-) 67 | (-) 88 | (-) 179 | (-) 87 |
| Salem Steel Plant | (-) 38 | (-) 120 | (-) 180 | (-) 87 |
| Alloy Steels Plant | (-) 67 | (-) 88 | (-) 179 | (-) 87 |
| Salem Steel Plant | (-) 38 | (-) 120 | (-) 180 | (-) 87 |
| Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Ltd.* | (-) 102 | (-) 84 | (-) 74 | (-) 35 |
| Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. | (-) 213 | (-) 395 | (-) 357 | (-) 173.03 |
| Maharashtra Elektros melt Ltd. | (-) 1.6 | 1.5 | (-) 11.1 | (-) 16.79 |
| B—RINL | | | | |
| Visakhapatnam Steel Plant | (-) 246 | (-) 177 | (-) 469 | (-) 399.47 |

*VISL was merged with SAIL with effect from 01/04/1998.

The reasons for losses, *inter-alia*, are:

- (i) Slow down in demand for steel;
- (ii) Greater competition from imports;
- (iii) Increase in input costs; and
- (iv) Higher interest and depreciation cost mainly because of capitalisation of modernisation and other capital schemes.

(c) Both Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) have been constantly reviewing their performance and taking steps to increase their competitiveness, improve their financial

health and draw up comprehensive financial and business restructuring plans with a view to check their losses and enhance profitability.

Fisheries Training Centre

3455. CH. TEJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish fisheries training centres in various parts of the country;

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

(c) the assistance provided by the Government to each State for this purpose during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India have sanctioned 66 Fisheries Training Centres for establishment/upgradation under various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector Schemes as per the details furnished in enclosed Statement-I.

(c) Central Assistance provided by the Government of India to each State for this purpose during each of the last three years is given in enclosed Statement II.

Statement I

State-wise list of training centres sanctioned for establishment/upgradation by the Government so far under various Centrally Sponsored/Central Sector schemes

| S.No. | Name of the State/UT | Name of the Scheme | | | | | | | | Total |
|-------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| | | Fresh-water Aqua-culture | | Brackish-water Aqua-culture | | World Bank assisted Shrimp & Fish Culture Project | | Fisheries Training and Extension | | |
| | | No. | Loca-tion | No. | Loca-tion | No. | Loca-tion | No. | Loca-tion | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 1 | Machhli-patnam | 1 | Polekuru | — | | 2 | Warangal, Padampudi | 4 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | — | | — | | — | | 1 | Emchi | 1 |
| 3 | Assam | 1 | Sibasagar | — | | — | | — | | 1 |
| 4 | Bihar | — | | — | | — | | 2 | Patna, Madhubani | 2 |
| 5 | Goa | — | | 1 | Dauji | — | | 1 | ELA Dauji | 2 |
| 6 | Gujarat | — | | 1 | Matvad | — | | 2 | Fadval, Matvad | 3 |
| 7 | Haryana | 1 | Jyotisar | — | | — | | 1 | Lahli Banyani | 2 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | Bilaspur | — | | — | | 2 | Deoli, Bilaspur | 3 |
| 9 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | Ghomanasan | — | | — | | 2 | Kokernag Kathua | 3 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-------|---------------------------|----|----------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|-----|----------------------|----|
| 10. | Karnataka | 1 | Raichur | 1 | Kurta | — | | 2 | Shimoga, Malpe | 4 |
| 11. | Kerala | 1 | Pallom | 1 | Mulevaku | — | | 1 | Pallom | 3 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 1 | Chhatarpur | — | | — | | 2 | Raipur, Chhatarpur | 3 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1 | Navegaon-Kheri | 1 | Beda Pokharan | — | | — | | 2 |
| 14. | Manipur | 1 | Imphal | — | | — | | 2 | Lamphel, Khundrakpam | 3 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1 | Mawpan | — | | — | | 2 | Shilong, Tura | 3 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 1 | Thenzawai | — | | — | | 1 | Tandli | 2 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 1 | Dimapur | — | | — | | 1 | Ghaspari | 2 |
| 18. | Orissa | 1 | Kausalyaganga | 1 | Paradeep | 1 | Chandrabhaga | 2 | Bomalei, Balugaon | 5 |
| 19. | Punjab | 1 | Sangrur | — | | — | | 2 | Nathana, Ferozpur | 3 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 1 | Guwardi | — | | — | | — | | 1 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 1 | Chennai | 1 | Karangadu | — | | 2 | Madras, Sathenur Dam | 4 |
| 22. | Tripura | 1 | Udaipur | — | | — | | 1 | Lembucherra | 2 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 1 | Jaunpur | — | | — | | 2 | Gomti, Parichitgarh | 3 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 1 | S-24 Paraganas | 1 | Nazat | 1 | Digha | 1 | Kulla | 4 |
| 25. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | — | | — | | — | | 1 | Marina Hills | 1 |
| Total | | 20 | | 9 | | 2 | | 35* | | 66 |

* Sanctioned for upgradation of existing centres.

Statement II*Central assistance provided by the Government of India to each State/UT during the last three years*

(Rs. in lakh)

| S.No. | Name of the State/UT | Central assistance provided during | | | Total |
|-------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| | | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | |
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | — | — | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| 2. | Bihar | — | 3.75 | — | 3.75 |
| 3. | Goa | — | 2.50 | — | 2.50 |
| 4. | Karnataka | — | 5.00 | — | 5.00 |
| 5. | Kerala | — | 2.50 | — | 2.50 |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | 2.50 | — | — | 2.50 |
| 7. | Meghalaya | — | 1.00 | 2.50 | 3.50 |
| 8. | Rajasthan | 2.00 | — | — | 2.00 |
| 9. | Tamil Nadu | 2.50 | 2.50 | — | 5.00 |
| 10. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | — | 0.60 | — | 0.60 |
| Total | | 7.00 | 17.85 | 5.00 | 29.85 |

Export Promotion Councils

3456. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Export Promotion Councils for Agro and Rural Industries on the lines of Export Promotion Council set up for textiles;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing E.P. Councils cover the entire range of products.

*[Translation]***Vicious Campaign by Foreign Telecast Service on J&K**

3457. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Foreign Telecast Services have been showing Jammu and Kashmir State of India as a controversial area; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check such type of vicious campaign?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government are aware that some foreign television networks inaccurately depict the boundaries of India including those in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.

Government have made all efforts through press briefings and through direct contact with foreign television networks to correct this.

*[English]***Development of Seeds**

3458. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial assistance has been provided to State Seed Corporations under National Seeds Projects-III (NSP-III) for development of infrastructure to ensure adequate availability of seeds during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The financial assistance provided to various State Seeds Corporations under NSP-III during last three years is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| S.No. | Name of Corporation | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
|-------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh State Seed Dev. Corpn. | 114.72 | — | — |
| 2. | Assam State Seed Corpn. | 714.80 | 100.00 | — |
| 3. | Gujarat State Seed Corpn. | 4.00 | — | — |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh State Seed and Farm Dev. Corpn. | 313.00 | — | — |
| 5. | Maharashtra State Seed Corpn. | 223.00 | — | — |
| 6. | Orissa State Seed Corpn. | 348.00 | — | — |
| 7. | Rajasthan State Seed Corpn. | 280.00 | — | — |

Agricultural Research

3459. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide funds to States for their institutions which carry out agricultural research;

(b) the details of the policy formulated in this regard; and

(c) the total funds provided/granted to each State during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) There is no proposal to provide funds directly to States for their institutions which carry out agricultural research. However, funds are provided to centres of All India Coordinated Research Projects operating in different State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and also other institutions in different States.

(b) The policy formulated in this regard is to provide funds to SAU's and other Centres in the ratio of 75:25 between ICAR and SAUs/Other Centres respectively.

(c) Since the funds are not given to States, but go to different centres of research projects, State-wise details of grant of funds are not maintained.

Observatory Status in SAARC

3460. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been granted an observatory status by SAARC.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the status is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) India is a founder member of SAARC and continues to be a full-fledged member.

Conservation of Rain Water

3461. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing Central assistance to the States for conservation of rain water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of assistance provided during the period 1998-99 and 1999-2000, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of assistance provided under the schemes of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects (RVP), and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR), Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in the North Eastern States (WDPSCA) during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (State-wise) is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Statement Showing Assistance Provided Under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR), River Valley Project (RVP), Flood Prone Rivers (FPR) and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDSPSCA) in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (Upto Nov., '99)

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/UTs | NWDPR | | RVP | | FPR | | WDPSCA | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 900.00 | 600.00 | 553.00 | 503.70 | — | — | — | — |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 31.00 | 17.00 | — | — | — | — | 150.00 | 50.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 125.00 | — | 10.00 | — | — | — | 35.00 | 50.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 125.00 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-----|------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5. | Goa | 8.00 | 3.00 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 6. | Gujarat | 2000.00 | 2000.00 | 400.00 | 344.40 | — | — | — | — |
| 7. | Haryana | 220.00 | 35.00 | — | — | 218.00 | — | — | — |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 175.00 | 106.00 | 400.00 | 200.00 | 373.20 | 80.00 | — | — |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 38.00 | 15.00 | 599.00 | 492.40 | — | 150.00 | — | — |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2000.00 | 1308.60 | 1115.00 | 924.60 | — | — | — | — |
| 11. | Kerala | 1434.00 | 350.00 | — | 40.00 | — | — | — | — |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 1609.00 | 1683.00 | 1050.00 | 700.00 | 812.00 | 610.90 | — | — |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 3060.00 | 650.00 | 1300.00 | 350.00 | — | — | — | — |
| 14. | Manipur | 200.00 | 100.00 | — | — | — | — | 65.00 | 41.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 200.00 | 165.00 | — | — | — | — | 160.00 | 50.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 700.00 | 260.00 | — | — | — | — | 440.00 | 268.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 500.00 | 337.00 | — | — | — | — | 500.00 | 270.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 550.00 | 200.00 | 50.00 | 300.00 | — | — | — | — |
| 19. | Punjab | 45.00 | 8.00 | — | — | 51.00 | 20.00 | — | — |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 4000.00 | 1990.00 | 800.00 | 644.10 | 680.00 | 250.00 | — | — |
| 21. | Sikkim | 150.00 | 97.66 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 1650.00 | 1070.00 | 640.00 | 300.00 | — | — | — | — |
| 23. | Tripura | 300.00 | 240.00 | 30.00 | 29.60 | — | — | 150.00 | 100.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 1750.00 | 850.00 | 250.00 | 161.20 | 2179.70 | 842.10 | — | — |
| 25. | West Bengal | 600.00 | 425.00 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 26. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 1.00 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 27. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 65.00 | 32.00 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 28. | Damodar Valley Corpn. (DVC) | — | — | 400.00 | 268.80 | — | — | — | — |
| Total | | 22436.00 | 12541.66 | 7597.00 | 5258.80 | 4313.90 | 1953.00 | 1500.00 | 829.00 |

[Translation]

Fruits and Vegetables

3462. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the fruits and vegetables, which have been found useful for food processing; and

(b) the States where these fruits and vegetables are cultivated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Mango, Pineapple, apple, grapes, citrus, guava, banana, litchi, potatoes, tomatoes, green peas, onions, garlic, gherkings, cauliflower and mushrooms are major fruits and vegetables found useful for processing.

(b) The details are given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Production of Major Fruits & Vegetables in India during 1995-96

(Production in 1000 tonnes)

| State | Fruits | | | | | | | Vegetables | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------------|--------------|--------|-------|------|--------|-----------|
| | Apple | Banana | Citrus | Grapes | Guava | Mango | Pine-Apple | Cauli-Flower | Tomato | Onion | Peas | Potato | Gherkings |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Andhra Pradesh | — | 1035 | 943 | 46 | 114 | 3164 | 176 | — | 477 | 374 | — | — | 3 |
| Assam | — | 570 | 110 | — | — | — | 200 | 120 | 284 | — | — | 505 | — |
| Bihar | — | — | 188 | — | 328 | 1806 | 52 | 1139 | 1128 | 137 | 185 | 1508 | — |
| Gujarat | — | 1071 | — | — | 143 | 293 | — | 103 | 184 | 444 | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|----|
| Himachal Pradesh | 277 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 73 | — | — |
| Haryana | — | — | — | 18 | — | — | — | 136 | 145 | 106 | 93 | — | — |
| J & K | 715 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Karnataka | — | 1671 | 391 | 162 | 159 | 994 | — | — | 913 | 440 | — | — | 30 |
| Kerala | — | — | — | — | — | 266 | 47 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Madhya Pradesh | — | 586 | 171 | — | 139 | 164 | — | 131 | 375 | 235 | — | 518 | — |
| Maharashtra | — | 2917 | 865 | 275 | 106 | 380 | — | — | 520 | 1121 | — | — | — |
| Manipur | — | — | — | — | — | — | 66 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Oriasa | — | — | — | — | — | 372 | — | — | 647 | 380 | 55 | — | — |
| Punjab | — | — | 329 | 63 | — | — | — | — | 139 | — | 80 | 796 | — |
| Rajasthan | — | — | 119 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 162 | — | — | — |
| Tripura | — | — | — | — | — | — | 35 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tamil Nadu | — | 3692 | 213 | 31 | — | 570 | 65 | — | 232 | 232 | — | — | 6 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 210 | — | — | — | 156 | 2074 | — | 222 | — | 396 | 1728 | 7466 | — |
| West Bengal | — | — | — | — | — | 472 | 233 | 271 | 146 | — | 31 | 6258 | — |
| Meghalaya | — | — | — | — | — | — | 90 | — | — | — | — | — | — |

[English]

Year Plan, State-wise and Scheme-wise?

Funds for the Development of Agriculture

3463. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the funds released for the development of agriculture under the Centrally sponsored schemes during the Ninth Five

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): Details of funds released under major Centrally Sponsored Schemes implemented by Deptt. of Agriculture and Cooperation for the development of agriculture State-wise and scheme-wise are Annexed.

Statement*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Wheat)*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Haryana | 533.00 | 279.10 | 267.27 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 86.00 | 111.13 | 65.58 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 15.00 | Nil | 24.16 |
| 10. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Orissa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | 248.49 | 122.2 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 69.00 | 66.02 | 42.71 |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 23. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 902.00 | 867.14 | 289.71 |
| 25. | West Bengal | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total: | | 1605.00 | 1571.88 | 811.63 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice)

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 719.00 | 749.74 | 414.60 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 36.00 | 21.10 | 22.45 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | 45.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 34.00 | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | 7.00 | 10.00 | 14.75 |
| 6. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 7. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Kerala | 134.00 | 131.00 | 71.64 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 29.00 | 203.00 | 90.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Manipur | 46.00 | 42.86 | 43.83 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 17.00 | 8.00 | 12.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 36.00 | 28.00 | 24.27 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 41.00 | 41.60 | 18.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 998.00 | 740.00 | 349.12 |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 628.00 | 615.44 | 369.89 |
| 23. | Tripura | 30.00 | 22.00 | 35.05 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 1195.00 | 821.66 | 520.70 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 144.00 | 80.00 | 90.00 |
| Total: | | 4094.00 | 3514.40 | 2121.10 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Integrated Cereals Development Programme - Coarse Cereals*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | 118.50 | 136.27 | 65.20 |
| 7. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | 214.00 | 235.00 | 314.95 |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 597.00 | 482.24 | 217.10 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 541.50 | 954.00 | 339.65 |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Orissa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 739.00 | 742.41 | 542.43 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 6.00 | 21.50 | 13.32 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 23. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 25. | West Bengal | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| | Total | 2216.00 | 2571.42 | 1492.65 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Intensive Cotton Development Programme

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 100.00 | 153.00 | 144.14 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | 92.00 | 104.00 | 26.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 7. | Haryana | 43.00 | 66.77 | 39.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | 37.50 | 92.00 | 76.60 |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 56.00 | 60.00 | 18.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 348.50 | 307.00 | 105.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Orissa | 45.00 | 41.00 | 14.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 196.00 | 259.00 | 171.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 244.50 | 323.00 | 30.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 251.00 | 112.00 | 62.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 28.00 | 64.00 | 23.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total: | | 1441.50 | 1581.77 | 708.74 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Special Jute Development Programme*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 44.00 | 12.50 | 21.24 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | 9.50 | 88.50 | 20.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2.00 | Nil | 6.47 |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1.00 | 51.00 | 5.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 18. | Orissa | 68.00 | 68.00 | 23.13 |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 23. | Tripura | 43.50 | Nil | 5.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 35.00 | Nil | 5.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 169.00 | 180.50 | 55.00 |
| Total | | 370.00 | 400.50 | 140.84 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme : Sustainable development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS)

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | 148.00 | 41.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | 5.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 70.67 | Nil | 23.00 |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | 3.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 18.00 | 105.00 | 29.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 75.00 | 71.00 | 23.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | 100.00 | 127.00 | 59.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|----------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 11. | Kerala | 20.00 | 38.00 | 9.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 27.00 | 73.00 | 23.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 284.00 | 580.00 | 134.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 5.00 | 20.00 | 6.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | 10.00 | 21.30 | 6.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 11.00 | 23.00 | 6.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 40.00 | 27.00 | 10.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | 43.00 | 15.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 12.00 | 69.00 | 24.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 65.00 | 94.00 | 38.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 3.00 | 12.00 | 5.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 256.00 | 91.00 | 135.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 6.00 | 12.00 | 9.00 |
| Total | | 1002.67 | 1554.30 | 603.00 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: National Pulses Development Project

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 221.00 | 245.00 | 45.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 5.00 | 5.00 | 2.00 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | 10.00 | 3.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.78 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 90.00 | 208.00 | 56.25 |
| 7. | Haryana | 60.00 | 35.00 | 23.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 15.00 | 15.00 | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 30.00 | 30.00 | 10.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 130.00 | 150.00 | 60.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 12.00 | 12.00 | 7.20 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 555.00 | 485.00 | 210.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 412.00 | 430.00 | 144.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 25.00 | 35.00 | 20.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 5.00 | 5.00 | 6.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | 18.00 | 30.00 | 21.60 |
| 18. | Orissa | 45.00 | 180.00 | 60.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 25.00 | 22.00 | 7.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 690.00 | 525.00 | 264.90 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 15.00 | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 185.00 | 150.00 | 37.77 |
| 23. | Tripura | 25.00 | 25.00 | 25.37 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 543.00 | 630.00 | 100.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 13.25 | 25.00 | 8.00 |
| Total: | | 3100.25 | 3268.00 | 1116.87 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Oilseeds Production Programme*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1502.00 | 1200.00 | 651.81 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 40.00 | 40.00 | 46.88 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | 200.00 | 67.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1142.00 | 1030.00 | 377.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 296.38 | 280.00 | 138.65 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | 40.00 | 13.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | 80.00 | 27.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 595.00 | 700.00 | 300.72 |
| 11. | Kerala | 50.00 | 50.00 | 33.33 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 1249.00 | 1241.50 | 430.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1050.00 | 1100.00 | 367.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 110.00 | 100.00 | 44.90 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 20.00 | 25.00 | 30.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | 48.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | 80.00 | 72.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 18. | Orissa | 500.00 | 500.00 | 167.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 100.00 | 100.00 | NII |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 1650.00 | 1230.00 | 648.95 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 55.00 | 60.00 | 20.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 832.50 | 625.00 | 375.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 35.00 | 58.50 | 58.16 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 921.00 | 704.00 | 200.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 250.00 | 246.00 | 83.00 |
| Total: | | 10397.86 | 9690.00 | 4199.40 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Oil Palm Development Programme

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | NII | NII | 125.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 3. | Assam | NII | NII | NII |
| 4. | Bihar | NII | NII | NII |
| 5. | Goa | 22.17 | NII | NII |
| 6. | Gujarat | NII | NII | NII |
| 7. | Haryana | NII | NII | NII |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | NII | NII | NII |
| 10. | Karnataka | NII | 135.00 | 30.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | NII | 90.11 | NII |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 13. | Maharashtra | NII | NII | NII |
| 14. | Manipur | NII | NII | NII |
| 15. | Meghalaya | NII | NII | NII |
| 16. | Mizoram | NII | NII | NII |
| 17. | Nagaland | NII | NII | NII |
| 18. | Orissa | NII | 100.00 | 10.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | NII | NII | NII |
| 20. | Rajasthan | NII | NII | NII |
| 21. | Sikkim | NII | NII | NII |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 204.09 | 50.00 | 30.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 5.78 | NII | 2.66 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 25. | West Bengal | NII | NII | NII |
| Total: | | 232.04 | 375.11 | 197.66 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Accelerated Maize Development Programme

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 32.50 | 40.00 | 20.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 31.00 | 30.00 | 15.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 36.82 | 50.00 | 10.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 4.00 | NII | NII |
| 5. | Goa | NII | NII | NII |
| 6. | Gujarat | 21.94 | NII | 10.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | NII | NII | NII |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 25.75 | NII | 10.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 25.75 | NII | 10.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 29.05 | 40.00 | 20.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | NII | NII | NII |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 4.00 | NII | 15.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2.82 | 60.00 | 20.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 48.10 | 37.00 | 10.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 7.10 | NII | 5.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 12.10 | 11.05 | 5.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 10.10 | 10.50 | 5.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 18. | Orissa | 31.50 | 63.00 | 10.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 59.83 | Nil | 20.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 14.12 | Nil | 5.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 14.99 | 24.15 | 5.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 7.10 | 9.00 | 5.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 128.87 | 30.00 | 45.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 7.20 | Nil | 5.00 |
| Total | | 554.64 | 404.70 | 250.00 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five year Plan

Name of the Scheme: National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 700.00 | 900.00 | 300.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 10.00 | 31.00 | 17.00 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | 125.00 | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | 125.00 | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | 8.00 | 3.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 700.00 | 2000.00 | 2000.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 80.00 | 220.00 | 35.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 120.00 | 175.00 | 106.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 106.00 | 38.00 | 15.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2100.00 | 2000.00 | 1308.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 500.00 | 1434.00 | 350.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 1484.00 | 1609.00 | 1683.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2500.00 | 3060.00 | 650.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 250.00 | 200.00 | 100.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | 200.00 | 165.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 225.00 | 700.00 | 130.00 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 160.00 | 500.00 | 337.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 1200.00 | 550.00 | Nil |
| 19. | Punjab | 40.00 | 45.00 | 8.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 2581.00 | 4000.00 | 1350.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 90.00 | 150.00 | 97.66 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 900.00 | 1650.00 | 1070.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 130.00 | 300.00 | 130.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 1000.00 | 1750.00 | 850.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 10.00 | 600.00 | 425.00 |
| Total: | | 14838.00 | 22370.00 | 11129.66 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 152.10 | 98.10 | 63.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 3.00 | 4.50 | 3.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 36.40 | Nil | 15.90 |
| 4. | Bihar | 107.70 | 24.40 | 44.10 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.60 | 1.20 | 1.50 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 100.80 | 84.30 | 41.70 |
| 7. | Haryana | 38.10 | 52.50 | 15.60 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 11.10 | 13.20 | 4.50 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 10.50 | 2.60 | 4.50 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 156.30 | 138.60 | 54.60 |
| 11. | Kerala | 11.10 | 13.80 | 4.50 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 196.50 | 273.60 | 81.30 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 240.30 | 298.80 | 99.60 |
| 14. | Manipur | 3.00 | 4.50 | 3.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 5.10 | 6.60 | 2.10 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 1.20 | 2.10 | 2.10 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 3.00 | 4.50 | 3.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 18. | Orissa | 80.40 | 41.70 | 27.90 |
| 19. | Punjab | 32.70 | 40.50 | 13.50 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 142.80 | 149.10 | 49.80 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 1.20 | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 69.90 | 80.40 | 29.10 |
| 23. | Tripura | Nil | 4.50 | 3.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 207.90 | 287.94 | 72.30 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 51.60 | Nil | 21.40 |
| Total: | | 1663.30 | 1627.44 | 661.00 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 668.00 | 651.50 | 503.73 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | 20.00 | 10.00 | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | 50.00 | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | 266.00 | 433.00 | 194.46 |
| 7. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 400.00 | 520.00 | 200.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 458.00 | 599.00 | 492.46 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 950.00 | 115.00 | 924.63 |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | 68.88 | 40.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 900.00 | 1592.58 | 600.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 820.00 | 1300.00 | 250.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Orissa | 100.00 | 112.39 | 50.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 870.00 | 879.00 | 544.12 |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 600.00 | 580.00 | 100.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 31.00 | 20.00 | 29.64 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 100.00 | 254.72 | 161.28 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 100.00 | Nil | Nil |
| Total: | | 6333.00 | 7146.07 | 4094.32 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Soil Conservation in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | 48.00 | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Haryana | 90.00 | 218.00 | 80.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 250.00 | 373.20 | 150.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 694.00 | 812.08 | 610.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 18. | Orissa | NII | NII | NII |
| 19. | Punjab | 30.00 | 51.00 | 20.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 747.00 | 680.00 | 250.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | NII | NII | NII |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | NII | NII | NII |
| 23. | Tripura | NII | NII | NII |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 2000.00 | 2179.72 | 650.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | NII | 20.00 | NII |
| Total | | 3859.00 | 4334.00 | 1760.00 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan
Name of the Scheme: Reclamation of Alkali Soils*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 3. | Assam | NII | NII | NII |
| 4. | Bihar | NII | NII | NII |
| 5. | Goa | NII | NII | NII |
| 6. | Gujarat | NII | NII | NII |
| 7. | Haryana | 10.00 | 27.77 | 43.66 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 11. | Kerala | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | Nil | 225.00 | Nil |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 14. | Manipur | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 18. | Orissa | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 19. | Punjab | 172.60 | 225.00 | Nil |
| 20. | Rajasthan | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 21. | Sikkim | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 23. | Tripura | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 155.40 | Nil | Nil |
| 25. | West Bengal | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| | Tot. | 338.00 | 477.77 | 43.66 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Use of Plastics in Agriculture*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1070.00 | 1410.00 | 400.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | 46.00 | 8.00 |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | 3.00 | 19.00 | 7.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 100.00 | 191.49 | 142.52 |
| 7. | Haryana | 44.00 | 105.42 | 25.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 570.00 | 262.00 | Nil |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2234.00 | 2995.00 | 1574.45 |
| 11. | Kerala | 304.00 | 415.65 | 123.60 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 80.00 | 183.10 | 122.55 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2447.00 | 3194.13 | 1690.75 |
| 14. | Manipur | 24.00 | 63.00 | 10.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | 45.00 | Nil |
| 16. | Mizoram | 38.00 | 88.00 | Nil |
| 17. | Nagaland | 70.00 | 96.60 | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 18. | Orissa | 125.00 | NII | NII |
| 19. | Punjab | NII | 93.00 | 30.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 287.00 | 270.00 | 101.95 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 38.00 | 45.32 | 15.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 515.00 | 1095.00 | 701.50 |
| 23. | Tripura | NII | NII | NII |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | NII | 115.59 | 88.01 |
| 25. | West Bengal | NII | NII | NII |
| Total: | | 7949.00 | 10733.30 | 5040.33 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Development of Mushroom

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | NII | NII | 5.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 21.60 | 8.75 | 3.66 |
| 3. | Assam | 9.85 | NII | NII |
| 4. | Bihar | 41.00 | 65.90 | NII |
| 5. | Goa | NII | NII | NII |
| 6. | Gujarat | NII | NII | 29.80 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 7. | Haryana | 3.20 | 3.00 | 3.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | NII | 36.77 | 3.30 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | NII | NII | NII |
| 10. | Karnataka | NII | 37.00 | 5.33 |
| 11. | Kerala | 1.50 | 21.00 | 6.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | NII | 1.50 | 1.60 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1.50 | NII | 3.33 |
| 14. | Manipur | 41.60 | NII | 1.66 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 6.50 | NII | NII |
| 16. | Mizoram | NII | 4.00 | 0.80 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 13.10 | 4.00 | NII |
| 18. | Orissa | 41.00 | 2.00 | 4.93 |
| 19. | Punjab | 40.00 | NII | NII |
| 20. | Rajasthan | NII | NII | NII |
| 21. | Sikkim | 11.50 | NII | NII |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 1.00 | 8.50 | 1.60 |
| 23. | Tripura | 6.05 | 5.50 | 1.60 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 49.96 | NII | 28.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | NII | NII | NII |
| Total: | | 289.36 | 197.92 | 101.61 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid and Temperate Zone Fruits*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 41.00 | 80.00 | 35.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 22.00 | 39.00 | 15.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 5.00 | 20.00 | NII |
| 4. | Bihar | 71.72 | 20.00 | NII |
| 5. | Goa | NII | NII | NII |
| 6. | Gujarat | NII | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 34.80 | 75.00 | 30.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 22.00 | NII | 20.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 232.00 | NII | NII |
| 10. | Karnataka | 80.00 | 140.00 | 65.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 98.50 | 216.19 | NII |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 108.00 | 133.50 | NII |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 100.00 | 214.00 | NII |
| 14. | Manipur | 182.00 | NII | 25.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 10.30 | 10.00 | NII |
| 16. | Mizoram | 30.00 | 19.00 | NII |
| 17. | Nagaland | 50.00 | 113.00 | 20.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 18. | Orissa | 299.00 | 500.00 | 100.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 25.00 | 39.00 | Nil |
| 20. | Rejasthan | 40.00 | 70.00 | 25.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 10.30 | 14.00 | 20.00 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 80.00 | 183.00 | 45.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 15.00 | 27.00 | 10.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | Nil | 20.00 | 40.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 70.00 | Nil | Nil |
| Total : | | 1626.62 | 1962.69 | 480.00 |

Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan

Name of the Scheme: Integrated Development Programme for Cashewnuts

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 70.00 | 83.61 | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 3. | Assam | Nil | Nil | 1.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Goa | 38.00 | 170.52 | 123.78 |
| 6. | Gujarat | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Haryana | Nil | Nil | Nil |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | NII | NII | NII |
| 10. | Karnataka | 98.61 | 113.84 | 81.30 |
| 11. | Kerala | 119.93 | 89.30 | 57.29 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 23.50 | 48.90 | NII |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 544.38 | 690.20 | 437.48 |
| 14. | Manipur | 16.60 | 19.75 | NII |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 4.00 | 14.30 | 4.28 |
| 16. | Mizoram | NII | NII | NII |
| 17. | Nagaland | NII | 9.00 | 2.90 |
| 18. | Orissa | 162.30 | 109.02 | 141.70 |
| 19. | Punjab | NII | NII | NII |
| 20. | Rajasthan | NII | NII | NII |
| 21. | Sikkim | NII | NII | NII |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 140.35 | 183.90 | 89.26 |
| 23. | Tripura | 4.20 | 14.30 | 4.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | NII | NII | NII |
| 25. | West Bengal | NII | NII | 2.00 |
| Total: | | 1221.87 | 1546.64 | 944.99 |

*Details of Funds released State-wise during the Ninth Five Year Plan**Name of the Scheme: Integrated Development Programme for Spices*

| Sl. No. | State | Amount Released (Rs. lakhs) | | |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | 1997-98 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 (as on 30.9.99) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 105.00 | 120.00 | Nil |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 95.00 | 117.74 | 57.29 |
| 3. | Assam | 24.00 | 16.00 | 25.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 30.00 | 35.00 | 14.30 |
| 5. | Goa | 2.79 | 1.95 | 2.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 99.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 46.33 | 70.90 | 22.87 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 15.00 | 20.00 | 10.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 5.41 | Nil | 2.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 285.00 | 171.90 | 271.31 |
| 11. | Kerala | 1349.92 | 852.33 | 500.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 40.00 | 64.00 | 70.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 147.62 | 86.12 | 56.11 |
| 14. | Manipur | 8.79 | 26.27 | 17.90 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 40.05 | 25.00 | 15.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 30.38 | 52.55 | 26.04 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 14.84 | 15.00 | 14.87 |
| 18. | Orissa | 100.00 | 116.25 | 50.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 19. | Punjab | 8.00 | 10.72 | 15.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 100.00 | 95.45 | 50.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 74.00 | 110.00 | 72.53 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 136.00 | 143.70 | 198.61 |
| 23. | Tripura | 41.00 | 9.98 | 25.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 38.00 | 14.00 | 35.70 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 40.00 | 20.00 | 12.00 |
| Total: | | 2876.13 | 2224.86 | 1593.53 |

[Translation]

Houses for Fishermen

3464. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fisheries Department of the Madhya Pradesh Government have submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture a Rs. 50.50 lakh National Fishermen Welfare Fund Scheme for construction of houses for fishermen in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the present status of this proposal; and

(c) the date by which the present scheme is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a proposal during 1998-99 under Development of Model Fishermen Villages component of the Centrally Sponsored National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme involving release of Rs. 25.25 lakhs towards 50 percent share of Central assistance.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 6.80 lakhs has been released to the State Government as first instalment of Central share against the above proposal of the State Government. The balance amount would be released on

receipt of utilisation certificate and physical and financial progress report from the State Government.

[English]

Visit of British Minister

3465. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Peter Hain visited India in November 1999; and

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Mr. Peter Hain, the British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs visited India from 17-19 November 1999 as the Special Envoy of Prime Minister Tony Blair.

(b) The visit provided an opportunity for wide-ranging discussions on bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest and contemporary relevance. The discussions contributed to the ongoing political dialogue

with the U.K, and led to an enhanced understanding of India's concerns on various issues, including on developments in the neighbourhood, cross border terrorism, disarmament and security related issues.

**Steamer Service from Mumbai to
Karachi Via Kutch**

3466. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to start any steamer (sea route) service from Mumbai to Karachi via Kutch; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Sardar Sarovar Dam

3467. SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that Sarpanches of all the nearby villages have decided to launch *kar seva* at Sardar Sarovar Dam for its timely completion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Narmada Jan Aandolan Activists led by Farmer leader Sharad Joshi performed a token "Kar sewa" at the Sardar Sarovar Dam site on 4.12.99. Mr. Sharad Joshi, Mr. Sanat Mehta, Mr. Satyajit Gaikwad, Mrs. Urmila Ben. Mr. Shailesh Sata & Mr. T.P. Bhil along with some other 20-25 Karsewakas reached near Canal Head Power House at around 8.30 a.m. and they lifted water by buckets from after-bay of Canal Head Power House and put it in Tail Race Channel (TRC) claiming Kar Sewa performed by them. All the roads were sealed but they reached at the site through hills near Canal Head Power where police arrangement was not made. Then all 30 Karsewakas were arrested by police and sent to Rajpipla police custody.

[*Translation*]

**People Visiting Foreign Countries
without Passport**

3468. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many people visited foreign countries without having passport;

(b) if so, the details of such cases detected during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such visits?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) No person going through the Immigration Check Posts can leave the country without having a passport or a valid travel document. However, a passport is not required by an Indian national to visit Nepal or Bhutan.

[*English*]

Funds for Dairy Development

3469. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the salient features of the schemes and the funds allocated for each scheme and their target in the Ninth Five Year Plan for Extension of Frozen Semen Tech. and Progeny Testing Programme, National Bull Production Programme, Integrated Dairy Development Projects in Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas;

(c) the funds earmarked for each State to implement these schemes;

(d) whether the above said schemes are 100% Centrally sponsored schemes; and

(e) if so, the details of the implementing authority for these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Sir, the allocation of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying is Rs. 2345.64 crores for the Ninth Plan.

(b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

certificate of earlier releases, if any.

(c) The funds are released to the States on the basis of viability of the proposals and utilisation of

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, these are 100% Centrally sponsored schemes, which are implemented through the State Departments of Animal Husbandry.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

| S.No. | Scheme | Ninth Plan | | | Salient Features of the Scheme |
|-------|--|------------|--|----------|--|
| | | Allocation | Target | Nos. | |
| 1. | Extension of Frozen Semen Tech. & Progeny Testing Prog. | 320.00 | 1. Estt. of All Centres | 43000 | 1. Genetic improvement cattle and buffalo for increasing productivity |
| | | | 2. Estt. of new Frozen Semen Banks | 112 | 2. Strengthening of State Bull Stations |
| | | | 3. Estt. of Sperm Stations | 63 | 3. Expansion of breeding inputs and services |
| | | | 4. Estt. of Progeny Testing Programme Units | 12 | 4. Improving efficiency of All and coverage of breedable population |
| | | | 5. Estt. of new Training Centres | 63 | |
| 2. | National Bull Production Prog. | 82.00 | 1. Strengthening of Gaushalas | 50 | 1. Improvement of selected descent and indigenous breeds |
| | | | | | 2. Conservation of draft breeds. |
| | | | | | 3. Production of test-mated bulls. |
| 3. | Integrated Dairy Dev. Project in Non-operation Flood, Hilly and backward areas | 250.00 | 1. Organization of dairy cooperative societies | 9549 | 1. Dev. of milch cattle and increasing milk production |
| | | | 2. Farmer members | 5,97,000 | 2. Organization of dairy cooperatives in areas hitherto uncovered under operation flood. |
| | | | 3. Dev. of milk processing capacity (000' lpd) | 956 | 3. Improving nutritional, socio-economic status of people living in the disadvantage areas of the country. |

Below Poverty Line

3470. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any new scheme during the year 1999-2000 for improving the living standard of the people living below the poverty line in North Eastern Region particularly in the State of Manipur alongwith scheme-wise progress made so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated in this regard during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to implement the scheme effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):
(a) to (c) The Union Government has not formulated any new scheme during the year 1999-2000 specifically targeted at people living below the poverty line in the North-Eastern Region for improving their living standards. However, with effect from 1.4.1999, the Government has restructured and redesigned the major rural poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in the country including the North-Eastern Region in order to improve their efficacy. The Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and allied programmes along with Million Wells Scheme (MWS) have been merged into a single self-employment programme — Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY). Similarly, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) has been restructured as Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) with the objective of creation of community village infrastructure. The Employment Assurance Scheme has also been strengthened and revamped whereby it would be the single wage employment programme. The total allocation under IRDP, JRY and EAS for the last three years *i.e.* 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 for the North-Eastern States including Sikkim is given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| States | 1996-97 | | | 1997-98 | | | 1998-99 (Prov.) | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|-----------------|---------|----------|
| | IRDP | JRY | EAS* | IRDP | JRY | EAS* | IRDP | JRY | EAS* |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 623.43 | 178.30 | 2126.25 | 644.07 | 199.21 | 2362.50 | 403.82 | 321.65 | 2675.00 |
| Assam | 2743.50 | 5718.18 | 13525.00 | 21834.27 | 6389.03 | 10740.00 | 10492.72 | 8357.73 | 13772.50 |
| Manipur | 449.59 | 228.53 | 1350.00 | 464.47 | 255.34 | 1012.50 | 703.42 | 560.30 | 1112.50 |
| Meghalaya | 477.57 | 267.40 | 612.50 | 493.36 | 298.78 | 275.00 | 788.10 | 627.74 | 762.50 |
| Mizoram | 201.82 | 112.65 | 1500.00 | 208.50 | 125.86 | 1000.00 | 182.36 | 145.26 | 1000.00 |
| Nagaland | 335.69 | 286.64 | 3482.50 | 346.81 | 320.26 | 2625.00 | 540.60 | 430.60 | 2625.00 |
| Sikkim | 55.95 | 104.36 | 275.00 | 57.79 | 116.60 | 275.00 | 201.90 | 160.83 | 400.00 |
| Tripura | 641.42 | 296.83 | 2700.00 | 662.64 | 331.65 | 1800.00 | 1270.06 | 1011.64 | 1800.00 |

* Total Release as no allocation is made under the programme.
Source: Ministry of Rural Development.

Area Welfare Officers

3471. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many posts of Area Welfare Officers in Delhi are lying vacant;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Area Welfare Officer is not an appointment under the Government of India and is only a functional arrangement to provide a link between the Central Government employees residing in various colonies and the concerned civic and other agencies providing service to them. Applications are invited from Gazetted Officers working in various Ministries/Departments for appointment as Area Welfare Officer for a period of two years. Officers desirous of being appointed as Area Welfare Officer on honorary and voluntary basis are required to apply through their respective Ministries/Departments. This year based on the applications received and considering their suitability, 61 Area Welfare Officers have been appointed in various colonies/areas in Delhi/New Delhi for a term of two years viz. 1999 and 2000.

National Employment Policy

3472. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a National Employment Policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Employment has been an important objective of development planning

over the last 40 years. The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors & technologies which are labour intensive in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and under-employment. In order to tackle the problem of unemployment, special employment generation and poverty alleviation schemes are also being implemented.

Therefore, the Government does not propose to formulate a separate National Employment Policy.

Interest Free Loan to Co-operative Banks

3473. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for sanction of Rs. 174.50 crores as interest free loan to cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh have been received by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no such scheme which provides for interest free loans to cooperative banks in Andhra Pradesh. However, considering wide spread loss in certain districts of Andhra Pradesh due to failure of crops on account of pests attack, some relief measures to the affected farmers were extended by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). As per the instructions issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) special concessions to cooperatives in Andhra Pradesh like moratorium on repayment of loans by the Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank (APSCB) for a period of two years, conversion/reschedulement of dues under Short/Medium Term credit for a period of 7 years and relaxation in Non-Overdue-Cover norms etc. were extended.

[*Translation*]

Oūstees of Koshi Dam

3474. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a dam across the river Koshi in Bihar is being constructed;

(b) if so, whether all the displaced people of the dam have been rehabilitated;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which all the displaced persons are likely to be rehabilitated; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred/likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Derogatory Statement made by I.M.B.S.B.

3475. SHRI RAMCHANDER BAINDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that US based "International Mission Board Southern Baptist Convention" has published a book in October, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Government have noted its contents which are derogatory and hurting to Hindu's feelings;

(c) whether a protest has been lodged by the Indian Government with USA Government for allowing publication and circulation of this book;

(d) if so, whether the Government have also demanded for seizure of copies of this book;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for this; and

(f) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The International Missions Board of the Southern Baptists published three prayer guides for Muslims, Hindus and Jews. The "Prayer for Hindus" was issued in October 1999. The pamphlet asks Southern Baptists to pray "for several unreached Hindu people groups". Following a report in the Washington Post, several Indian American organisations wrote letters of complaint to the President of the United States, Attorney General and Senators and Congressmen. There were also demonstrations by Hindus against the pamphlet in Boston and Houston.

(c) to (e) The offensive tone of the "prayer books" has provoked condemnation not only from the Hindus of America but also from leaders of various Christian churches in the United States.

The Indian Embassy in Washington is in close touch with leaders of Indian American organisations, which have taken up the matter with the US Government. The Government of India has also conveyed to United States authorities the concern felt by Indian organisations.

A spokesman of the US Government has stated on this matter that President Clinton spoke "passionately about the need for religious freedom and expression...and its something we should practice here at home too."

(f) The Indian Constitution guarantees absolute religious freedom to the citizens of the country, reflecting the well-known social traditions of tolerance and respect for all religions. Government views all manifestations of religious intolerance in that light.

Industrial Estate in Tamil Nadu

3476. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Industrial Estates at present, in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up an Industrial Estate at Chingleput, Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) 73 Industrial Estates have been set up in Tamil Nadu by the State Government. Central Government has no proposal to set up an Industrial Estate at Chingleput (Tamil Nadu).

[Translation]

Employment Exchanges

3477. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons registered with employment exchanges in Uttar Pradesh at present; and

(b) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes out of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh as on 31st September, 1999 was of the order of 26.5 lakhs. Out of these, the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe job-seekers were of the order of 5.1 and 0.11 lakhs respectively.

[English]

Corruption in Durgapur Steel Plant

3478. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of the large scale corruption in Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any probe has been ordered by the Government to investigate the charges of corruption in Durgapur Steel Plant; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against the corrupt officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (d) No case of large

scale corruption in the Durgapur Steel Plant of Steel Authority of India Ltd. has come to the notice of the Government. However, cases of corruption and financial irregularities against three officers and one employee of DSP are pending, in which appropriate action has been initiated against the charged persons.

Development of Animal Husbandry and Horticulture

3479. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals of the Animal Husbandry and Horticulture development of Karnataka and Maharashtra pending with the Union Government for approval and financial assistance;

(b) the time since when these proposals are pending and the reasons for their pendency; and

(c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Production of Wheat and Rice

3480. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat and rice produced in the country, especially in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) whether any Committee of experts has been set up to solve the problems of wheat and paddy growers;

(c) whether the Committee of experts had submitted their report to the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The quantity of wheat and rice produced in the country

and that in Bihar during last three years is given as under:

(Million tonnes)

| Year | Rice | | Wheat | |
|---------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|
| | Bihar | All-India | Bihar | All-India |
| 1996-97 | 7.28 | 81.74 | 4.56 | 69.35 |
| 1997-98 | 6.77 | 82.30 | 4.16 | 65.91 |
| 1998-99 | 6.46 | 84.74 | 4.18 | 71.01 |

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, to increase production and productivity of wheat and rice, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat. Under these programmes, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstration on farmers' holding including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology.

Allocation of Funds

3481. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount allocated for agriculture and rural development during the last three years especially for tribals/scheduled castes/backward/rural areas of Maharashtra; and

(b) the total amount demanded by the State Governments and the amount sanctioned by the Planning Commission for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The amount allocated to the State of Maharashtra for agriculture during the last three years *i.e.* 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were Rs. 313.14 Crore, Rs. 330.66 Crore and Rs. 283.69 Crore respectively. The similar allocations for rural development were Rs. 717.42 Crore, Rs. 774.46 Crore and Rs. 1019.08 Crore respectively.

The amounts for agriculture and rural development are not allocated on per capita basis, nor are they allocated separately for tribals/scheduled castes/backward/rural areas.

(b) No separate demands are made by the state governments for allocations of agriculture and rural development for tribals/scheduled castes/backward/rural areas.

[English]

Integrated Rice Development Programme

3482. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have made request to Union Government to enhance the funds under the Integrated Rice Development Programme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) and (b) Government of India received a proposal for enhancing the allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice)' only from Government of Tripura. Additional central funds amounting to Rs. 60 lakh has been allocated under the scheme to Tripura State during current year.

MPLADS

3483. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned, allocated and released to each Member of Parliament from Maharashtra under MPLADS since 1995, year-wise;

(b) whether there is any delay in releasing the amount;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for early release of funds under MPLADS to Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) An amount of Rs. 1 crore was released in respect of each sitting MP during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97. A statement showing the funds released to each MP of Maharashtra during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as on 13.12.1999 is enclosed. The dates indicated in various columns of the statement denote the dates of release of instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs each to MPs whose names are mentioned in column-2 of the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) MPLADS funds are released on receipt of an expenditure statement showing the unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakhs. For this purpose a proforma has already been circulated to all the District Collectors. The District Collectors have also been advised to sanction all the works recommended by MPs as per their entitlement of funds without waiting for the receipt of funds from this Ministry and to send a report in the prescribed format so that funds may be released to the fullest extent. The MPs have also been requested to give recommendations for sufficient works to the concerned Collector for optimum utilisation of MPLADS funds as per their entitlement.

Statement

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

Details of Funds Released under MPLADS for 1st & 2nd Instalments of 1997-98, 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Instalment of 1998-99 and 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Instalments of 1999-2000 as on 13/12/1999

| Sl. No. | Constituency Name/District Name/ Name of MP | (97-98) Instalment | | (1998-99) Instalment | | | | (1999-2000) Instalment | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------|----------------------|----------|---------|---------|------------------------|------|-------|------|
| | | 1st | IInd | 1st | IInd | IIIrd | IVth | 1st | IInd | IIIrd | IVth |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| State: Maharashtra (Lok Sabha) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Ahmednagar | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Maruti Devram Shelke | 25/6/97 | 4/12/97 | | | | | | | | |
| | E.V. Alias Balasaheb Vikhe Patil | — | — | 23/6/98 | 17/3/99 | 26/4/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi | — | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — | — |
| 2. | Akola | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Phundkar Pandurang Pundlik | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Ambedkar Prakash Yashwant | 31/3/98 | 3/3/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Ambedkar Prakash Yashwant | — | — | 2/12/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3. | Amravati | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Anantao M. Gudhe | 24/11/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Ramkrishna Suryabhan Gawal | — | 24/3/98 | 15/10/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Gudhe Anant Mahadeoappa | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 4. | Aurangabad | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pradeep Jaiswal | 30/7/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Ramkrishna Babe Patil | — | 30/3/98 | 21/7/98 | 29/12/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Chandrakant Khaire | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|----------|----|----|
| 21. | Ichalkaranji | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kalleppa B. Awade | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Awade Kalleppa Baburao | — | 24/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 14/1/99 | 26/4/99 | 9/7/99 | — | — | — | — |
| | Mane Nivedita Sambhajirao | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — |
| 22. | Jaigaon | | | | | | | | | | |
| | G.R. Sarode | 11/7/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Ulhas Vasudeo Patil | — | 24/3/98 | 23/6/98 | 7/7/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Y.G. Mahajan (SIR) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 23. | Jaina | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Uttamsingh R. Pawar | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Pawar Uttamsingh Rajdharsinh | — | 24/3/98 | 18/6/98 | 15/10/98 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Darve Raosaheb Dadarao Patil | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 24. | Karad | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Prithviraj D. Chavan | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Chavan Prithviraj Dajsaheb | — | 18/6/98 | 15/10/98 | 7/7/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Shrinivas Dadasaheb Patil (Marulka) | — | — | — | — | — | 2/12/99 | — | — | — | — |
| 25. | Khed | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Sherkar N. Namdeo | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Mohol Ashok Namdeorao | 24/3/98 | 29/12/98 | 26/3/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Ashok Namdeorao Mohol | — | — | — | — | 22/11/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 26. | Kulaba | | | | | | | | | | |
| | A.R. Antulay | 11/7/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Ramsheth Thakur | — | 24/3/98 | 10/11/98 | 17/3/99 | 30/3/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — |
| | Ramsheth Thakur | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — |
| 27. | Kolhapur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Uday Singh Rao N. Gaikwad | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Mandlik Sadashiv Rao Dadoba | — | 24/3/98 | 23/6/98 | 8/12/98 | 30/3/99 | 26/4/99 | — | — | — | — |
| | Mandlik Sadashiv Rao Dadoba | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | 22/11/99 | — | — |
| 28. | Kopargaon | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Bedade Bhimrao Vishnuji | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Tanpure Prasad Baburao | — | 30/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | E.V. Alias Bale-Saheb Vikhe Patil | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|-----|------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|----|----|----|
| 37. | Parbhani | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Suresh R. Jadhav | 9/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Warpudkar Sureshram Ambadasrao | — | 24/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 15/2/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Jadhve Suresh Ramrao | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 38. | Pune | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Suresh Kalmadi | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Tupe Vitthal Baburao | 24/3/98 | 28/7/98 | 23/2/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Pradeep Rawat | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 39. | Rajapur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Suresh Prabhu | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Suresh Prabhu | 30/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 28/3/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 40. | Ramtek | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Dattatray R. Meghe | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Rani Chitralekha T. Bhoale | — | 28/8/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Subodh Mohite | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 41. | Ratnagiri | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Anant Gangaram Geete | 22/9/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Anant Gangaram Geete | — | 23/6/98 | 16/12/98 | 26/4/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Anant Gangaram Geete | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 42. | Sangli | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Madan V. Patil | 26/5/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Patil Madan Vishwanath | — | 24/3/98 | 23/6/98 | 17/3/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Prakash (Bapu) Vasantao Patil | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 43. | Satara | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Naik H.N. Nimbalkar | 25/6/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Abhaysinh Shahmaharaj Bhoale | — | 24/3/98 | 16/10/98 | 10/11/98 | 30/3/99 | 26/4/99 | — | — | — | — |
| | Laxmanrao Pandurang Jadhav (Patil) | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4/11/99 | — | — | — |
| 44. | Solapur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Lingaraj B. Vajyal | 30/7/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Shinde Sushilkumar Sambhajirao | — | 24/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 26/3/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Shinde Sushilkumar Sambhajirao | — | — | — | — | — | 2/12/99 | 2/12/99 | — | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|---------------|------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|--------|---|----|----|----|
| 45. Thane | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Paranje Prakash Vishwanath | 15/9/97 | 4/12/97 | | | | | | | | |
| | Paranje Prakash Vishwanth | — | — | 18/5/98 | 15/10/98 | 26/4/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — |
| | Prakash Paranje | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 46. Wardha | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mude Vijay Annaji | 11/7/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Datta Meghe | — | 24/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 26/4/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Prabha Rao | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 47. Washim | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Gawali Pundlikra Ramji | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Naik Sudhakarrao Rajusing | 31/3/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Bhavana Pandlikrao Gawali | — | 4/11/99 | 22/11/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 48. Yavatmal | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rajabhau Thakre | 13/8/97 | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Uttamrao Deorao Patil | — | 23/6/98 | 9/2/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Uttamrao Deorao Patil | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 49. Nominated | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | — | — | | | | | | | | |
| | Gen. (Retd.) N. Foley (Non.) | — | — | 25/1/99 | 26/4/99 | 7/7/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Gen. (Retd.) N. Foley (Nom.) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

Note:

First Name is for 11th Lok Sabha MP

Second Name is for 12th Lok Sabha MP

Third Name is for 13th Lok Sabha MP

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

Details of Funds Released Under MPLADS for 1st & IInd Instalments of 1997-98, 1st, IInd, IIIrd & IVth Instalment of 1998-99 and 1st, IInd, IIIrd & IVth Instalment of 1999-2000 as on 13/12/1999

| Sl. No. | Constituency Name/District Name/ Name of MP | (1997-98) Instalment | | (1998-99) Instalment | | | | (1999-2000) Instalment | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|---------|------------------------|----------|-------|------|
| | | 1st | IInd | 1st | IInd | IIIrd | IVth | 1st | IInd | IIIrd | IVth |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| State: Maharashtra (Rajya Sabha) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sitting Member of Parliament | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Pune | | | | | | | | | | |
| | (Smt.) Najma Heptulla | 29/10/97 | 28/7/98 | 26/4/99 | 11/11/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2. | Raigad | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Adhik Narayan Shirodkar | 26/3/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 3. | Latur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Gopalrao Vitthal Rao Patil | 22/9/97 | 18/3/98 | 25/6/98 | 16/12/98 | 31/5/99 | 10/6/99 | 26/11/99 | 26/11/99 | — | — |
| 4. | Ahmadnagar | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Govindrao Adik | 25/6/97 | 4/12/97 | 23/6/98 | 18/9/98 | 31/5/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5. | Mumbai City | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Keswani Suresh Atalrai | 22/7/98 | 11/10/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 6. | Dhule | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Mukesh R. Patel | 11/7/97 | 18/3/98 | 15/10/98 | 26/10/98 | 5/7/99 | 9/12/99 | — | — | — | — |
| 7. | Nagpur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | N.K.P. Salve | 25/6/97 | 15/7/98 | 31/5/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 8. | Nagpur | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Nirupam Sanjay | 11/11/97 | 15/7/98 | 16/12/98 | 31/5/99 | 10/6/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 9. | Mumbai Suburban | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pramod Mahajan | — | — | 24/6/98 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 10. | Mumbai City | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pratish Nandy | — | — | 17/3/99 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 11. | Mumbai City | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Ram Jethmalani | 18/3/98 | 21/7/98 | 9/2/99 | 10/6/99 | 11/10/99 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 12. | Nanded | | | | | | | | | | |
| | S.B. Chavan | 25/6/97 | 18/3/98 | 10/9/98 | 10/11/98 | 31/5/99 | 5/7/99 | 26/11/99 | — | — | — |

Setting up of Indian Veterinary Research

3484. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are separate research institutes for buffalo, goat, sheep, horses, camels, yak, mithun, poultry, birds, fishery etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for not setting up Indian Council of Veterinary Research;

(c) whether the Government had assured that a National Cattle Research Institute would be set up by upgrading Project Directorate on Cattle; and

(d) if so, special efforts being made in animal husbandry, dairying particularly in respect of cow and its progeny to generate employment thus eradicating hunger and poverty in rural as well as urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Species specific research institute under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been established to augment research, teaching and extension. A list of such institutes is enclosed as Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Statement

National Research Centre on Mithun
Hamapani - 797106,
District-Kohima, Nagaland
Phone No.: 91-3862-62340 Fax: 91-3862-62341

National Research Centre on Yak
Mirang, West Kamang-790101,
Arunachal Pradesh.
Mail: yak.director@hotmail.com

National Research Centre on Camel
Post Bag-07 Jorbeer, Bikaner-334001 (Raj.)
Phone: 91-151-522183, 528858 Fax: 91-151-522183
Mail: nrccamel @ x 400.nicgw.nic.in

Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute
Bikanagar, Rajasthan-304501
Phone: 91-1437-25212 Fax: 91-1437-8163
Mail: cswri @ 400 nicgw.nic.in

Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes
Sirsa Road, Hissar-125001 (Haryana)
Phone: 91-1662-39604, 38831, 33710 Fax: 91-1662-39604
e.mail: CIRB @ x 400, nicigw.nic.in

Central Avian Research Institute,
Izatnagar-243122 (U.P.)
Phone: 91-581-4464420, 447223 Fax: 91-581-447321
e.mail: cavri @ 400 nicgw.nic.in

National Research Centre on Equines
Sirsa Road, Hissar-125001 (Haryana)
Phone: 91-1662-32787, 327748, 38151 Fax: 91-1662-33217
e.mail: urcequine @ 400.nicgw.nic.in

Project Directorate on Poultry
Rajendra Nagar,
Hyderabad-500030 (Andhra Pradesh)
Phone: 91-40-4015651,4017000 Fax: 91-40-4017002
e.mail: pdpoultry @ 400.nicgw.nic.in

Central Institute for Research on Goats
Makhdoom, P.O. Farah-281122
Mathura, U.P.
Phone: 91-565-763380 Fax: 91-565-783246
e.mail: cirg @ x 400.nicgw.nic.in

Talks with European Union

3485. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had visited Helsinki during December 1999;

(b) if so, whether India-European Union (EU) Troika talks were held;

(c) if so, whether EU had condemned the toppling of the elected Government and had called for restoration of democracy immediately after the military coup in Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details of India's stand taken in the India-European Union (EU) Troika talks?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India-EU Troika Ministerial talks were held in Helsinki on December 3, 1999.

(c) and (d) The Finnish Presidency of the European Union had, in its statement issued on October 13, 1999, stated that "the EU profoundly deplores the developments in Pakistan and condemns the military coup dismissing the democratically elected government." It also urged immediate return to a civilian Government.

At the EU-Troika Ministerial meeting held in Helsinki on December 3, 1999, India reiterated its grave concern at the developments in the neighbourhood and the menace of continuing cross border terrorism. This was also reflected in the Joint Press Statement released at the conclusion of the meeting. The EU demonstrated understanding and sympathy of the Indian position.

Leakage of Information

3486. SHRI DAUD AHMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Rajasthan Patrika' dated October 24, 1999 captioned "Kendriya Janch Bureau Karyalaya Main Marpeet Ke Mamie Kee Janch Shuru";

(b) if so, the matter reported therein and action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government are aware that investigation carried out by CBI has been highlighted by the Press in recent past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against officers responsible for such leakage of investigation details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes Sir. The news item referred to appeared on 23.10.99.

(b) A prima facie case of misbehaviour by CBI officials with two persons was made out after preliminary verification of a complaint by the concerned DIG. Consequently, an Inspector and a Sub-Inspector of the CBI have already been placed under suspension pending Departmental action.

(c) and (d) Some details relating to Preliminary Enquiry No. 7(A)/99/CBI/Jodhpur appeared in a newspaper on 19.11.99. CBI has initiated action for fixing responsibility in the matter.

Production of Raw-Cashewnut

3487. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that there is shortfall in production of raw cashewnut due to bad weather in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the production of raw cashewnut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The prolongation of monsoon which coincided with the initiation of flowering along with fluctuation in the relative humidity and temperature at the time of anthesis, dehiscence and pollination coupled with severe attack of Tea Mosquito affected the production of raw cashewnut during 1998-99. The actual production was 4.60 lakh tonnes against an anticipated production of 5 to 5.2 lakh tonnes from an area of 7.32 lakh hectares.

(c) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'Integrated Development Programme of Cashew In India' under which assistance is being provided for various activities involving establishment of Regional Nurseries, development of new plantation, replanting/rejuvenation of senile orchards, development of Model Clonal Gardens, Plant Protection Measures and training of farmers which are aimed at increasing the production of cashewnut. During the current year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 17.50 crores have been earmarked for the scheme.

Digging of Wells

3488. SHRI BISHNU PADARAY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the small farmers of Neil/Haveloc Islands in (A&N Islands) construct temporary wells for the irrigation purposes and which gets destroyed every year as the small farmers are unable to construct permanent wells due to their financial constraints;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct permanent wells for the benefit of small farmers of these islands; and

(c) if not, other alternative arrangement is being done by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration has not received any complaint in this regard from the small farmers of Neil/ Haveloc Islands (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Assistance to Khadi and Village Industries Commission

3489. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from Government of Kerala for getting financial assistance to the Khadi and Village Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) the details of amount of money granted for Kerala Khadi and Village Industries during 1998 and 1999 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The details of grants released by the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) to Kerala State Khadi and Village Industries Board during 1997-98 and 1998-99 are as under:—

| (Rs. in Lakhs) | |
|----------------|---------|
| Year | Grant |
| 1997-98 | 4.73 |
| 1998-99 | 356.70* |

* Includes margin money grant of Rs. 335.94 lakhs.

Minimum Wages for Skilled and Unskilled Labourers

3490. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether each State as well as Union Government has fixed minimum wages for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the corresponding minimum wages in USA, UK, Germany, France, Japan and China in their respective currencies and the latest converted value in Indian rupee;

(d) whether International Labour Organisation has fixed any norm and quantum for fixing minimum wages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement I indicating the minimum rates of wages State-wise for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers in respect of scheduled employments is enclosed.

(c) The information on corresponding minimum wages is not available. However, a Statement II on average rates of wages in manufacturing in these countries based on International Labour Organisation Year Book on Labour Statistics, 1998, is enclosed.

(d) and (e) International Labour Organisation Convention No. 131 is the basic standard dealing with the minimum wage aimed at protecting against excessively low wages. In accordance with the said convention appropriate needs of workers and their families and economic factors including the requirements of economic development and a high level of employment are the elements to be taken into consideration while determining the level of minimum wages.

Statement I**Minimum Rates of Wages Fixed by Central/State/UT Governments**

(in rupees per day)

| S.No. | State/UTs. | Category of Workers | | | Rates for Cols. 4 & 5 prevailing as on |
|-------|-------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | | Unskilled (Prevailing rate as on 1.1.99) | Semi-Skilled | Skilled | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 27.00 to 63.19 | 38.46 to 52.11 | 40.76 to 54.03 | 25.05.96 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 35.60 to 37.60 | 41.60 to 43.60 | 44.60 to 46.60 | 11.03.98 |
| 3. | Assam | 32.80 to 55.80 | 54.70 | 65.70 | 1998 |
| 4. | Bihar | 38.61 to 51.00 | 53.30 | 62.30 | 25.05.98 |
| 5. | Goa | 21.00 to 125.00 | 60.00 | 70.00 | 25.03.97 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 58.80 to 79.20 | 57.40 to 67.70 | 59.50 to 62.10 | 01.05.97 |
| 7. | Haryana | 70.12 to 73.12 | 63.40 | 66.28 | 01.07.97 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 26.00 to 45.75 | 56.19 | 59.12 | 06.11.96 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 30.00 | 40.00 to 46.00 | 48.00 to 60.00 | 06.11.96 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 26.00 to 74.00 | 54.35 to 71.80 | 59.53 to 75.80 | 01.04.98 |
| 11. | Kerala | 30.00 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 49.46 to 56.48 | 59.34 | 63.57 | 01.04.97 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 9.23 to 85.92 | 28.89 to 56.65 | 29.23 to 57.29 | 30.06.97 |
| 14. | Manipur | 44.65 to 49.50 | 49.90 to 52.90 | 51.65 to 54.65 | 08.07.96 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 35.00 | 40.00 | 45.00 | 10.07.96 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 48.00 | 80.00 | 90.00 | 23.11.99 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 25.00 | 28.00 | N.A. | 1993 |
| 18. | Orissa | 42.50 | 50.50 | 58.50 | 01.05.99 |
| 19. | Punjab | 54.07 to 62.96 | 57.55 | 63.65 | 01.07.95 |
| 20. | Pondicherry | 19.25 to 65.00 | 65.00 | 75.00 | 10.04.97 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 32.00 to 44.00 | 47.00 | 50.00 | 19.11.98 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 22.40 to 82.72 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 23. | Tripura | 17.70 to 36.00 | 55.00 | 65.00 | 1998 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 42.02 to 64.21 | 48.62 to 64.96 | 52.12 to 73.85 | 01.01.97 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 36.55 to 79.99 | 35.99 to 68.32 | 36.76 to 69.09 | Mar. 97 |
| 26. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 80.76 to 86.76 | 59.00 to 65.00 | 72.00 to 80.00 | 07.02.97 |
| 27. | Chandigarh | 52.09 to 71.93 | 70.87 | 77.87 | 30.09.98 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 28. | Dadra & Nagar | 38.00 to 44.00 | 44.00 | 55.00 | 19.02.98 |
| 29. | Delhi | 108.36 | 116.04 | 127.92 | 07.06.99 |
| 30. | Daman & Diu | 50.00 to 60.00 | 60.00 | 70.00 | 01.02.99 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | 41.40 | 46.46 | 51.46 | Jan. 96 |
| | Central Sphere | 46.22 to 84.12 | 56.26 to 92.12 | 71.33 to 92.12 | 12.07.94 |

N.A.— Not Available.

Note: Rates of minimum wages include VDA wherever provision exists.

Statement II

Average Wages per Worker in Manufacturing

| Countries | Currency | Period | Average Wages (year) | Wages in Indian rupees |
|-----------|----------|---------|----------------------|------------------------|
| USA | Dollars | Hourly | 13.17 (1997) | 489.48 |
| UK | Pounds | Hourly | 8.53 (1997) | 520.53 |
| Germany | Mark | Hourly | 26.78 (1997) | 561.34 |
| France | Francs | Hourly | 50.63 (1993) | 276.59 |
| Japan | Yen | Monthly | 3,71,356.00 (1993) | 1,08,064.60 |
| China | Yuan | Monthly | 494.42 (1997) | — |

Organic Farming

3491. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR in association with Bhartiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation (BCRDF) had organised a brain-storing session of organic farming; and

(b) if so, the recommendations thereof and steps being taken for their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

Statement**Major Recommendations**

1. Inventorization of available resources for Organic Farming.
2. Establishment of a "Centre of Excellence on Organic Farming" under NARS.
3. Establishment of a country-wide "Network for Research on Organic Farming".
4. Documentation of available indigenous technological knowledge (ITK) and other technologies development by various public sector research centres/NGOs/individuals on different aspects of organic farming in India.
5. Introduction of core course(s) on "Concepts and Practices in Organic Farming" in the curriculum of under-graduate and post-graduate degree programmes at different SAUs and other agricultural Institutes.
6. Export groups, comprising eminent Agricultural and Social Scientists and progressive farmers may be constituted for visiting successful farmers associated with organic farming practices. The group may submit a detailed report covering various aspects of organic farming.
7. Standardisation of mechanisms/methods for suitably judging/classifying the "Organic Farming".
8. Formulation of appropriate package of practices in the area of organic farming for important production systems of the country.
9. Dissemination of knowledge on organic farming through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) field demonstrations, TV-programmes and other suitable media.
10. Promote visits of farmers to farms of farmers who are successfully adopting/practicing "Organic Farming".

Steps for Implementation:

The Council will be strengthening a network on Organic Farming during the current five year plan under the All India Coordinated Research Project on "Microbial Decomposition and Recycling of farm and city waste".

Participatory Irrigation Management

3492. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have launched any scheme to assist those State Governments which are implementing "Participatory Irrigation Management" through Water User Association;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total funds released to each State Government under the scheme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme is in operation in the country. Under the programme one time functional grant @ Rs. 500 per hectare is provided to the registered and functional Farmers' Associations (Water Users Association) which is to be shared by Centre, State and the Farmers' Associations in the proportion of Rs. 225, Rs. 225 and Rs. 50 respectively for various activities leading to efficient management of Irrigation Water.

(c) The details of functional grant released under the programme to participating States are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Details of Functional Grant Released Under Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme to the different State Governments during last three years

(Rs. in lakh)

| S.No. | Name of State | Total Functional Grant released during last three years (1996-97 to 1998-99) |
|-------|----------------|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3125.25 |
| 2. | Haryana | 74.52 |
| 3. | Madhya Pradesh | 18.00 |
| 4. | Maharashtra | 18.36 |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu | 85.00 |
| 6. | Uttar Pradesh | 44.51 |
| Total | | 3365.64 |

Welfare Scheme for Mine Workers

3493. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers in the mining sector in each State, particularly in backward/rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, till date;

(b) the Welfare Schemes formulated by the Government for them and the number of workers benefited therefrom scheme, so far, State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated under these schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) A statement I showing the number of workers in the mining sector (excluding atomic minerals and minor minerals) in each State is enclosed.

(b) A number of welfare schemes have been formulated for the benefit of workers engaged in Limestone & Dolomite Mines, Iron Ore/Manganese Ore/Chrome Ore Mines and Mica Mines and their family members in the sphere of health, education, housing, recreation and water supply. A list of such schemes is enclosed as Statement II. The number of workers who have been benefited under the schemes is given in the enclosed Statement III.

(c) Funds are not allocated State-wise. A statement IV showing allocation of funds region-wise under these schemes during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement I*The Number of Mine Workers in the Country State-wise*

| Name of the State | Number of Mine Workers |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 17795 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 5 |
| Assam | 6654 |
| Bihar | 268245 |

| | 1 | 2 |
|------------------|---|--------|
| Delhi | | 1839 |
| Goa | | 7714 |
| Gujarat | | 38756 |
| Haryana | | 6625 |
| Himachal Pradesh | | 5694 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | | 166 |
| Karnataka | | 44917 |
| Kerala | | 2531 |
| Madhya Pradesh | | 400728 |
| Maharashtra | | 19067 |
| Manipur | | 18 |
| Meghalaya | | 930 |
| Nagaland | | 57 |
| Orissa | | 107626 |
| Pondicherry | | 0 |
| Rajasthan | | 73952 |
| Sikkim | | 77 |
| Tamil Nadu | | 14997 |
| Tripura | | 0 |
| Uttar Pradesh | | 9745 |
| West Bengal | | 154000 |

Statement II

List of Welfare Schemes for Mine Workers (Limestone & Dolomite Mine Workers, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore & Chrome Ore Mines and MICA Mines)

Health:—

1. Scheme for reservation of beds in T.B. Hospitals.
2. Scheme for treatment of Mine Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
3. Scheme for treatment of Mine Workers suffering from Leprosy.
4. Scheme for domiciliary treatment of mine workers suffering from T.B.
5. Maternity benefit scheme for female mine workers.
6. Re-imbusement of actual cost of treatment to mine workers suffering from Cancer.
7. Grant of financial Assistance to mine workers for purchase of Spectacles.
8. Scheme for payment of extra Monetary Compensation for Sterilisation to mine workers.
9. Re-imbusement of expenditure as financial assistance to mine workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
10. Re-imbusement of expenditure as financial assistance to mine workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.
11. Scheme for payment of Compensation in case of Fatal and Serious Accident to mine workers.
12. Scheme for providing artificial limbs to mine workers.
13. Grant-in-aid to Iron Ore, Manganese Ore & Chrome Ore and Limestone & Dolomite Mines Managements for purchase of Ambulance Vans.

Housing:—

1. Financial assistance to mines managements for construction of low cost type I and type II houses for mine workers near work-site.
2. Build Your Own House Scheme: Interest free loan and subsidy to mine workers for construction of their own houses.

Education:—

1. Award of Scholarship to School/College going Children of mine workers.
2. Composite scheme for financial assistance to the school going children of mine workers for supply of one set of dress, slates, note books and text books.
3. Assistance to mine owners for running Central Library.
4. Assistance for purchase of school buses to the mine managements.
5. Assistance to the mine managements for maintenance of Libraries.
6. Grant-in-aid for recognised schools in the Iron Ore, Manganese Ore & Chrome Ore Mining areas for purchase of furniture & equipments.
7. Mid-day meals scheme.
8. Payment of incentives on passing final University/ Board examinations from High School onwards.
9. Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance of Re. 1/- to female children of mine workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.

Recreation:—

1. Organising Sports, Social & Cultural activities for mine workers.
2. Scheme to provide buses for transportation of mine workers.
3. Establishments of Audio-Visuals sets/Cinema Vans/ Exhibition of films.
4. Excursion-cum-study tours.
5. Supply of T.V. Sets.
6. Setting up of Multipurpose Institutes/Developed Multipurpose Institutes.
7. Setting up of Welfare Centres.
8. Grants to M.P.I.s/DMPIS' Welfare Centres.
9. Sports Ground.
10. Holiday homes.

Water Supply:—

1. Financial assistance to small mine owners for sinking of wells.
2. Financial assistance to small mine owners for execution of water supply scheme.
3. Financial assistance to big mine owners for execution of water supply schemes.

Statement III**Statement Showing the No. of Beneficiaries Under the Limestone & Dolomite Mines
Labour Welfare Fund during the Year 1998-99**

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme | Alaha- bad* | Bang- lore* | Bhil- wara* | Bhuben- eshwar* | Calcutta* | Hydera- bad* | Jabel- pur* | Karna* | Nagpur* |
|----------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|--------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| I. Health | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Fatal Accident cases settled | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Patients treated in dispensaries | 2093 | 0 | 208455 | 21738 | 0 | 42781 | 47788 | 19820 | 3630 |
| 3. | Bed occupation in TB hospitals | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Domiciliary treatment of TB Patients | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Treatment of mine workers for cancer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Purchase of spectacles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Treatment of Heart Disease | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | GIA for maintenance of dispensaries | 3 | 5 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 28 | 14 | 3 | 3 |
| 9. | Procurement of Ambulance Van | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| II. Education | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10. | Grant of scholarship to children | 11 | 117 | 1603 | 937 | 140 | 171 | 197 | 0 | 67 |
| 11. | Supply of one set of uniform/text books etc. | 11 | 0 | 2689 | 976 | 34 | 194 | 196 | 0 | 21 |
| 12. | Percentage Incentive | 0 | 0 | 17 | 28 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Statement Showing the No. of Beneficiaries Under the Iron Ore, Chrome Ore & Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund during the year 1998-99

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme | Bangalore | Bhubaneswar | Hyderabad | Jabalpur | Nagpur |
|----------------------|--|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| I. Health | | | | | | |
| 1. | Patients treated in dispensaries | 45259 | 204430 | 26166 | 54375 | 8058 |
| 2. | GIA for maintenance of dispensaries | 3 | 19 | 0 | 4 | 12 |
| 3. | Domiciliary treatment to T.B. patients | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Fatal & Serious accident cases | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 5. | Purchase of spectacles | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Procurement of Ambulance Van | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Treatment of mine workers for Cancer | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| II. Education | | | | | | |
| 8. | Grant of scholarship to children | 1540 | 1012 | 38 | 95 | 957 |
| 9. | Supply of one set of uniform/text books etc. | 390 | 1706 | 124 | 0 | 844 |
| 10. | Percentage Incentive | 47 | 53 | 0 | 8 | 14 |
| 11. | Attendance Incentive | 627 | 419 | 0 | 29 | 334 |
| 12. | Grants to Libraries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 13. | Grant for School Bus | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Mid-day Meal | 0 | 1989 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------------|--|----|------|---|---|----|
| III. Recreation | | | | | | |
| 15. | Organisation of social, cultural & sports activity | 0 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 16. | Exhibition of Films | 0 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 56 |
| 17. | Supply of T.V. Sets | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. | Workers visiting Holiday Homes | 0 | 1197 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. | Excursion-cum-study tours | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Setting up of Multipurpose Institution | 0 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 21. | Setting up of welfare centres | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 22. | Cinema Vans | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IV. Housing | | | | | | |
| 23. | Byohs (Loan) | 4 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Byohs (Subsidy) | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Group Housing Scheme | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. | Type-II Housing Scheme | 0 | 84 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | Type-I Housing Scheme | 0 | 450 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| V. Water Supply | | | | | | |
| 28. | Well sunk | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Statement Showing the No. of Beneficiaries Under the Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund during the Year 1998-99

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme | Bhilwara | Hyderabad | Karma |
|------------------------|---|----------|-----------|-------|
| I. Health | | | | |
| 1. | Patients treated in dispensaries | 9359 | 0 | 21900 |
| II. Education | | | | |
| 2. | Grant of scholarship to children | 1 | 146 | 26 |
| 3. | Supply of one set of Uniform/Slates/text books etc. | 0 | 98 | 37 |
| III. Recreation | | | | |
| 4. | Organisation of social/sports activities | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Exhibition of films | 0 | 0 | 0 |

* Information is not maintained State-wise

Allahabad region covers U.P., J&K, H.P., Punjab, Delhi and Chandigarh.

Bhilwara region covers Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana.

Bangalore region covers Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep.

Bhubneshwar region covers Orissa.

Calcutta region covers W.B., Meghalaya, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim.

Hyderabad region covers A.P., Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Jabalpur region covers Madhya Pradesh.

Karma region covers Bihar.

Nagpur region covers Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Statement IV

Region-wise Allocation of Funds for Mine Workers for the Year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. in thousands)

| S.No. | Region | 1996-97 | | | 1997-98 | | | 1998-99 | | |
|-------|-----------|---------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| | | LSDM* | IMC* | MICA* | LSDM* | IMC* | MICA* | LSDM* | IMC* | MICA* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | Allahabad | 3996 | 0 | 0 | 4133 | 0 | 0 | 4516 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Bangalore | 6039 | 14623 | 0 | 6131 | 22739 | 0 | 5537 | 19992 | 0 |
| 3. | Bhilwara | 18133 | 0 | 1672 | 18074 | 0 | 2098 | 20888 | 0 | 1763 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 4. | Bhubaneshwar | 4061 | 27398 | 0 | 6072 | 30313 | 0 | 6511 | 41787 | 0 |
| 5. | Calcutta | 1512 | 0 | 0 | 2510 | 0 | 0 | 4677 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Hyderabad | 19228 | 5056 | 8061 | 10701 | 2634 | 8693 | 13526 | 2138 | 7082 |
| 7. | Jabalpur | 14741 | 20643 | 0 | 13869 | 16045 | 0 | 14690 | 18606 | 0 |
| 8. | Karma | 2600 | 25007 | 17480 | 1577 | 15016 | 17305 | 1904 | 19571 | 14845 |
| 9. | Nagpur | 2420 | 12448 | 0 | 1748 | 11993 | 0 | 1595 | 10616 | 0 |
| Total | | 72730 | 105175 | 27213 | 64818 | 96740 | 28096 | 73844 | 112710 | 23700 |

- LSDM — Lime Stone & Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund.
- IMC — Iron Ore, Manganese Ore & Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund.
- MICA — Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund.

Indian Brutally Assaulted in Germany

3494. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian national who visited Germany was assaulted and brutally murdered;

(b) if so, whether a number of Indians living in Germany have felt insecure;

(c) if so, whether the Indian Government has obtained the full report about this from the German Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the safety of Indians living in Germany after such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) There have been a few isolated incidents of attack on people of other

nationalities, especially in the eastern parts of Germany. A few persons of Indian origin have also been attacked and have suffered injuries. However, there have been no instance of fatal injury to any Indian in any such attack.

(c) to (e) Our Mission in Germany is monitoring the situation closely. The German authorities have initiated measures to prevent such incidents.

IBM Company In Pondicherry

3495. DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have granted permission to IBM Company to set up computer manufacture unit in the country particularly in Pondicherry;

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

(c) the employment generation prospects on that account?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India has approved the foreign collaboration proposals under Foreign Direct Investment Scheme in respect of (i) M/s. IBM Global Services (India) Private Limited to establish a unit for IT products and services in the State of Karnataka and (ii) M/s IBM India Limited for manufacture, marketing and export of Computer Systems in the State of Maharashtra. These companies would offer direct and indirect employment opportunities to talented software professionals and other engineering staff.

Sardar Sarovar Dam

3496. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat and other beneficiary States of the Sardar Sarovar Project have requested the Union Government for additional Central assistance in line of Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) assistance;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sanctioned any additional Central assistance to the Project; and

(c) if not, the action proposed by the Government to ensure timely commissioning of the River Bed Power House of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) River bed power house at the Sardar Sarovar Project is planned to be provided with reversible turbines. These turbines-cum-generators were to be supplied by M/s Sumitomo Corporation Japan. However, due to the suspension of the World Bank loan for the Project, the payment for the Turbo generator sets could not be made. After protracted negotiations M/s Sumitomo Corporation, Japan, has agreed to provide a loan of 20.06 billion Yen to cover the balance supplies of all the six units. Loan agreement for the same was signed on 30.09.1998. The Ministry of Finance (GOI) has given counter guarantee to the guarantee given by the Government of Gujarat for the loan. With the signing of this loan agreement, the supplies from M/s Sumitomo Corporation, Japan, have commenced and the first consignment valued at 6.08 billion Yen was received at site on 25th May, 1999.

The first unit of River Bed Power House is expected to be ready for commissioning by December, 2002 and balance units with an interval of 4 months thereafter.

[Translation]

Diversion of Damodar River

3497. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of the work of the Damodar river diversion project under the Central Coalfields Ltd. has been reviewed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cost expenditure of the project is overrunning and the work is pending;

(d) if so, the details of the estimated original cost and the present extended cost, separately; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) The Advance Action Proposal (AAP) for the Damodar river diversion project of Central Coalfields Limited was originally sanctioned by the Union Government in April 1983 for capital investment of Rs. 2 crores. The coal company is reviewing the progress of the project. The project has become cost over-run but the work is continuing. The latest revised cost of the project is Rs. 9.97 crores. The project is scheduled to be completed by March, 2002.

[English]

Working of Central Vigilance Commission

3498. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has passed serious strictures on working of Central Vigilance Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to improve the working of the Central Vigilance Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) In its judgement dated 28.07.99 in Civil Writ Petition No. 3376/1998, the Delhi High Court had commented adversely on the advice given by the Central Vigilance Commission in respect of major penalty proceedings initiated against a former Chairman-cum-Managing Director of a Public Sector Undertaking on the ground *inter alia* that the Central Vigilance Commission had not taken into account all aspects of the matter while giving its advice.

An appeal has already been filed against the aforesaid Judgement by the Department of Heavy Industries. The Central Vigilance Commission has also decided to file an appeal for the expunction of the adverse comments against it in the Judgement.

Indian Rare Earth Limited

3499. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to withdraw subsidy being given to Indian Rare Earth Limited and to lay off the labourers working in IRE unit, Cochin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps to be taken by the Government to improve the financial position of IRE Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a public sector undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy, operates its Rare Earths Division (RED) at Udyogamandal, Alwaye in Kerala. The RED processes radioactive monazite for production of rare earths compounds and a compound of thorium and uranium. The rare earths products are mainly exported. No Government subsidy is given to the IREL for the operation of this Division. In the recent past, the export of rare earths products of the RED has declined sharply owing to intensive competition from other countries, at least one of which has large reserves of other mineral resources of rare earths which are not radioactive. As a result of the decline in the export of rare earths products and resultant accumulation of

inventory of finished products, the RED has been incurring increasing losses since 1996-97. In view of the accumulated losses as well as the anticipated loss of the RED for 1999-2000, the management of IREL had proposed to the Workers' Union certain austerity measures and redeployment of some of the existing workmen for operating a recently installed plant to achieve a modified product mix. Since the Workers' Union was not willing to co-operate, the IREL management had no alternative but to submit an application to the competent authority seeking permission to lay off the workmen. However, during subsequent negotiations at the intervention of the Regional Labour Commissioner, Emakulam, a settlement under section 12(3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1948 was arrived at under which the Union has agreed to redeployment of the existing work force as well as implementation of some austerity measures. This arrangement is expected to reduce the losses of the RED and as such IREL has decided not to resort to any lay-off of the workmen.

Utilisation of Funds

3500. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that several State Governments are not utilising the Central funds released to them for irrigation projects, properly and diverting it for some other purposes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against such State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Centre has launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 for providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the States for completion of those Irrigation Projects which are in advance stage of completion or mega projects which are beyond the resource capability of the States. The release of funds under AIBP are made on year to year basis subject to utilisation, to be furnished by States duly concurred by Central Water Commission.

Mullaperiyar Dam

3501. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government urged the State of Kerala to withdraw the affidavit filed in the Supreme

Court against restoring the water level in the Mullaperiyar reservoir to 152 feet, in view of the fact that the water level was lowered to 136 feet in 1979 due to structural defects noticed in the dam; and

(b) if so, response of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Mahi Irrigation Project

3502. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahi Project at Jhabua district in Madhya Pradesh was launched with the assistance of World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the completion of this project has been delayed inordinately;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Employees Provident Fund

3503. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to start a sub-Regional Office for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) Organisation in Lakhimpur (Kheri) district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) In the E.P.F. Organisation Sub-Regional Offices are opened keeping in view the parameters like number of establishments/employees covered under the EPF Scheme, number of claims received/settled, financial viability etc. While considering the proposal the recommendation of the Regional E.P.F. Committee is also kept in view in this regard. Based on the existing norms, there is no proposal at present to open a Sub-Regional Office at Lakhimpur (Kheri) in Uttar Pradesh.

Sick Industries in Maharashtra

3504. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sick industrial units in Maharashtra in general and Vidarbha region in particular during the Eighth Five Year Plan and investment blocked in such units and number of persons affected therefrom; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) As per the data compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, the details of sick units during the Eighth Five Year Plan in Maharashtra are as under:

| At the end of March | No. of SSI units | Amount outstanding (Rs. Crore) | No. of non-SSI units | Amount outstanding (Rs. Crore) |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1993 | 20863 | 728.96 | 367 | 1701.35 |
| 1994 | 21350 | 788.44 | 350 | 1735.55 |
| 1995 | 21346 | 738.85 | 357 | 1652.44 |
| 1996 | 20100 | 744.14 | 337 | 1688.84 |
| 1997 | 19360 | 764.53 | 340 | 1614.88 |

The data on number of persons affected due to sick industrial units are not maintained. RBI does not maintain region-wise data within a State.

(b) In order to tackle the problem of industrial sickness, the Government has enacted a comprehensive legislation namely 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985' and a quasi-judicial body 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction' (BIFR) has been set up under the Act. Moreover, the Reserve Bank of India has advised banks on modified definition of sick SSI units, reduced rate of interest for rehabilitation, prompt viability studies/nursing programmes of identified sick units, setting up of cells at important regional centres and Head Offices to deal with sick industrial units and ensuring expert staff including technical personnel.

Re-Deployment of Surplus Workers

3505. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have programme of retraining and redeployment of surplus workers;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to utilise the funds available with the National Renewal Fund for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To provide a safety net to the workers affected by liberalisation of industrial policy announced by Government of India in July, 1991, National Renewal Fund (NRF) was set up. Assistance from National Renewal Fund has been provided for counselling, retraining and redeployment of rationalised workers from organised sector who have either taken voluntary retirement or have been retrenched or rendered surplus after 24.7.89 i.e., after the liberalisation of industrial policy announced by Government of India in July, 1991. Training is imparted in the trades having job opportunities in wage/self-employment. On completion of training, efforts are made to redeploy the trained workers in wage/self-employment. Employees Assistance Centres, set up with assistance from NRF, have counselled 57,991 workers and retrained 40,519 workers and redeployed 12,867 workers as on 30.11.1999.

In Budget Estimates 1999-2000 a total sum of Rs. eight crores has been provided by different departments/ministries in Government of India.

Plan for Reorientation Research Programme

3506. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up an action plan for reorienting the agriculture research programme in collaboration with the other advanced/developing countries in various areas during the year 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken for the upgradation of facilities and enhancement of quality of education in the agriculture universities during the Ninth Five Year Plan and outlays available for the programme, University-wise;

(c) the details of funds approved/released by the Union Government and actually utilised by the Universities during the last three years; and

(d) the reasons for under utilisation of funds so allocated by the Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No action plan for reorienting the agricultural research programme in collaboration with other countries during the year 1999-2000 has been drawn up. However, for upgradation of facilities and enhancement of quality of education in Agricultural Universities during IX Plan, a total outlay of Rs. 131.30 crore has been made under the scheme "Development and Strengthening of Agricultural Universities" under the following heads:

| | (Rs. in crore) |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Civil Work | 38.00 |
| (a) Construction of Girls Hostel | |
| (b) Renovation of Academy & building | |
| (c) Development and strengthening of instructional farms | |
| 2. Contingency grant for practicals for UG and PG teaching | 36.00 |
| 3. Faculty competence improvement (Participation of faculty in international seminar) | 7.00 |
| 4. Infrastructural Development UG Practical and Computer | 15.00 |
| 5. Library Strengthening | 7.00 |
| 6. Establishment of Central Instrumentation Lab. | 15.00 |
| 7. Students & Faculty amenities | 6.10 |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| 8. Development and Strengthening of Education by Deans | 7.20 |
| ⊗ Rupees One lakh per year per Dean | |
| Total | 131.30 |

(c) Statement of funds provided during the last three years is enclosed.

(d) The funds are being utilized by the universities effectively.

Statement

The Statement of State Agricultural Universities, Deemed Universities and Central Universities and details of funds released to the universities during the last three years

(Rupees in lakhs)

| S. No. | Name of the University | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
|--------|---|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad | 146.00 | 80.00 | 90.00 |
| 2. | Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat | — | 270.00 | 100.00 |
| 3. | Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi | 146.74 | 95.00 | 70.00 |
| 4. | Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Mohanpur | 153.55 | 61.00 | 110.00 |
| 5. | CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar | 35.00 | 71.00 | 96.00 |
| 6. | C.S. Azad University of Agri. and Technology, Kanpur | — | 63.00 | 88.00 |
| 7. | Gujarat Agricultural University, Banaskantha | 56.04 | 85.00 | 100.00 |
| 8. | G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Technology, Pantnagar | 49.70 | 95.00 | 120.00 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur | 64.00 | 62.00 | 80.00 |
| 10. | Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishinagar, Raipur | 36.28 | 69.00 | 75.00 |
| 11. | Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur | 115.36 | 108.00 | 175.00 |
| 12. | Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli | 56.71 | 75.00 | 80.00 |
| 13. | Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur | 15.24 | 70.00 | 95.00 |
| 14. | Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani | 30.53 | 68.00 | 76.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 15. | Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri | 49.80 | 72.00 | 90.00 |
| 16. | N.D. University of Agri. and Technology, Faizabad | 58.00 | 55.00 | 60.00 |
| 17. | Orissa University of Agri. & Technology, Bhubaneswar | — | 70.00 | 100.00 |
| 18. | Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana | 57.00 | 70.00 | 100.00 |
| 19. | Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola | 33.95 | 57.00 | 75.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner | 51.00 | 150.00 | 140.00 |
| 21. | Rajendra Agricultural Univeristy, Pusa, Samastipur | 30.00 | 70.00 | 112.00 |
| 22. | S.K. University of Agri. Sciences & Technology, Srinagar | 109.78 | 80.00 | 110.00 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore | 57.69 | 55.00 | 80.00 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu Vety. & Animal Sc. University, Chennai | 61.00 | 60.00 | 70.00 |
| 25. | University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore | 49.31 | 80.00 | 110.00 |
| 26. | University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad | 105.37 | 60.00 | 94.17 |
| 27. | West Bengal University of Ani. & Fishery Sciences, Calcutta | 25.00 | 60.00 | 105.00 |
| 28. | Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Hort. and Forestry, Solan | 77.26 | 99.00 | 92.00 |
| Total | | 1670.31 | 2315.00 | 2693.17 |

Deemed Universities

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi | 25.00 | 48.00 | 53.50 |
| 2. | Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar | 25.00 | 32.00 | 42.00 |
| 3. | National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal | 25.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 4. | Central Instt. of Fisheries Education, Mumbai | 25.00 | 38.00 | 74.50 |
| Total | | 100.00 | 148.00 | 200.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------------------------|--|--------|-------|-------|
| Central Universities | | | | |
| 1. | Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh | 50.00 | 20.00 | 25.00 |
| 2. | Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi | 25.00 | 20.00 | 25.00 |
| 3. | Viswa Bharati, Sriniketan, West Bengal | 25.00 | 20.00 | 25.00 |
| Total | | 100.00 | 60.00 | 75.00 |

Crop Genetic Resources

3507. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow SAARC nations to use its gene banks for conserving their crop genetic resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the SAARC nations on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the SAARC Workshop on "Consensus development on germplasm exchange and IPR" held on 22-25 March, 1999 at New Delhi, one of the agenda items for discussion was utilisation of existing gene bank facilities and capabilities in the region by the member countries. India has one of the largest gene banks in the world with a capacity of conserving over one million germplasm samples. The country has thus a premier position in the SAARC region in term of its gene bank capacity and technical competence to conserve genetic resources of a wide spectrum of crops on long-term basis. A number of developed nations and international agencies offer their gene bank facilities to other countries for conserving the latter's genetic resources. This practice not only promotes international cooperation in conservation of genetic resources but is also beneficial to the host country, in having and providing access, under mutually agreed terms, to valuable genetic resources. Thus, it would be in the interest of India to offer its gene bank facilities to SAARC countries.

(c) No formal request has as yet been received from the participating countries in response to the suggestion made at the Workshop.

[Translation]

Joint Research with Brazil

3508. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to take up a joint research with Brazil in the fields of agriculture, livestock and fisheries;

(b) if so, the details of the projects; and

(c) the time by which joint research in these fields are likely to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Agriculture has not signed any Agreement with the Govt. of Brazil of carry out joint research in the field of agriculture, livestock and fisheries. However, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA) on 30.8.95 with the objective to strengthen co-operation and to stimulate interest in the broad areas of plant science, soil science, agriculture biotechnology and other related areas of interest. For implementation of the activities under the MoU, the ICAR prepared a Work Plan for the biennium 1996-97. The validity of the same has been extended upto 31st December, 1999. Under the Work Plan, the activities include exchange of scientists between ICAR and EMBRAPA for study visits and training in the areas of interest identified for co-operation. In

addition, one joint research project has been proposed on "Production of disease free nursery plants and search for resistance in citrus/ against Phytophthora diseases". Under the Work Plan exchange visits took place. A fresh Work Plan will be prepared after expiry of the existing Work Plan.

Gross Domestic Product

3509. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI J.S. BRAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) average annual Gross Domestic Product during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government have also estimated the average annual Gross Domestic Product of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the average annual Gross Domestic Product of the industrial, agricultural and service sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):
(a) The Eighth Five Year Plan covers the period 1992-93 to 1996-97. The estimate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the first year of the Eighth Plan i.e., 1992-93 is available at 1980-81 base. For the remaining four years of the Eighth Plan the estimates of GDP are available at 1993-94 base. The annual estimates of GDP during the Eighth Five Year Plan is given in enclosed Statement I.

(b) to (d) The Gross Domestic Product at factor cost for the five year period of the Ninth Five Year Plan, 1997-2002 has been projected as Rs. 6902.5 thousand crores at 1996-97 prices, which gives an average annual figure of Rs. 1380.5 thousand crores. The Gross Domestic Product at factor cost for the five year period of the Ninth Five Year Plan has been projected as Rs. 1692.8 thousand crores at 1996-97 prices in agriculture and allied activities, Rs. 2124.2 thousand crores at 1996-97 prices in industry and Rs. 3085.5 thousand crores at 1996-97 prices in services sector or average annual figures of 338.6 thousand crores, 424.8 thousand crores and 617.1 thousand crores for agriculture & allied activities, industry and services sectors respectively.

The estimates of Gross Domestic Product of agriculture, industry and services sectors for the first two years of the Ninth Five Year Plan as available from the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) at 1993-94 prices are given in enclosed Statement II.

Statement I

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost during the Eighth Five Year Plan

| Year | GDP at current prices 1980-81 base (Rupees Crores) |
|---------|--|
| 1992-93 | 630772 |
| Year | GDP at current prices 1993-94 base (Rupees Crores) |
| 1993-94 | 799077 |
| 1994-95 | 943408 |
| 1995-96 | 1103238 |
| 1996-97 | 1285259 |

Statement II

Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost

(Rs. Crores at 1993-94 prices)

| Sector | 1997-98 (Quick Estimate) | 1998-99 (Revised Estimate) |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Agriculture | 277418 | 298381 |
| Industry | 283444 | 295147 |
| Services | 488329 | 518678 |
| Total | 1049191 | 1112206 |

Source: Press Note on Revised Estimate of Annual National Income and Quarterly Estimates of Gross Domestic Product 1998-99, Central Statistical Organisation, Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation, Government of India.

*[English]***Regional Imbalances**

3510. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is studying the reasons and to suggest measures to reduce the regional imbalances;

(b) if so, the study conducted on the regional imbalances of North Bengal and Sunderban area of West Bengal with rest of Bengal during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans;

(c) the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir. Planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments, including West Bengal, in the development of backward areas through appropriate weightage for backwardness in the formula used for distribution of Normal Central Assistance. Further, Special Central Assistance is also allocated to the Government of West Bengal under Special Area Programmes, namely, Hill Areas Development Programme, Border Area Development Programme and Tribal Sub-Plan. In addition the State Government also operates separate Special Area programmes to address the development problems of the North Bengal and Sunderban regions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Office at Hyderabad

3511. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request for setting up of a US and Foreign Commercial Service Office at Hyderabad is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, since when this request is pending with the Government alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this office is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The US Government had requested opening of Foreign Commercial Service Offices in some Indian cities, including Hyderabad, in 1996. The Government considers all such proposals taking into account overall Indo-US commercial relations, reciprocity and the volume of business in suggested locations. Decisions in respect of opening of offices in Bangalore, Pune and Ahmedabad have already been conveyed. About Hyderabad, the matter is under the active consideration of the Government.

Visit of Netherlands PM

3512. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had discussed the menace of cross border terrorism with Prime Minister of Netherlands during his recent visit to India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Prime Minister of Netherlands on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Dutch Prime Minister was sensitised to India's grave concern at the menace of continuing and intensive cross-border terrorism. The Dutch side showed understanding and support.

Command Area Development Programme

3513. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for the implementation of Command Area Development Programme in the country;

(b) if so, the areas identified under the programme in each State; and

(c) the funds released by the Union Government under the programme and achievement made by each State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No State-wise survey has been conducted regarding the implementation of Command Area Development Programme. However, the Ministry reviews State-wise implementation of the programme.

(c) The details of funds released by the Union Government under the programme and achievements made by each participating State under the core components of the programme during the last 3 years *w.e.f.* 1996-97 to 1998-99 is given in enclosed Statements I to V.

Statement I**Statewise Central Release Under the CAD Programme**

(Unit: Rs. in Lakh)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Release during 1996-97 | Release during 1997-98 | Release during 1998-99 | Total |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 99.40 | 3839.57 | 0.00 | 3938.97 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.00 | 124.00 | 0.00 | 124.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 39.00 | 20.00 | 0.00 | 59.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 444.38 | 97.11 | 324.19 | 865.68 |
| 7. | Haryana | 1247.18 | 1116.85 | 1294.63 | 3658.66 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 44.02 | 73.07 | 52.90 | 169.99 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 252.23 | 189.90 | 233.99 | 676.12 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 845.59 | 437.87 | 668.00 | 1951.46 |
| 11. | Kerala | 466.96 | 200.00 | 806.04 | 1473.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 65.00 | 6.25 | 245.99 | 317.24 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1439.92 | 298.30 | 1719.15 | 3457.37 |
| 14. | Manipur | 130.69 | 86.91 | 132.33 | 349.93 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.43 | 6.43 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 17. | Orissa | 353.99 | 231.47 | 774.40 | 1359.86 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 3948.17 | 2226.65 | 3834.87 | 10009.69 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 2081.99 | 552.46 | 2507.27 | 5141.72 |
| 21. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 2022.60 | 3057.83 | 3959.24 | 9039.67 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 112.19 | 90.00 | 275.00 | 477.19 |
| 24. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 13593.31 | 12648.24 | 17334.43 | 43575.98 |

The Implementation of CAD programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu comes under Daman Ganga Project of Gujarat. The releases for this project are shown under Gujarat State accordingly.

Statement II

Physical Achievements In Respect of Field Channels Under the CAD Programme

(Unit: in '000 ha)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Release during 1996-97 | Release during 1997-98 | Release during 1998-99* | Total during 1996-97 to 1998-99 |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 0.03 | 2.15 | 3.34 | 5.52 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.15 | 0.44 | 0.83 | 1.42 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.54 | 0.54 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.10 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.10 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 6. | Gujarat | 10.53 | 7.34 | 20.60 | 38.37 |
| 7. | Haryana | 35.79 | 28.21 | 23.65 | 67.65 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.55 | 1.41 | 0.00 | 1.96 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 4.52 | 6.97 | 5.39 | 16.88 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 23.75 | 11.03 | 10.35 | 45.13 |
| 11. | Kerala | 14.39 | 7.89 | 7.12 | 29.40 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 1.41 | 4.23 | 10.86 | 6.50 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 20.88 | 25.23 | 27.67 | 73.78 |
| 14. | Manipur | 2.24 | 3.33 | 4.48 | 10.05 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| 17. | Orissa | 18.66 | 7.00 | 12.89 | 38.55 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 69.39 | 54.25 | 65.95 | 189.59 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 41.61 | 46.61 | 53.82 | 142.04 |
| 21. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 126.87 | 112.20 | 71.54 | 310.61 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 5.35 | 0.82 | 3.36 | 9.53 |
| 24. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 376.22 | 319.01 | 322.44 | 1017.67 |

(*) Provisional

The implementation of CAD Programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu comes under Daman Ganga Project of Gujarat. The achievements for this project are shown under Gujarat State accordingly.

Statement III***Physical Achievements in Respect of Field Drains Under the CAD Programme***

(Unit: inl '000 ha)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Achievement during 1996-97 | Achievement during 1997-98 | Achievement during 1998-99* | Total during 1996-97 to 1998-99 |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.01 | 0.52 | 0.00 | 0.53 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| 7. | Haryana | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.43 | 0.00 | 0.43 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1.40 | 2.27 | 2.45 | 6.12 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 0.66 | 0.25 | 2.82 | 3.73 |
| 11. | Kerala | 4.48 | 16.37 | 32.54 | 53.39 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 9.81 | 0.00 | 13.27 | 23.08 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0.47 | 0.07 | 0.08 | 0.62 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.06 | 0.06 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 17. | Orissa | 8.23 | 5.06 | 3.96 | 17.25 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 2.60 | 2.78 | 9.76 | 15.14 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 21. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 27.66 | 27.75 | 64.96 | 120.37 |

(*) Provisional

The implementation of CAD Programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu comes under Damnan Ganga Project of Gujarat. The achievements for this project are shown under Gujarat State accordingly.

Statement IV

Physical Achievements in Respect of Warabandi Under the CAD Programme

(Unit: in '000 ha)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Achievement during 1996-97 | Achievement during 1997-98 | Achievement during 1998-99* | Total during 1996-97 to 1998-99 |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 11.49 | 4.80 | 10.24 | 26.53 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.02 | 0.86 | 0.00 | 0.88 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 5. | Goa | 1.50 | 0.00 | 1.44 | 2.94 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 12.43 | 5.87 | 8.38 | 26.68 |
| 7. | Haryana | 2.17 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.17 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.25 | 2.38 | 0.00 | 2.63 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 30.92 | 45.64 | 90.69 | 167.25 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 7.46 | 16.29 | 8.20 | 31.96 |
| 11. | Kerala | 11.15 | 9.11 | 20.28 | 40.54 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.17 | 1.18 | 1.35 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 4.87 | 21.24 | 8.69 | 34.80 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0.51 | 0.57 | 0.16 | 1.24 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17. | Orissa | 0.00 | 15.00 | 13.40 | 28.40 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 69.39 | 54.25 | 0.00 | 123.64 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 60.84 | 75.91 | 81.82 | 218.57 |
| 21. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 204.61 | 176.26 | 89.29 | 470.16 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 417.64 | 428.35 | 333.77 | 1179.76 |

(*) Provisional

The implementation of CAD Programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu comes under Daman Ganga Project of Gujarat. The achievements for this project are shown under Gujarat State accordingly.

Statement V*Physical Achievements in Respect of Land Levelling Under the CAD Programme*

(Unit: in '000 ha)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Achievement during 1996-97 | Achievement during 1997-98 | Achievement during 1998-99* | Total during 1996-97 to 1998-99 |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6.00 | 3.89 | 4.30 | 14.19 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.05 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 0.08 |
| 7. | Haryana | 0.51 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.98 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1.91 | 2.27 | 1.26 | 5.44 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 0.00 | 0.00 | 5.41 | 5.41 |
| 11. | Kerala | 0.08 | 0.23 | 0.12 | 0.43 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1.45 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.45 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0.00 | 0.35 | 0.15 | 0.50 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 16. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 17. | Orissa | 0.16 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.16 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 0.60 | 3.98 | 11.28 | 15.86 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 21. | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | | 10.76 | 11.23 | 22.56 | 44.55 |

(*) Provisional

The implementation of CAD Programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu comes under Daman Ganga Project of Gujarat. The achievements for this project are shown under Gujarat State accordingly.

Plant Protection Legislation

3514. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce plant varieties Protection Legislation to ensure farmers protection and rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to free Indian farmers from foreign seed producing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Bill, 1999 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 14.12.1999. The Bill, *inter-alia*, seeks to protect Farmer's Rights to save, use, exchange, share or

sell his farm produce of a protected variety, except sale for the purpose of reproduction under a commercial marketing arrangement.

(c) Indian farmers are free to undertake production of any crop variety, whether developed indigenously or by foreign seed producing companies.

Reclamation of Alkali Soils

3515. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any centrally sponsored scheme for reclamation of alkali soils in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds released to the States for this purpose^{of} during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Reclamation of Alkali Soils is under implementation in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh since VII Five Year Plan (1985-86). The Scheme was extended to the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during the VIII Five Year Plan. The scheme provides for adoption of package of technology for alkali soils reclamation by application of soil amendment, provision of assured irrigation for leaching, application of green manure, cultivation of salt tolerant wheat and rice variety, plantation of salt tolerant species of fruits, fuel-wood and fodder trees.

(c) The details of funds released to the States during the last three years are as under:—

| (Rs. in lakhs) | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Year | Funds released |
| 1996-97 | 261.64 |
| 1997-98 | 338.00 |
| 1998-99 | 252.77 |
| Total | 852.41 |

Relations with French Speaking Countries

3516. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps being taken to improve all round relations with the French speaking African countries?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): India's relations with the French-speaking African countries are cordial. These relations are further improving through the efforts of our resident missions in Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Madagascar. Government of India has been extending scientific and technical help to these countries by implementing various developmental projects and by helping them to develop their human resources. In times of need donations of various humanitarian items are also made.

[*Translation*].

Modern Food Industries

3517. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places in various States where the units of Modern Food Industries are located with the items being produced;

(b) whether the units located in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan are incurring heavy losses;

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to sell the surplus land available with the various units for making them economically viable; and

(d) if so, the details of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The locations of various units of Modern Food Industries (India) Limited (MFIL) and the items being produced there have been given in the Annexure.

(b) The bakery unit located at Indore (Madhya Pradesh) is not incurring losses. However, the unit located at Jaipur (Rajasthan) is incurring heavy losses.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no proposal to sell the surplus land available with any of the units of MFIL.

Statement

Locations of various units of Modern Food Industries (India) Limited

| Sl. No. | State | Location | Items of production |
|---------|-------------|------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Gujarat | Ahmedabad | Bread |
| 2. | Karnataka | Bangalore | Bread |
| 3. | Maharashtra | Mumbai | Bread & Cake |
| 4. | West Bengal | Calcutta | Bread |
| 5. | Chandigarh | Chandigarh | Bread |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 6. | Kerala | Cochin | Bread & Cake |
| 7. | Delhi | (a) Lawrence Road | Bread |
| | | (b) Kirti Nagar | Unit has been closed in March '99 |
| | | (c) FJBP, Lawrence Road | Nutritional Foods |
| 8. | Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad | Bread |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | (a) Indore | Bread |
| | | (b) Ujjain | Unit has been closed w.e.f. 31.03.94 |
| 10. | Rajasthan | Jaipur | Bread & Extruded Food |
| 11. | Uttar Pradesh | Kanpur | Bread & Nutritional Food |
| 12. | Bihar | (a) Ranchi | Bread |
| | | (b) Bhagalpur | Unit has been closed from October '98 |
| 13. | Haryana | (a) Faridabad | Nutritional Foods |
| | | (b) Beverages unit | Unit has been closed in October '92 |

[English]

Fish Markets in A.P.

3518. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Cooperative Development Corporation has evolved any plan to finance fish markets in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to encourage the development of marketing infrastructure for fishermen in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir. However, NCDC provides financial assistance for establishing infrastructure facilities for fish marketing by cooperative societies all over the country including Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A Financial assistance of Rs. 89.00 lakh has been provided to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for Development of Fish Marketing Infrastructure under the Central Sector Scheme on 'Strengthening of Infrastructure for Inland Fish Marketing' launched by the Ministry of Agriculture during the year 1992-93.

International Terrorism

3519. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Government has approached the European Union and stressed that the international community should work together in order to isolate terrorist groups;

(b) if so, whether there has been any demand by the European Union for further discussion with India on the menace of international terrorism, its funding and the scope for international co-operation in combating it;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) The EU is fully aware of India's grave concerns with regard to the menace of international terrorism as well as cross-border terrorism in India. The European Union fully shares these concerns. At the joint press statement issued at the conclusion of the India-EU Troika Ministerial Meeting in Helsinki on December 3, 1999, India and the European Union jointly stressed the importance of international co-operation to successfully combat international terrorism.

The European Union has been supportive of our position on terrorism. Recently, in the 6th Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, the EU made a supportive reference to the Indian proposal for a comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

Pension Cases

3520. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with each Ministry for settlement of pensions during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the steps taken to settle these cases within the stipulated time limit;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any policy for the welfare of pensioners/senior citizens; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) There are more than 38 lakh central pensioners all over the country belonging to Defence services, Railways, Post and Telecommunications and Central Civil Departments. Pension payment system is highly decentralised and pension is disbursed through banks, treasuries, post offices and Pay and Accounts offices located across the country. No centralised record is being maintained in this Ministry for settlement of pensions of different categories of pensioners administered by individual Ministries/Departments. However, each Ministry is required to monitor settlement of pension cases pertaining to the Departments/offices under the Ministry.

(b) The Government has taken a series of steps to expedite settlement of pending pension cases. These include setting up of a monitoring mechanism in each Ministry to watch the receipt and disposal of pension cases, *suo moto* revision of pension cases by pension sanctioning authority wherever possible without calling for applications, wide publicity in leading dailies to disseminate the prescribed formats where necessary, coordination with banking segment to sort out issues and over all review by this Ministry of pendency of pension revisions on a continuing basis.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. To mark the International year of older persons, the Government announced the National Policy on older persons in January, 1999. Several initiatives/measures have been taken in pursuance of this Policy. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is also implementing scheme— "An Integrated Programme for Older Persons" and "Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations/Self Help Group for Construction of Old Age Homes/Multi-Service Centres of Older persons". Under the former scheme financial assistance is provided to voluntary organisation for establishing and maintaining Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Mobile Medicare Units. The later scheme provides one time financial grant for construction of Old Homes and Multi-Service Centres.

Direct Train/Bus Route From Barmer to Pakistan

3521. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start any direct train and bus service between Barmer and any other place in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) There is no proposals at present to start either a bus or train service from Barmer to any place in Pakistan.

Government have proposed reopening of the rail link between Munnabao and Khokrapar. Pakistan has not responded positively to this proposal.

Development of Livestock and Fishery

3522. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have new plans to develop the livestock and fishery sector to provide more employment opportunities to the rural people and to increase their socio-economic status;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the contribution of livestock sector to Agriculture GDP and country's GDP;

(d) the total milk, egg, wool and fish production in the year 1998-99 and the target set for the year 1999-2000;

(e) the total export earnings from livestock/fisheries sector in the year 1998-99 and the expected export earnings in the year 1999-2000 from livestock/fisheries sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):
(a) The Department has formulated a Special Action Plan for achieving the accelerated growth of livestock and fisheries sectors, and to provide more employment opportunities to the rural people and to increase their socio-economic status.

(b) The details of the 17 schemes identified for the Special Action Plan are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) The information is given below:

| (Rs. in crores) | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Total | GDP in 1997-98 1426670 |
| Agriculture sector | 392134 |
| Livestock sector | 84126 |
| % livestock to total | 5.9% |
| % livestock to agriculture | 21.5% |

(d) The information is given below:

| | 1998-99 Ant. | 1999-2000 Target |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Milk (MT) | 74.66 | 78.12 |
| Egg (Billion) | 30.14 | 31.32 |
| Fish (MT) | 5.25 | 5.59 |
| Wool (M. Kgs.) | 45.50 | 46.10 |

(e) The export details are given below:

| (Rs. in crores) | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | Livestock Products | Fishery Products |
| 1998-99 | 874.06 | 4626.87 |
| 1999-2000 (Target) | Not Fixed | 5200.00 |

Statement

Details of Special Action Plan Schemes

| (Rs. in crores) | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| Sl.No. | Name of Scheme | Allocation for Ninth Plan |
| 1. | Extension of Frozen Semen Tech. & Progeny Testing Programme | 320.00 |
| 2. | National Bull Production Programme | 82.00 |
| 3. | National Ram/Buck & Rabbit Dev. Prog. | 21.05 |
| 4. | Asst. to States for Int. Piggery Dev. | 44.00 |
| 5. | Asst. to States for Poultry/Duck Farms | 16.20 |
| 6. | Asst. to States for Fodder Dev. | 50.00 |
| 7. | Asst. to States for con. of liv. dis. | 119.00 |
| 8. | Creation of Disease Free Zones | 48.00 |
| 9. | Int. Dairy Development Projects in Non Operational Flood & Hilly areas | 250.00 |
| 10. | Assistance to Cooperative | 150.00 |
| 11. | Organization of new Dairy Cooperatives | 20.00 |
| 12. | Setting up of Vidya Dairies | 25.00 |
| 13. | Estt. of Fishing Harbours at Ports | 150.17 |
| 14. | Dev. of Freshwater Aquaculture | 150.32 |
| 15. | Development of Marine Fisheries | 86.55 |
| 16. | National Welfare of Fishermen | 100.36 |
| 17. | Fisheries Survey of India | 130.77 |
| Total | | 1763.62 |

[Translation]

Improved Varieties of Paddy and Maize

3523. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural scientists have undertaken any research work for improving the varieties of paddy and maize;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these varieties of paddy and maize are likely to be made available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Developing improved varieties of paddy and maize is a high priority research area. Improved varieties and hybrids having better yield, quality, resistance to diseases and pests and other desirable traits are being developed for cultivation under different agro-climatic conditions. In paddy, the emphasis is on the development of hybrids, improving grain quality and stability of performance. In maize, the thrust area of research is development of single cross hybrids. Multi-disciplinary teams of scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and State Agricultural Universities are jointly working to fulfil this task.

(c) A number of improved varieties and hybrids of rice and maize with better yield potential and suitability for cultivation in different eco-systems have already been released from time to time. Many of these are cultivated in large areas. The varietal improvement is, however, a continuous process, and new varieties are put in seed production chain immediately after their release so as to make their seed available to the farmers.

[English]

Tipaimukh Dam

3524. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction work of Tipaimukh Dam had commenced;

(b) if so, the state in which the dam stands; and

(c) the time by which the work on this dam is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Brahmaputra Board has completed investigation work and Detailed Project Report for a multipurpose project on Break river at Manipur-Mizoram border in Barak Valley. Techno-economic clearance subject to certain conditions has been granted to this project named the Tipaimukh Dam Project (Barak Dam) in 1995. Further progress could not be made in absence of agreement between the concerned States of Manipur, Mizoram and Assam.

CIA Planned Infiltration

3525. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "CIA planned infiltration" appearing in *Tribune* dated May 28, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since initiated a probe into the likelihood of CIA's hand behind the massive infiltration in Kargil sector by Pak; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the probe?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report does not quote any sources or, in any other way, corroborate the information. All matters relating to the intrusion in Kargil is the subject of a review by a Committee.

Revision of Pay Scales

3526. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had accepted the recommendations given by the Board of Arbitration regarding the demand for revision of Pay Scales of UDCs/Stenographers-Grade 'D';

(b) if so, the present status of the case; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Board of Arbitration in CA No. 10 of 1992 has rejected the demand of revision of pay scales of UDCs of CSCS vide its order dated 30.7.1998. The Board of Arbitration in CA No. 11 of 1992 has accepted the demand of revision of pay scales of Steno Grade 'D' of CSSS vide its order dated 30.7.1998. Action with regard to acceptance/rejection of the Award is being taken in accordance with the procedure laid down in the JCM Scheme. As it also involves studying its impact on other cadres it will be difficult to specify a definite time limit for acceptance/rejection of the Award.

NWDPRRA

3527. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work under the National Watershed Development Scheme for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRRA) has been started in the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target fixed and achievements made under the scheme in the States during the last three years; and

(d) the funds provided by the Union Government to the State Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka for the implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Details of physical target, achievement and funds provided to the States of Maharashtra and Karnataka under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRRA) is given in enclosed Statement.

Statement

Details of Physical Targets, Achievements Made and Fund Provided to Maharashtra and Karnataka States during last three years (1996-97 to 1998-99)

| Sl. No. | State | Physical Achievement (in ha.) | | Funds Provided (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---------|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Target | Achievements | |
| 1. | Maharashtra | 2,63,759 | 2,46,613 | 8314.00 |
| 2. | Karnataka | 2,02,900 | 2,32,684 | 5195.00 |

[Translation]

Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme in Bihar

3528. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally sponsored Schemes are being implemented for the development of agriculture in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated expenditure incurred on these schemes during each of the last three years and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) and (b) A list of centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in Bihar for the development of agriculture is given as Statement.

(c) The details of funds released to Bihar and results achieved thereunder during the last three years are as follows:—

| Year | Funds released (Rs. Crore) | Area Under foodgrains (000' ha.) | Production (000' Tonnes) | Yield (kg/ha.) |
|---------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1996-97 | 16.39 | 9048.70 | 14418 | 1593 |
| 1997-98 | 11.99 | 8834.60 | 12899 | 1460 |
| 1998-99 | 5.91 | 8838.00 | 12920 | 1462 |

Statement

List of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation in Bihar

| S.No. | Name of the Scheme |
|-------|--|
| 1 | 2 |
| 1. | Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice). |
| 2. | Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System. |

1

2

3. Special Jute Development Programme.
4. National Pulses Development Project.
5. Oilseeds Production Programme.
6. Accelerated Maize Development Programme.
7. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
8. Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilisers.
9. Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
10. Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects.
11. Soil Conservation in the Catchments of Flood Prone Rivers.
12. Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
13. Development of Commercial Floriculture.
14. Development of Mushroom.
15. Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.
16. Integrated Development Programme for Cashewnut.
17. Integrated Development for Vegetables including onion, potato and other root and tuber crops.
18. Integrated Development of Spices.
19. Special scheme for SCs/STs.
20. Assistance to Women's cooperatives.
21. Timely Reporting Scheme.
22. Improvement of Crop Statistics.
23. Livestock Census.

*[English]***Production of Foodgrains and Cereals**

3529. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Ministr of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received proposals from the State Governments for extending financial assistance to increase the production of foodgrains and cereals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Government of India received proposals from State Governments of Tripura, Punjab and Rajasthan for extending allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Rice and Wheat. The additional central funds allocated to these States during 1999-2000 is indicated below:

(Rs. in lakh)

| State | Additional fund allocated |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Tripura | 60.000 |
| Punjab | 150.000 |
| Rajasthan | 15.735 |

Damages of Land

3530. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether large area of cultivable land in Andaman gets damaged by the overflowing small rivers every year:

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted by the Union Government to access the losses suffered by the farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) In the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, there are two small Rivers e.g. Kalpong River at Diglipur and Galatnia River at Great Nicobar and only a few seasonal nallas are existing. Overflow in these rivers/Nallas takes place only when there is continuous heavy rainfall. The water stagnation takes place for only 4-5 hrs. depending upon the tides. Sometimes damages are caused when there are standing crops.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Authorised Committee constituted by the Andaman Nicobar Administration inspects and assesses the extent of damage caused during such occurrence. During the year 1998-99, such occurrence was reported in Middle Andaman and the Committee conducted a survey. 259 farmers of 14 villages were affected and the damage to crops, seeds, seedlings etc., is given below:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Paddy | 35.9 ha. |
| Vegetable | 1.9 ha. |
| Betelvine | 0.4 ha. |
| Paddy seed | 12,460 Kg. |
| Arecanut Seedling | 431 Nos. |
| Arecanut | 249.5 Kg. |
| Coconut Seedling | 53 Nos. |
| Banana Seedling | 1102 Nos. |
| Mango Trees | 3 Nos. |
| Jack fruit | 1 No. |
| Orange/Vegetable Seedlings | 20,002 Nos. |

Total amount of damage has been assessed at Rs. 4.12 lakh.

(d) (i) To avoid overflowing, the Government has drawn up Watershed Schemes on Catchment basis which includes afforestation and drainage line treatment to allow water to percolate in the soil below, minimising the surface flow.

(ii) Construction of ponds is also taken up to store rainwater so that it does not flow into the river and caused damage by raising the water level.

Production of Palm Oil

3531. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any plans for increasing the production of palm oil during 1999-2000;

(b) the total land in the hectare brought under the palm oil cultivation in India so far;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposals for getting financial assistance for the cultivation of palm oil in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(e) the reaction of Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) and (b) In order to increase the production of palm oil during 1999-2000 Government is providing assistance to selected States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP) for planting material, cultivation during gestation period, drip irrigation installation, training of extension staff and farmers, publicity & extension and establishment & Staff. Upto 1998-99 an area of 53,106 ha. has been brought under oil palm cultivation. An area of 17,500 ha. is targetted to be brought under oil palm cultivation during 1999-2000.

(c) to (e) Government of Kerala submitted a proposal for bringing an area of 1000 ha. in districts of Kottayam & Kollam under oil palm cultivation through implementation of Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP). An amount of Rs. 85.00 lakhs was released as Central Share during 1998-99. No proposal has been received for release of Central Share in 1999-2000.

Another proposal was submitted by Government of Kerala for setting up a demonstration plot in 200 ha. of Kariland in Kottayam district for an amount of Rs. 189.96 lakhs. The proposals is under consideration.

Horticulture Development

3532. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the various schemes implemented in the fields of horticulture in Maharashtra and other States particularly in tribal dominated areas during the last three years till date;

(b) the quantum of amount made available for these schemes by the Union Government during the above period;

(c) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research or any other such research institute have developed any new technology in these fields; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to introduce this technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has been implementing schemes for the integrated development of fruits, vegetables, roots & tuber crops, spices, cashew & coca, medicinal and aromatic plants, commercial floriculture, coconut and mushroom in Maharashtra and all other States. Assistance is also provided for the use of plastics and for the promotion of bee keeping. All these schemes

lay due emphasis on benefits to the tribal people. The funds made available under these schemes during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (BE) is given in enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Number of high yielding and superior varieties in fruits, vegetables, potato, tuber crops, ornamental crops, coconut, cashew, spices and other horticulture crops have been developed and released for commercial cultivation in various agro-climatic zones of the country by ICAR institutions. High density planting in banana, pineapple and papaya have been standardized. True potato seed technology in potato, quality improvement in grapes by Gibberellic acid, induction of regular flowering in mango by Paclobutazol, softwood grafting in mango and cashew, mango harvester and coconut dehusker have been developed. These are being introduced through ICAR Regional Stations, National Research Centres, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, etc. and Extension Wing of the Directorate of Horticulture in various States.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Name of the Scheme | 1997-98 (Released) | | 1998-99 (Released) | | 1999-2000 (Allocations) | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| | Maharashtra | All India | Maharashtra | All India | Maharashtra | All India |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Development of Fruits | 100 | 1672.42 | 214 | 1983.69 | 204.54 | 2500 |
| Development of Cashew & cocoa | 544.38 | 1260.75 | 692.51 | 1621.09 | 662.42 | 1770.94 |
| Development of Vegetables, roots and tuber crops | 10.00 | 226.4 | 0 | 109.44 | 19.5 | 580.50 |
| Development of Spices | 147.62 | 2896.5 | 86.12 | 3261.27 | 135.23 | 3123.00 |
| Development of mushroom | 1.50 | 294.46 | 0 | 197.92 | 5 | 400.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| Development of commercial floriculture | 0.00 | 146.7 | 12 | 563.82 | 27 | 500.00 |
| Medicinal and Aromatic plants | 1.05 | 10.2 | 6.5 | 67.78 | 6.5 | 90.00 |
| Promotion of bee-keeping | 11.50 | 34.00 | 0.00 | 5.00 | 0 | 200.00 |
| Development of Plastics | 2447.00 | 7970.5 | 3194.13 | 10744.05 | 2703.95 | 9851.53 |
| Development of coconut | 0 | 3090.78 | 3.58 | 2106.35 | 3.5 | 2100.00 |

Protector of Emigrants

3533. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision for opening office of the Protector of Emigrants in Kozhikode;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) Keeping in view the reduced outflow of workers to other countries for work because of various reasons as also the fact that two offices of Protectors of Emigrants are already functioning in the State of Kerala at Thiruvanthapuram and Cochin, it is not considered feasible to open an office of Protector of Emigrants in Kozhikode for the present.

Scam In Purchases of Tripal

3534. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Orissa mein tripal kharidey soudey mein croron ki dalali ka arope" appearing in *Nav Bharat Times* dated November 29, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Orissa have denied the allegations contained in the News-paper report.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Loss Suffered by SAIL

3535. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have suffered huge losses due to non-imposition of additional charges on better quality of iron ore containing less quantity of sulphur and phosphorus;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover the said amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The royalty on minerals, except minor minerals as defined under

Section 3(e) is notified under the Second Schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957. As per Section 9 of the Act, the Central Government may by notification in the official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the Notification. However, the Central Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral, more than once during any period of three years.

The rates of royalty on most of the minerals were last revised on 11.4.97. Therefore any upward revision is not due till 10.4.2000. It may be noted that while rates of royalty are notified by the Central Government, the lessees pay the royalty directly to the State Governments.

[English]

Crop Insurance Scheme

3536. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where Crop Insurance Scheme is being implemented at present in the country;

(b) the physical targets set under the Scheme during the year 1999-2000, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited under the scheme in each State during the said period;

(d) whether some States have still not implemented the scheme even after certain modification;

(e) if so, the details of those States;

(f) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for all the States to implement the scheme during the Ninth Five Year plan; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) which remained in operation till Kharif 1999 season has since been replaced by a new scheme titled 'National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) — (Rashtriya Krishi Bima Yojana)' from Rabi 1999-2000 season. Nine States viz. Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala,

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu have agreed to implement the scheme from Rabi 1999-2000 season. In addition, Government of Meghalaya and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have agreed to implement the scheme from Kharif 2000 season.

(b) The new scheme *i.e.* NAIS which extends to all States/UTs, envisages coverage of all farmers (loanee and non-loanee) growing foodgrains, oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops subject to the availability of past yield data. No State-wise targets in terms of area coverage, farmers covered and sum insured have been made.

(c) Details of the farmers benefited under CCIS (for Kharif, 1999 season) and NAIS (for Rabi 1999-2000 season) will be known after the receipt of final yield data in respect of notified crops/areas from the implementing States/UTs based on which admissible claims/compensation of the farmers are worked out. The final yield data for Kharif 1999 is expected to be received between 31st January, 2000 and 15th April, 2000 whereas for Rabi 1999-2000, the last date for submission of yield data is 31st July, 2000.

(d) and (e) Except ten States and one Union Territory as mentioned against the reply of Part (a) of the Question remaining States/UTs have not given their consent for implementation of the new scheme.

(f) and (g) NAIS extends to all States/UTs. It is for the States/UTs concerned to decide in favour of the scheme. There is no proposal to make crop insurance mandatory.

[Translation]

Plan Outlay

3537. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the annual plan outlay for Rajasthan for the current year;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to make additional allocation to Rajasthan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE

OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):

(a) The annual plan outlay for Rajasthan for the current year stands at Rs. 4750 crore.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Losses of SAIL

3538. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production imports and exports of iron and steel and ferro-alloys by SAIL during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been any shortfall in the production and export of steel; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The production of Saleable Steel and Pig Iron by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) inclusive of subsidiaries during the last three years has been as follows:

| | (Unit '000 T) | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
| Saleable Steel | 9634 | 9409 | 8887 |
| Pig Iron | 1076 | 1208 | 1151 |

The production of Ferro-alloys by SAIL Plants during last three years is as follows:

| | | (Unit '000 T) | | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Plants | Item | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
| Maharashtra Electrosmelt Limited (MEL) | Ferro Manganese | 99.7 | 114.9 | 105.8 |
| Vishvasvaraya Iron & Steel Limited (VISL) | Ferro Silicon | 7.6 | 6.7 | 0 |

Exports

| | (Unit '000 T) | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
| Saleable Steel | 490.4 | 707.9 | 449.9 |
| Pig Iron | 0.0 | 344.2 | 47.3 |

Imports

The imports of Stainless Steel (Slabs and HR Coils) by Salem Steel Plant (SSP) during last three years are as given below:

| | (Unit '000 T) | | |
|-----|---------------|---------|---------|
| | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
| SSP | 42.0 | 62.2 | 13.8 |

Note:— Duty free imports have been done to fulfil export requirements.

(b) and (c) There has been a shortfall in the production of saleable steel at SAIL plants in the last three years due to regulation of production as per market demand and due to facilities commissioned under the modernisation programme being still under stabilisation.

Though there has been a growth of over 46% in exports of mild steel during 1997-98 over 1996-97, there has been a shortfall of around 36% in the export of mild steel by SAIL during 1998-99 as compared to 1997-98.

The major shortfall in export during 1998-99 are as follows:

1. Economic slowdown in various countries and declining international prices;
2. Economic and Currency crisis in South East Asian Region;
3. Intensified competition due to oversupply and reduction in demand in the global market; and
4. Unremunerative prices of stainless steel in international market.

Information on imports of Ferro Alloys by SAIL is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[*Translation*]

Transgenic Crops

3539. SHRI ARUN KUMAR:
SHRI AJIT SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cultivation of transgenic crops have been started in the country;

(b) if so, the estimates regarding per hectare production of these crops;

(c) the names of such crops being cultivated in the country alongwith the average cost of production thereof and the extent to which it is less than the present average cost of production; and

(d) the time by which the first such crop yield is likely to come to the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYAN RAO):
(a) to (c) No transgenic crop has been authorised for commercial cultivation in the country.

(d) The Review Committee of Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) under Department of Bio-technology has granted permission to some companies for conducting experimental field trials under contained open environment for transgenic crops. The experiments are presently directed towards satisfying environmental safety concerns, while also taking into consideration safety to human and animal health. The time period for commercial release of these crops can not be stipulated because these transgenic crops are still at an experimental stage.

[*English*]

N-Material for Pak Seized In U.K.

3540. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the U.K. Government seized 20 tonnes of Pakistani bound vital nuclear arms components in July, 1999;

(b) if so, whether in India also a North Korean ship Ku-Wol-San was seized, which was carrying missile parts for Pakistan;

(c) whether Pakistan is receiving defence related materials from various countries;

(d) if so, whether India has been in touch with other countries where nuclear materials have been seized by these countries; and

(e) the steps the Government propose to take to urge the other countries to strengthen their checks against the nuclear materials that are being passed on to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. It is suspected that, though, the cargo bill of lading gave another destination, the cargo could have been meant for Pakistan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government has consistently highlighted, in various fora, the adverse effect on India's security of the continuing supply of material for Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes despite the existence of various export control regimes, and declarations of restraint and restrictions by supplier countries. The Government will continue to urge the countries concerned to be alive to these concerns.

India's Participation In APEC

3541. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the current status of talks being held with the concerned countries and organisations of the Pacific Rim Countries regarding India's participation in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Pursuant to the decisions taken at the Fifth Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' meeting held in Vancouver in November 1997, there has been a moratorium on APEC membership for the next ten years. India had initially voiced interest in joining the grouping, in September 1991, on the eve of the Third APEC Ministerial meeting in Seoul. In view of the moratorium, India has not made any further demarche in this regard. It has, however, participated in two meetings of the APEC Energy Working Group, in the Philippines, in October 1996, and in Chile, in May 1997. It has also conveyed its interest in participating in the Working Group on Industrial Science & Technology and the Working Group on Trade Promotion.

[Translation]

Pending Cases in Labour Courts

3542. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of labour cases are pending in various labour courts and if so, the steps being taken by the Government for disposal of these cases; and

(b) the number of new labour courts proposed to be set up by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. To ensure speedy disposal of these cases expeditious steps are taken to fill up the post of Presiding Officers in Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities. Presiding Officers are also impressed upon about the need to reduce pendency of ID cases in their Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.

(b) It is proposed to set up 3 new Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.

[English]

Declaration of SSI Year

3543. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to declare the year 2000 as the year of the Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any fresh initiative has been proposed by Government to enable the Small Scale Industries Sector to face new challenges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The steps initiated by the Government for the development of Small Scale Industries, *inter alia* include programme for technology upgradation, strengthening of common facilities, such as Tool Rooms, Production-Cum-Process Development Centres, Small Industries Service Institutes, Regional Testing Centres, setting up of Software Technology Park, cluster development, vendor development, liberal financing to units under Technology Development and Modernisation Fund Scheme etc.

National Board for Higher Mathematics

3544. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Board for Higher Mathematics, Mumbai provides Ph.D. degree in Mathematics;

(b) if so, the number of students get degree every year;

(c) the number of institutions functioning under the Board; and

(d) the criteria adopted for admission in the said institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No institute is functioning under the Board.

(d) Does not arise.

Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Handicapped

3545. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority has allotted some plots for the construction of vocational rehabilitation centres for the handicapped during the last three years till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction has commenced on these plots;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which the construction work is likely to begin; and

(f) the estimated cost of construction of these centres at the time when the work was awarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Delhi Development Authority has allotted 4.272 acres of land at Karkardooma, Delhi for construction of building for the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre (VRC) Delhi.

(b) to (f) Construction of building for the Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped, Delhi at Karkardooma at a cost of Rs. 7,89,60,000 on the plot allotted by the Delhi Development Authority has already been approved. Administrative approval and financial sanction have been issued to CPWD to get the construction work completed by 31.3.2001. CPWD has finalized the Architectural design and got clearance from Delhi Urban Arts Commission. They are submitting the proposal to DDA for clearance. The construction work will be taken up by the CPWD, after clearance by DDA.

Cauvery Water Dispute

3546. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had recently convened any meeting to resolve the dispute on sharing of Cauvery water;

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting; and

(c) the time by which the issue is likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Cauvery Water Disputes was referred to the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal under the provision of Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 (ISWD Act 1956) for adjudication in June 1990. The ISWD Act 1956 does not prescribe any time limit for the tribunal to give its report and decision. The tribunal has passed an interim order on June 25, 1991. Under Section 6A of the aforesaid Act, Central Government have framed a Scheme consisting of Cauvery River Authority and Monitoring Committee to give effect to the implementation of the Interim order. An emergency meeting of the Cauvery Monitoring Committee was convened on 24.9.1999. The Committee recommended the release of water from Karnataka^a reservoirs in such a way as to make good deficit in the inflow at Mettur reservoir.

Regional Welfare Commissioners Office In Tamil Nadu

3547. SHRI P.D. ELANGOAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional Welfare Commissioners coming under the Labour Commissioner and Director General, Labour Welfare;

(b) whether the Government have any plans to start a Regional Welfare Commissioner Office in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) There are at present nine Regional Welfare Commissioners functioning under the Director General (Labour Welfare).

(b) to (d) There is no plan at present to open a Regional Welfare Commissioner's Office in Tamil Nadu as it has not been found administratively viable.

Cost of Production

3548. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PSUs under the Ministry have taken several measures during 1998-99 and the current year for reducing the cost of production and also reduce the wastage in production;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the targets set and achieved during 1998-99 and current year, PSU-wise; and

(c) the action plan finalised for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) Several initiatives have been taken by the PSUs under the Ministry of Steel during 1998-99 and the current year for reducing the cost of production and also prevent wastages in production, these *inter alia* include the following measures:

1. Reduction in consumption of raw materials, stores and spares.
2. Yield improvement.
3. Control in administrative expenditure.
4. Control on arisings.
5. Reduction in payment of demurrage.
6. Optimisation of operating hours & purchases.
7. Adopting the system of standard costing.
8. Cutting down unproductive and wasteful expenditure.
9. Implementation of technology upgradation/modernisation schemes.

10. Reduction in manpower through VRS.

11. Substitution of costly raw materials by cheaper one.

Available figures of actual cost cutting by PSU in production & related activities are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

| S.No. | Name of PSU | Cost benefit during 1998-99 |
|-------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | SAIL | 902.00 |
| 2. | RINL | 16.8 |
| 3. | KIOCL | 3.0 |
| 4. | SIIL | 0.3 |

Cost of production of the PSUs is dependant on several dynamic factors such as cost of inputs, freight rates, power and energy costs and interplay of market forces and these factors keep changing from time to time. Each PSU, at the time of signing of MOU with the Govt. sets physical & financial targets which are drawn up after taking into consideration reduction in cost of production and reducing wastages also.

The MOU targets and actual achievements for 1998-99 and targets for 1999-2000 are given in the enclosed statement. MOU targets for PSUs are fixed annually.

Statement

| Name of PSU | 1998-99 | | | | 1999-2000 | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | MOU Target | | Actual | | MOU Target | |
| | Production ('000 tons)/turnover (Rs. in crore) | Gross margin (Rs. in crore) | Production ('000 tons)/turnover (Rs. in crore) | Gross margin (Rs. in crore) | Production ('000 tons)/turnover (Rs. in crore) | Gross margin (Rs. in crore) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| SAIL | Saleable steel: 10025 | 3350 | Saleable steel: 8545 | 1503 | Saleable steel : 9,500 | 2500 |
| RINL | Saleable stel: 2580 | 652.6 | Saleable steel: 1933 | (-) 21.4 | Saleable steel: 2305 | 467.8 |
| NMDC | Iron Ore: 14,700 Diamond: 31,000 carats | 265 | Iron Ore: 11,564 Diamonds 34185 carats | 211.1 | Iron Ore: 13,650 Diamonds: 31000 carats | 215.8 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------|---|------|--|----------|---|---------|
| KIOCL | Concentrate: 6200 Pellets: 2900 | 101 | Concentrate : 5042 Pellets: 2525 | 113.6 | Concentrate: 5600 Pellets: 3200 | 112 |
| MOIL | Manganese (Mn.) Ore: 670 @EMD:08 Ferro Mn. : 3 | 22.2 | Mn. Ore: 617 ⊙EMD: 0.76 Ferro Mn.: 3.07 | 24.8 | Mn. Ore: 650 ⊙EMD: 0.8 Ferro Mn.: 5 | 18.6 |
| SIIL | Sponge Iron : 57 | 6.2 | Sponge Iron: 46 | (-) 2.7 | Sponge Iron: 48.3 | (-) 1.4 |
| MÉCON | Equivalent Turnover: Rs. 110 Crores | 8.8 | Equivalent Turnover: Rs. 83.4 Crore | (-) 2.2 | Equivalent turnover: Rs. 118 Crore | (-) 4.5 |
| HSCL | Turnover : Rs. 425 Crore | 10 | Turnover: Rs. 220.5 Crore | (-) 94.5 | | . |

* MOU has not yet been signed.

⊙ Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide.

Atomic Energy in States

3549. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the atomic energy is being made available; and

(b) the programmes being implemented by the Government to make available atomic energy in more areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The following are the States where electricity from atomic energy is being made available.

| Units | States to which electricity is being supplied |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| Tarapur Atomic Power Station 1&2, Tarapur, Maharashtra. | Maharashtra & Gujarat |

| 1 | 2 |
|--|---|
| 2. Rajasthan Atomic Power Station 1&2, Rawatbhatta, Rajasthan. | Rajasthan |
| 3. Madras Atomic Power Station 1&2, Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu. | Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry. |
| 4. Narora Atomic Power Station 1&2, Narora, Uttar Pradesh | Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, J&K Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh. |
| 5. Kakrapar Atomic Power Station 1&2, Kakrapar, Gujarat. | Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadra Nagar Haveli. |

(b) Proposals for nuclear power development in the Ninth Five Year Plan include 2x500 MWe plant at Tarapur (TAPP 3&4), additional 2x220 MWe Unit at Kaiga (Kaiga 3&4) and commissioning of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the 2x1000 MWe Nuclear Power Station at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu with Russian assistance, apart

from completing and commissioning the ongoing projects of a total capacity of 880 MWe, comprising of the Kaiga Atomic Power Project Units - 1&2 (2x220 MWe), the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Units-3&4 (2x220 MWe).

Visit of President of Vietnam

3550. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Vietnam in a joint statement issued on December 4, 1999 stated that their South-South co-operation was a major plank of their foreign policy;

(b) if so, whether any other statements were made by India during the visit of the President of Vietnam to India in the first week of December, 1999; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir, in a Joint Statement issued on December, 5, 1999 (and not on December 4, 1999), the two sides reiterated that South-South cooperation was a major plank of their foreign policy.

(b) Apart from the Joint Statement, no other statements were issued.

(c) Does not arise.

Daily Rated Mazdoors

3551. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of "daily rated mazdoors" working in Andaman and Nicobar Administration and the number of such workers who have conferred status of "Temporary Status Mazdoors"; and

(b) by when the rest of workers are likely to be conferred the status of "Temporary Status Mazdoor"?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Fund for Maharashtra

3552. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to various States including Maharashtra particularly for tribal/backward/rural/hilly areas during each of the last three years;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government have sent any proposal to the Union Government for sanctioning additional amount for these areas during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposals of the other State Governments in this regard; and

(d) the amount sanctioned during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Planning Commission decides the total plan outlay of a State as a whole in consultation with the concerned State and further sub-division of this outlay for various areas is decided by the States themselves. Government of India also supplement the efforts of the State Governments for development of particular regions by giving additional assistance under Tribal Sub-Plan for welfare of Scheduled Tribes and Hill Areas Development Programme for specified hill areas. The information pertaining to allocations made for different areas is not compiled in the Planning Commission. The details of Central Assistance given to various States/UTs under Tribal Sub-Plan, grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for Tribal Development, amount allocated for rural development programmes and allocations under the Hill Area Development Programme are given in enclosed statement I to IV respectively.

(b) to (d) As per available information no schemes of State Governments for additional assistance are pending with Planning Commission.

Statement I

State/UT-wise Release of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | Annual Plan (1996-97) | Annual Plan (1997-98) | Annual Plan (1998-99) |
|--------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2287.52 | 2581.54 | 2078.47 |
| 2. | Assam | 1524.71 | 1460.00 | 2042.56 |
| 3. | Bihar | 3364.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 2642.95 | 2632.77 | 2989.70 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 622.44 | 521.89 | 489.44 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 681.54 | 521.80 | 412.97 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 569.50 | 500.00 | 293.32 |
| 8. | Kerala | 153.71 | 196.12 | 208.17 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 7695.71 | 9207.83 | 7309.00 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 3160.78 | 3400.89 | 2832.21 |
| 11. | Manipur | 653.22 | 950.00 | 289.76 |
| 12. | Orissa | 4411.44 | 5576.27 | 4871.86 |
| 13. | Rajasthan | 2467.32 | 2341.13 | 2775.72 |
| 14. | Sikkim | 138.41 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 238.81 | 243.71 | 226.31 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 16. | Tripura | 594.48 | 885.00 | 516.76 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 90.39 | 112.91 | 57.54 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 1558.07 | 1600.39 | 1675.20 |
| 19. | A&N Islands | 95.18 | 118.00 | 113.03 |
| 20. | Daman & Diu | 49.82 | 50.75 | 66.10 |
| Total | | 33000.00 | 147984.50 | 29306.12 |

Source: Annual Report, 1998-99, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India.

Statement II

State-wise Release of Grants Under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution for Tribal Development

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl.No. | States | Annual Plan (1996-97) | Annual Plan (1997-98) | Annual Plan (1998-99) |
|--------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 460.50 | 453.50 | 707.00 |
| 2. | Assam | 315.00 | 305.00 | 210.00 |
| 3. | Bihar | 725.25 | 641.75 | 483.50 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 675.00 | 625.00 | 450.00 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 24.00 | 108.00 | 16.00 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | 95.25 | 131.75 | 63.50 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 210.00 | 270.00 | 140.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 8. | Kerala | 35.25 | 111.75 | 23.50 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 1687.50 | 1262.50 | 1125.00 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 801.75 | 667.25 | 534.50 |
| 11. | Manipur | 69.00 | 223.00 | 46.00 |
| 12. | Orissa | 771.00 | 657.00 | 514.00 |
| 13. | Rajasthan | 600.00 | 600.00 | 400.00 |
| 14. | Sikkim | 9.75 | 103.25 | 6.50 |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | 63.00 | 121.00 | 42.00 |
| 16. | Tripura | 93.75 | 231.25 | 62.50 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | 31.50 | 110.50 | 21.00 |
| 18. | West Bengal | 417.75 | 339.25 | 278.50 |
| 19. | Arunachal Pradesh | 60.00 | 120.00 | 40.00 |
| 20. | Meghalaya | 166.50 | 255.50 | 111.00 |
| 21. | Mizoram | 72.00 | 124.00 | 33.22 |
| 22. | Nagaland | 116.25 | 138.75 | 77.50 |
| Total | | 7500.00 | 7500.00 | 5385.22 |

Source: Annual Report, 1998-99 Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Statement III*Amount allocated for Rural Development Programmes for Annual Plans 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99*

(Rs. in crore)

| Sl.No. | States | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
|--------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 241.96 | 230.00 | 363.92 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 20.18 | 23.93 | 29.24 |
| 3. | Assam | 132.41 | 131.28 | 154.18 |
| 4. | Bihar | 726.68 | 826.41 | 1019.29 |
| 5. | Goa | 3.06 | 2.70 | 3.34 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 182.55 | 200.59 | 306.79 |
| 7. | Haryana | 35.42 | 57.00 | 74.76 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 39.19 | 48.60 | 67.37 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | 44.69 | 60.37 | 80.61 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 276.41 | 232.18 | 253.40 |
| 11. | Kerala | 191.19 | 91.56 | 70.34 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 317.68 | 379.59 | 352.89 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1002.95 | 717.42 | 774.46 |
| 14. | Manipur | 11.17 | 11.73 | 9.28 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 21.25 | 21.57 | 22.53 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 39.15 | 38.45 | 51.81 |
| 17. | Nagaland | 39.45 | 41.12 | 44.05 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 18. | Orissa | 220.02 | 132.89 | 228.56 |
| 19. | Punjab | 100.72 | 109.33 | 116.53 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 276.36 | 287.25 | 301.93 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 10.22 | 10.04 | 9.47 |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 302.23 | 437.55 | 470.98 |
| 23. | Tripura | 32.72 | 72.79 | 32.64 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 1047.33 | 857.06 | 1066.87 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 254.60 | 254.95 | 279.03 |
| Total | | 5569.59 | 5276.36 | 6184.27 |

File Name: PQRD

Statement IV**Allocations for Hill Area Development Programme**

(Rs. in crore)

| State/Area | 1996-97 | 1997-98 | 1998-99 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| (A) Hill Areas in the State of | | | |
| Assam | 46.32 | 46.32 | 50.16 |
| Tamil Nadu | 19.62 | 19.62 | 21.70 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 217.07 | 217.07 | 237.41 |
| West Bengal | 22.23 | 22.23 | 22.23 |
| Survey & Studies | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.00 |
| Sub Total (A) | 305.49 | 305.49 | 331.50 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| (B) Western Ghats Region | | | |
| Kerala | 9.52 | 9.96 | 11.91 |
| Maharashtra | 15.27 | 15.67 | 19.11 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7.96 | 8.00 | 9.97 |
| Karnataka | 11.29 | 11.22 | 14.48 |
| Goa | 2.34 | 2.33 | 2.95 |
| Survey & Studies and Western Ghats Secretariat | 0.13 | 0.43 | 0.43 |
| Sub-Total (B) | 46.51 | 46.51 | 58.5 |
| Grand Total (A+B) | 352.00 | 362.00 | 390.00 |

[English]

Performance of KVIC

3553. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the performance review for the last three years including the current year;

(c) the details of fresh initiatives taken/proposed to be taken to improve the performance;

(d) the details of schemes scrapped and new schemes introduced; and

(e) the performance review of the projects in Maharashtra as per standard norms for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING,

DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The performance of Khadi & Village Industries Commission for the last three years is indicated below:—

| Year | | Production (In Rs. crores) | Employment (In lakhs) |
|---------|-------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1996-97 | Khadi | 626.40 | 14.79 |
| | V.I. | 3889.86 | 43.38 |
| 1997-98 | Khadi | 624.10 | 14.01 |
| | V.I. | 3895.21 | 42.49 |
| 1998-99 | Khadi | 655.30 | 14.36 |
| | V.I. | 4284.75 | 43.54 |

(c) and (d) Margin Money Scheme has been introduced with effect from 1.4.1995 replacing the Interest Subsidy Scheme in the Village Industries sector. All ongoing programmes of the village industries sector have been merged into the Margin Money Scheme. Under this scheme the margin money @ 25% is given on the cost

of the project upto Rs. 10 lakhs and an additional 10% of the project cost above Rs. 10 lakhs but upto Rs. 25 lakhs.

(e) The performance of Khadi and Village Industries Commission in Maharashtra since 1995-96 is as follows:—

| (Rs. in lakhs) | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Sr. No. | Industry | No. of Projects sanctioned | Amount Disbursed |
| 1. | Handmade Paper Industry | 2 | 14.69 |
| 2. | Rural Engineering Industry | 1 | 3.70 |
| 3. | Fruit & Vegetable Processing Industry | 2 | 22.47 |
| 4. | Village Oil Industry | 1 | 3.86 |
| Total | | 6 | 44.72 |

[*Translation*]

Setting up of an Acid Regeneration Unit

3554. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a scheme for setting-up an acid regeneration unit in the Bhilai Steel Plant with an estimated cost of Rs. 198.64 lakh in order to check critical problem of pollution;

(b) whether the Government suffered a loss of Rs. 1.89 crore due to non-utilization of this unit;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Steel Authority of India Ltd., approved the setting up of an acid regeneration unit in the Bhilai Steel Plant.

(b) to (d) SAIL has reported that the plant is operational after commissioning and that it has produced about 2200 tonnes of regenerated acid. However, the unit has been working intermittently because of unexpected corrosion/erosion of equipment by acid sludge.

As a remedial step the corroded pumps and valves have been replaced with those of suitable substitute material.

[*English*]

Infrastructure Sector

3555. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of scale of performance of Infrastructure Sector in the country;

(b) the Government's plan to achieve self-sufficiency in infrastructure Sector; and

(c) the special efforts made to minimise the imbalances in infrastructure particularly in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The position in respect of infrastructure sector *i.e.* Power, Railways, Road, Airport, Ports and Communication at the end of 8th Five Year Plan is as follows:—

- (i) **Power:** The All India installed generating capacity of utility at the end of 8th Plan period was 85795 MW.
- (ii) **Railway:** The total route km. was 62725 and traffic carried was 357013 million passenger km. and 279992 net tonne million km. at the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.
- (iii) **Roads:** As on 31.3.1997 the total road length was 2465877 kms.
- (iv) **Ports:** Traffic capacity available was 239.95 MT and traffic handled was 252.19 MT at the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.
- (v) **Airports:** The traffic handled was 365 lakh passengers and 6.8 lakh MT cargo at the end of 8th Five Year Plan.
- (vi) **Telecommunication:** Direct exchange lines stood at 145.43 lakh lines at the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan recognised the significance of infrastructure especially Power, Telecommunication, Railways, Roads and Ports for development process. The investment needs of infrastructure greatly exceed resources likely to be available. The Ninth Five Year Plan, therefore emphasizes far reaching reforms in the infrastructure sectors, mobilisation of private investment to supplement the public effort, achievement of higher operational efficiency and introduction of appropriate user charges. According to the Government of Bihar it also has recognised the need to initiate reform, particularly, in the power sector.

"Global Terrorism"

3556. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Russia has become the victim of global terrorism in September, 1999;

(b) if so, whether this global terrorism had affected USA;

(c) whether the US officials visited India to discuss the growing phenomenon of State funded terrorism and steps to deal with it;

(d) if so, whether India, Russia and USA have agreed to have a joint strategy to deal terrorism challenge;

(e) if so, the main proposals discussed and the time by which this strategy is likely to be implemented; and

(f) the extent to which this joint action of the three countries have helped in checking the global terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The developments in the Republics of Dagestan and Chechnya of the Russian Federation are a clear manifestation of the very real issue of international terrorism, extremism and separatism. Various acts of terrorism have been carried out in the Russian captial city of Moscow and other cities.

(b) The USA continues to perceive threats from foreign terrorist organisations, individuals and States sponsoring terrorism. It has stated that the greatest source of terrorist threat to it now comes from the territory controlled by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

(c) to (f) The Government of India has been engaged in consultations with the USA on terrorism, including cross-border and state-sponsored terrorism and India's security concerns arising therefrom. In this context, official level

consultations between India and the USA were held in Washington on September 2-3, 1999 and on September 17, 1999 during the visit to Delhi of Ambassador Michael Sheehan, Chief Co-ordinator for Counter-terrorism in the US State Department. The Governments of India and the USA have agreed to intensify cooperation in combating the threat of terrorism.

India and the Russian Federation have supported each other in their efforts to tackle the major threat emanating from international terrorism, religious extremism and militancy. Both countries have underlined the need for a concerted joint effort and resolute action in eliminating this menace globally. The Moscow Declaration on Protection of Interests of Pluralistic States signed by India and Russian Federation on June 30, 1994 had foreseen the growing threat to States and established order from forces of aggressive nationalism, religious and political extremism, terrorism and separatism. This Declaration had reiterated support for each other's territorial integrity as constituted by law and as enshrined in their respective Constitutions.

[Translation]

Unorganised Labourers

3557. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the sectors identified as having unorganised labourers alongwith their percentage out of the total workforce;

(b) the up-to-date position of the labourers employed in infrastructure sector alongwith the measures being taken by the Government for their welfare;

(c) whether any Government agency/autonomous organisation has undertaken any survey to monitor the schemes being implemented for the welfare of these people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) According to 1991 Census, out of 286 million (main workers) about 259 million are in the unorganised sector. The unorganised workers are mainly engaged in agriculture and allied activities, mining sector, building and construction sector, trade and commerce sector, and transport, storage and communication sector. Building and construction activity, which is one of the major infrastructure sectors, employs about 5.56 million workers out of which 78% (4.3 million) are in the

unorganised sector. In transport, storage and communication, the unorganised sector accounts for 61.5% (4.9 million) of the total employment in that sector.

The Govt. have introduced a number of important measures for providing legislative protection, social security and welfare to these workers. These measures include the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 and Provident Funds Misc. Provisions Act, 1952, as applicable. Govt. are also implementing a number of welfare schemes for these workers. Some of these major schemes are Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Personal Accident Insurance Scheme for Poor Families (PASS), Hut Insurance Scheme (HIS), etc. A new programme known as "Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana" (SGSY) has also been launched from April, 1999 by amalgamating some of the earlier schemes like IRDP, TRYSEM and DWCRA. This is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment such as organisation of the poor into self help groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. The implementation of the schemes is monitored by the respective Administrative Ministries/Departments.

[English]

Loan for SAIL

3558. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are extending a guarantee for Rs. 3000 crore loan being raised by Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) if so, the basic purposes of this loan;

(c) whether Steel Authority of India will be in a position to repay this loan from its earnings;

(d) whether the Government propose to extend some financial incentives to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Government of India has extended its Guarantee to Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) for raising funds to the tune of Rs. 500 crores by way of Bonds/Term Loans from the capital market.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) A comprehensive turnaround proposal of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), VSP is presently under the consideration of the Government.

Agreements with Foreign Countries

3559. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agreements signed by the Indian Government with foreign countries from January, 1998 to August, 1999;

(b) the economic and other benefits likely to accrue to India by the said agreements; and

(c) the steps taken for implementation of the said agreements?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Industrial Accidents

3560. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents reported in the Industrial establishments in each State during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government have issued or proposed to issue instructions to the industrial establishments of the States to provide adequate safety arrangements to pay adequate compensation to the labourers injured during the accidents and to prevent the recurrence of such accidents; and

(c) if so, the number of industrial establishments which have taken the safety measures?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

First Asian Parliamentarians Conference

3561. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan had raised Kashmir issue at the First Asian Parliamentarians Conference held in Dhaka in the month of September, 1999;

(b) if so, whether India opposed this move;

(c) if so, whether India has made it clear that under the present circumstances, raising of Kashmir issue in international meetings, no talks will be held with Pakistan on this issue;

(d) if so, whether all the Member countries had decided to avoid raising of bilateral issues in this conference; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the conference had rejected Pakistan's move?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) The First Asian Parliamentarians' Conference for Peace was held in Dhaka from September 1-4, 1999. According to media reports, the leader of the Pakistan delegation mentioned the Kashmir issue in his country statement. India did not participate with a parliamentary delegation as the Lok Sabha stood dissolved. Pakistan reportedly moved an amendment to the draft Charter of the proposed Association of Asian Parliamentarians for Peace to drop the clause barring discussion of bilateral and contentious issues, the amendment was not adopted.

NCDC

3562. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) have finalised any action plan for 1999-2000 for cooperative development in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds provided for ongoing and new schemes on strengthening cooperative marketing system, modernisation and upgradation of existing processing facilities, revitalisation of such units and enhancing the role of cooperatives in distribution of inputs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The NCDC have prepared its action plan *i.e.* Programme of Activities for the year 1999-2000 involving an outlay of Rs. 500 crores for various cooperative development activities in the country. Programme lays stress on modernisation/upgradation of existing processing facilities, strengthening the cooperative marketing activities, enhancing the role of cooperatives in the distribution of agricultural inputs, Integrated Cooperative Development Project (ICDP) besides helping the vulnerable sections of the rural community through weaker section programmes *viz.* fisheries, dairy, poultry,

SC/ST cooperatives, sericulture, handloom etc.

(c) The details of funds provided for ongoing and new schemes is given below:

| Activity | Amount (Rs. in crores) |
|------------|------------------------|
| Marketing | 114.54 |
| Inputs | 11.45 |
| Processing | 169.53 |

[Translation]

Price of Onion

3563. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide to the farmers a better price for onion on the basis of cost of production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) For Agricultural produce like onions which is perishable in nature & where Costs of Production vary widely from State to State, a Market Intervention Scheme is being implemented. Under this Scheme, the Government intervenes to ensure reasonable returns to the farmers for their produce in situation of sharp fall in prices due to glut in market. The Scheme is implemented at the request of the State Governments; the losses are shared on 50:50 basis between the Centre and the States.

[English]

Salem Steel Plant

3564. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to save the Salem Steel Plant from the losses incurred by the plant, year after year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government received any valid reasons for the losses incurred by Salem Steel Plant;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of future plans of the Salem Steel Plant as far as the production and sale are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Government is concerned about the mounting losses of Salem Steel Plant and is in constant dialogue with SAIL and has been periodically reviewing its performance with a view to increasing their competitiveness and efficiency and reducing losses. Accordingly, to check losses and improve the financial health of SAIL, the Company has drawn up a comprehensive financial and business restructuring plan. The measures outlined in the plan include, *inter alia*:

- (i) A reduction in operational costs by reducing input costs, reducing consumption of raw materials and other inputs and by increasing operating efficiencies;
- (ii) Improvement in techno-economic parameters such as fuel and power consumption;
- (iii) Right sizing manpower through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);
- (iv) Assets restructuring;
- (v) Disposal of idle assets; and
- (vi) Joint Venture Participation at SSP.

(c) and (d) Salem Steel Plant is incurring losses mainly due to the following reasons:

- High depreciation and interest because of investments made in the stackel mill and other schemes.
- Stagnant demand for higher quality stainless steel produced at Salem Steel Plant (SSP) for industrial and engineering applications which causes pressure on margins.

(e) Production plan of SSP for 2000-2001 is given below:

Stainless Steel ; 56190 tonnes

Carbon Steel 119000 tonnes

Production will be moderated based on sales.

Gramsat Scheme

3565. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on Gramsat Scheme in States during each of the last three years and till date, State-wise and particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) the details of regional programmes for rural areas being telecast, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to include Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes artists in these programmes;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) As of now, only one pilot project in the Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh has been taken up under Gramsat scheme. The year-wise break up of amount spent on Jhabua Development Communications Project (JDCP) is as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1996-97 | — | Rs. 261.00 lakhs |
| 1997-98 | — | Rs. 253.00 lakhs |
| 1998-99 | — | Rs. 283.00 lakhs |
| Current year (estimated) | — | Rs. 228.00 lakhs |

The project is expanded to adjacent districts of Dhar and Barwani in the current year at a cost of about Rs. 950.00 lakhs which includes setting up of a studio and earth station at Bhopal.

After evaluation of the results of Jhabua project, similar pilot projects will be implemented in other States.

(b) Areas covered for programming include

- Watershed Management including agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry etc.
- Health, covering child and women's health, family welfare and prevention of various diseases.
- Panchayati Raj including the role of women and its function.
- Education including non-formal and adult education.
- Socio-economic issues covering employment, government development schemes etc.
- Culture covering folk and traditional aspects.

(c) Programmes are produced with local participation of the people of the district.

(d) All the programmes are produced on the location at Jhabua. They are location specific, concerned, with local problems. Local language and dialects are used. Programmes are participatory in nature and rooted in the cultural background of the local tribals.

(e) Does not arise.

Agricultural Labourers

3566. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agricultural, industrial and commercial labourers in each State in the country

alongwith their percentage out of the total population, State-wise;

(b) the minimum wages prescribed by the Government for each State, State-wise;

(c) whether these labourers are not being paid the prescribed minimum wages; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that minimum wages are paid to these labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) A statement-I showing the State-wise number of agricultural workers alongwith their percentage out of the total population and the prescribed minimum wages is enclosed. The information in respect of industrial and commercial labourers is not compiled. However, based on the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1993-94 (latest) on Employment, Unemployment and Consumer Expenditure, a statement showing distribution of working persons per thousand population in different industrial groups in various States is enclosed as statement II. The minimum wages in scheduled employments State-wise are given in enclosed Statement III.

(c) and (d) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Central and State Governments are the appropriate authorities to ensure payment of minimum wages to the workers employed in all the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions. For this purpose, Inspectors are appointed under the statutory provisions of the Act. On receipt of complaints relating to non-payment or less payment of wages, these Inspectors conduct inspections and if necessary, prosecute the employers for contravening statutory provisions.

Statement I

Number of agricultural workers State-wise, their percentage out of total population and minimum wages prescribed for them

| Sl. No. | Name of the State | Number of agricultural workers (In thousands) | Percentage of the total population | Minimum wages prescribed (as on 1.1.99) |
|---------|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 11625 | 17.5 | Rs. 30.00 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 20 | 2.3 | Rs. 36.60 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------|------|------|---|
| 3. | Assam | 845 | 3.8 | Rs. 36.06 (plus food) Rs. 45.00 (without food) |
| 4. | Bihar | 9513 | 11.0 | Rs. 38.61 |
| 5. | Goa | 35 | 3.0 | Rs. 46.00 |
| 6. | Guarat | 2331 | 5.6 | Rs. 34.00 |
| 7. | Haryana | 897 | 5.44 | Rs. 70.00 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 59 | 1.1 | Rs. 26.00 |
| 9. | Jammu & Kashmir | N.A. | N.A. | Rs. 30.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 5000 | 11.1 | Rs. 26.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 2120 | 7.3 | Rs. 30.00 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 5863 | 8.9 | Rs. 38.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 6313 | 10.5 | Rs. 23.00 |
| 14. | Manipur | 47 | 2.6 | Rs. 44.00 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 89 | 5.0 | Rs. 35.00 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 10 | 1.4 | Rs. 45.00 |
| 17. | Nāgaland | 7 | 0.6 | Rs. 25.00 |
| 18. | Orissa | 2977 | 9.4 | Rs. 42.00 |
| 19. | Punjab | 1453 | 7.2 | Rs. 60.62 without meal Rs. 54.67 with meal. |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 1392 | 3.2 | Rs. 32.00 |
| 21. | Sikkim | 13 | 3.2 | The Minimum Wages Act is yet to be extended |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|----------------------|------|------|---|
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | 7899 | 14.1 | Rs. 29.00 |
| 23. | Tripura | 188 | 6.8 | Rs. 35.00 |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | 7833 | 5.6 | Rs. 47.00 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 5055 | 7.4 | Rs. 48.14 (with meal) or Rs. 51.34 (without meal) |
| 26. | Pondicherry | 77 | 9.5 | 19.25 to 40.20 |
| 27. | A&N Islands | 5 | 1.8 | Rs. 37.00 Andaman and 40.00 Nicobar |
| 28. | Chandigarh | 2 | 0.3 | Rs. 52.09 with meal Rs. 60.15 without meal |
| 29. | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 6 | 4.3 | Rs. 38.00 |
| 30. | Delhi | 25 | 0.3 | Rs. 108.36 |
| 31. | Daman & Diu | 1 | 1 | Rs. 60.00 |

Statement II

Per 1000 distribution of usually working persons in the principal and subsidiary status taken together by industry for each State/Union territory

| State/U.T. | Status | Mining & quarrying | Manufacturing | Electricity | Construction | Wholesale/retail trade etc. | Transport, storage etc. | Financial, insurance etc. services | Community etc. services |
|-------------------|--------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Andhra Pradesh | Rural | 7 | 69 | — | 17 | 45 | 10 | 2 | 56 |
| | Urban | 19 | 191 | 11 | 79 | 198 | 87 | 28 | 224 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | Rural | 1 | 8 | 8 | 26 | 2 | 16 | 4 | 68 |
| | Urban | — | 133 | 36 | 93 | 150 | 53 | 29 | 425 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|------------------|-------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Assam | Rural | 2 | 35 | 3 | 7 | 69 | 13 | 2 | 77 |
| | Urban | 61 | 104 | 6 | 28 | 290 | 75 | 20 | 386 |
| Bihar | Rural | 5 | 34 | 3 | 13 | 45 | 10 | 1 | 45 |
| | Urban | 38 | 167 | 37 | 47 | 230 | 83 | 26 | 282 |
| Goa | Rural | 5 | 112 | 28 | 50 | 92 | 63 | 52 | 143 |
| | Urban | 19 | 101 | 24 | 133 | 162 | 110 | 38 | 291 |
| Gujarat | Rural | 5 | 92 | 2 | 24 | 29 | 15 | 3 | 43 |
| | Urban | 6 | 310 | 7 | 65 | 180 | 79 | 22 | 250 |
| Haryana | Rural | 6 | 40 | 4 | 43 | 53 | 36 | 2 | 98 |
| | Urban | 2 | 249 | 6 | 82 | 189 | 76 | 22 | 263 |
| Himachal Pradesh | Rural | 1 | 33 | 8 | 63 | 30 | 8 | 2 | 58 |
| | Urban | 6 | 35 | 34 | 75 | 168 | 23 | 33 | 452 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | Rural | 1 | 36 | 11 | 60 | 25 | 27 | 5 | 75 |
| | Urban | 3 | 80 | 26 | 64 | 199 | 64 | 31 | 393 |
| Karnataka | Rural | 7 | 67 | 2 | 15 | 37 | 7 | 2 | 50 |
| | Urban | 25 | 231 | 15 | 64 | 170 | 64 | 41 | 224 |
| Kerala | Rural | 15 | 128 | 3 | 57 | 90 | 40 | 11 | 92 |
| | Urban | 5 | 188 | 6 | 80 | 167 | 78 | 30 | 193 |
| Madhya Pradesh | Rural | 12 | 32 | 2 | 9 | 16 | 5 | — | 25 |
| | Urban | 24 | 170 | 13 | 54 | 183 | 85 | 28 | 279 |
| Maharashtra | Rural | 4 | 50 | 2 | 24 | 33 | 11 | 4 | 48 |
| | Urban | 5 | 249 | 9 | 56 | 196 | 93 | 50 | 249 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---------------|-------|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Manipur | Rural | 1 | 123 | 3 | 28 | 45 | 15 | 9 | 137 |
| | Urban | — | 144 | 11 | 26 | 137 | 31 | 22 | 333 |
| Meghalaya | Rural | 5 | 10 | 3 | 16 | 38 | 11 | — | 58 |
| | Urban | 1 | 22 | 5 | 80 | 252 | 17 | 18 | 569 |
| Mizoram | Rural | — | 5 | 1 | 12 | 19 | 1 | 1 | 71 |
| | Urban | 2 | 44 | 3 | 48 | 148 | 13 | 1 | 331 |
| Nagaland | Rural | 8 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 45 | 6 | — | 171 |
| | Urban | 5 | 41 | 4 | 78 | 220 | 37 | 17 | 535 |
| Orissa | Rural | 11 | 64 | 1 | 18 | 44 | 7 | 1 | 46 |
| | Urban | 21 | 166 | 20 | 57 | 163 | 100 | 21 | 293 |
| Punjab | Rural | — | 49 | 12 | 35 | 49 | 26 | 4 | 79 |
| | Urban | — | 242 | 16 | 50 | 256 | 59 | 27 | 257 |
| Rajasthan | Rural | 18 | 36 | 2 | 70 | 24 | 10 | 2 | 39 |
| | Urban | 9 | 194 | 18 | 83 | 178 | 83 | 35 | 243 |
| Sikkim | Rural | 22 | 44 | 7 | 35 | 59 | 20 | 2 | 224 |
| | Urban | — | 81 | 4 | 71 | 354 | 10 | 10 | 458 |
| Tamil Nadu | Rural | 4 | 129 | 2 | 23 | 48 | 20 | 8 | 62 |
| | Urban | 3 | 229 | 7 | 75 | 186 | 76 | 30 | 202 |
| Tripura | Rural | — | 54 | 2 | 68 | 107 | 32 | — | 257 |
| | Urban | 7 | 87 | 3 | 28 | 173 | 60 | 39 | 538 |
| Uttar Pradesh | Rural | 2 | 64 | 1 | 20 | 43 | 15 | 2 | 53 |
| | Urban | 1 | 236 | 10 | 41 | 217 | 72 | 33 | 240 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---------------|-------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| West Bengal | Rural | 2 | 161 | 1 | 24 | 75 | 27 | 4 | 72 |
| | Urban | 21 | 302 | 10 | 53 | 177 | 83 | 37 | 265 |
| A & N Islands | Rural | 4 | 53 | 13 | 81 | 67 | 28 | 6 | 105 |
| | Urban | 6 | 72 | 58 | 129 | 125 | 128 | 20 | 316 |
| Chandigarh | Rural | — | 164 | 10 | 204 | 145 | 131 | — | 210 |
| | Urban | — | 208 | 5 | 82 | 191 | 33 | 54 | 421 |
| D & N Haveli | Rural | 19 | 69 | 2 | 60 | 17 | 106 | 2 | 64 |
| | Urban | 2 | 270 | 4 | 56 | 151 | 29 | 31 | 185 |
| Daman & Diu | Rural | — | 261 | — | 6 | 62 | 29 | 11 | 107 |
| | Urban | — | 184 | 7 | 35 | 250 | 67 | — | 358 |
| Delhi | Rural | — | 514 | — | 8 | 105 | 71 | 9 | 191 |
| | Urban | 1 | 143 | 7 | 106 | 225 | 68 | 51 | 286 |
| Lakshadweep | Rural | — | 56 | 26 | 96 | 52 | 72 | — | 297 |
| | Urban | — | 28 | 29 | 97 | 38 | 61 | 9 | 289 |
| Pondicherry | Rural | — | 138 | — | 35 | 49 | 25 | — | 105 |
| | Urban | — | 205 | 23 | 111 | 162 | 31 | 35 | 274 |
| All-India | Rural | 6 | 70 | 2 | 24 | 43 | 14 | 3 | 54 |
| | Urban | 12 | 236 | 10 | 63 | 194 | 79 | 34 | 248 |

Source:— National Sample Survey Organisation - Report No. 409.

Statement III**Minimum Rates of Wages for the Unskilled Workers in Different Regions**

(As on 1.1.99)

| State/U.T. | Range of Minimum Wages (Per Day) | Remarks |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. Haryana | Rs. 70.12 to Rs. 73.12 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 2. Himachal Pradesh | Rs. 26.00 to Rs. 45.75 | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 3. Jammu & Kashmir | Rs. 30.00 | Single rate for all employment. |
| 4. Punjab | Rs. 54.07 to Rs. 60.96 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 5. Rajasthan | Rs. 32.00 to Rs. 44.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 6. Uttar Pradesh | Rs. 42.02 to Rs. 64.21 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 7. Delhi | Rs. 108.36 | Single rate for all employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 8. Chandigarh | Rs. 52.09 to Rs. 71.93 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 9. Dadra & Nagar Haveli | Rs. 38.00 to Rs. 44.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment; the minimum wages are inclusive of all rates and no basic & V.D.A. fixed separately. |
| 10. Daman & Diu | Rs. 50.00 to Rs. 60.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 11. Goa | Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 125.00 | — do — |
| 12. Gujarat | Rs. 58.80 to Rs. 79.20 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 13. Madhya Pradesh | Rs. 49.46 to Rs. 56.46 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 14. Maharashtra | Rs. 9.23 to Rs. 85.92 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 15. Bihar | Rs. 38.61 to Rs. 51.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 16. Orissa | Rs. 42.50 | Single rate for all employments; includes V.D.A. |
| 17. West Bengal | Rs. 36.55 to Rs. 79.99 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 18. Andaman & Nicobar Islands | Rs. 50.00 to Rs. 86.76 | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 19. Arunachal Pradesh | Rs. 35.60 to Rs. 37.60 | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 20. Assam | Rs. 32.80 to Rs. 55.80 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 21. Manipur | Rs. 44.65 (for plain) Rs. 49.50 (for Hill areas) | Double rates for all employments; includes V.D.A. |
| 22. Meghalaya | Rs. 35.00 | Single rate for all employments; includes V.D.A. |
| 23. Mizoram | Rs. 45.00 | Single rate for all employments. |
| 24. Nagaland | Rs. 25.00 | — do — |
| 25. Tripura | Rs. 17.70 to Rs. 36.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. only in one employment. |
| 26. Andhra Pradesh | Rs. 27.00 to Rs. 63.19 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 27. Karnataka | Rs. 26.00 to Rs. 74.00 | Rates vary from employment to employment; includes V.D.A. |
| 28. Kerala | Rs. 30.00 to Rs. 157.81 | — do — |
| 29. Tamil Nadu | Rs. 22.40 to Rs. 82.72 | — do — |
| 30. Pondicherry | Rs. 19.25 to Rs. 65.00 p.d. | Rates vary from employment to employment. |
| 31. Lakshadweep | Rs. 41.46 | Single rate for all employment; includes V.D.A. |
| Central Sphere | Rs. 46.22 to Rs. 84.12 | Rates vary from employment to employment (according to areas) |

Minimum Price for Steel Imports

3567. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Commerce has opposed the decision for revising protective minimum price for steel imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the report of Dr. Ashok Lahiri of National Institute of Public Finance recommending the scrap of floor prices has been examined; and

(d) the time by which the recommendations of the Lahiri Report are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (d) The decision to revise the floor prices of seven steel items was taken by the Commerce Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Steel. While taking the decision, recommendations contained in the Ashok Lahiri Report was kept in view.

Production of Cereal

3568. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Cereal deficit in India imminent study"; appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated December 2, 1999;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate appropriate agricultural policies for increasing cereal and food productions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the news-item, a study by the International Food Policy Research Institute has projected that cereal production in India would increase to about 260 million tons by 2020. That would still leave a cereal shortage of 36 to 64 million tons a year by 2020, keeping in view the increased requirements for livestock feed.

(c) and (d) A regional strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning, which takes into account the agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, will be adopted to increase the production of cereals and other agricultural produce and realize full potential of growth in every region.

Upper Sakari Irrigation Project

3569. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Sakari Irrigation Project of Bihar is pending with the Union Government for a long time; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The Upper Sakari Project submitted by Government of Bihar was considered and accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee in September, 1984 for Rs. 123.81 crores subject to environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and concurrence of State Finance Department, review of design flood etc. Subsequently, the project was returned to State Government in November, 1988 owing to non-receipt of compliance from the State with a request to submit modified project report. The modified report has been re-examined and comments on the various aspects have been sent to the State Government. The State has to send their compliance to CWC.

Irrigation is a State subject and as such the clearing of the irrigation project depends upon how promptly the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and to priority attached to the project by the State Government.

Import of Breeding Stock

3570. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government allowed the import of parent level breeding stock into poultry industry;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government was requested by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and the National Egg Coordination Committee to reconsider its decision so as to avoid disastrous consequences to our poultry industry; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Parent level breeding stock of poultry is in the restricted list of imports.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Import of parent level breeding stock is not freely permitted and is allowed only against an import licence, issued on a specific recommendation.

Information Network

3571. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has launched a programme to create a nation-wide information network by connecting together all the research centres, farm Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the network is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in order to extend benefits of modern Information Technology (IT) in the National Agricultural Research System (NARS), has taken up establishment of Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS). It is network for exchange of information in agricultural research, education and extension education across the country through the use of computers networking equipment and telecommunication. ARIS covers ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities and other interacting agencies. As of now there are 235 ARIS Cells spread over 86 ICAR Institutes, ICAR HQs Krishi Bhavan, ARIC Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan, 27 State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), 120 Zonal Agricultural Research Stations (ZARs).

(c) The network is expected to be fully functional by the end of IX Plan period.

Child Labour

3572. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government receives any reports on the child labour problems in the States particularly Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government sought for any foreign assistance to eradicate child labour problem in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Government is implementing projects for rehabilitation of working children in 10 child labour endemic States including Tamil Nadu. Periodic reports are received from all Projects. These include details regarding implementation of the projects and problems faced therein.

(c) and (d) India has been participating in the ILO's - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) Programme. Under the programme, 154 child labour projects have been implemented during the period 1992-93 to 1998-99. The number of children benefited under the projects is 90,500. The total commitment made for these projects is US\$ 69,65,684/- for the period 1992-1999.

MPLADS

3573. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Members of Parliament recommend projects and release money out of their MPLADS but the actual implementation is done by the State Government officials and many of the district magistrates do not give the details of the expenditure incurred on the projects recommended by the Member of Parliament;

(b) if so, the cases where the DM has refused to give details of the money spend out of MPLADS in Bihar;

(c) the number of projects recommended by the Members of Parliament and number of them completed so far and how many of them are still pending in Bihar, district-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the district magistrates associate the Member of Parliament with the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Under the MPLAD Scheme, MPs recommend projects. The District Collector is required to implement those works as are covered under the guidelines on MPLADS by following the established procedure of the State Government. The guidelines prescribe that Heads of District should furnish monitoring reports once in two months to the MPs. Two complaints were received from the MPs of Bihar during the last two years where District Magistrates had not given details of funds spent etc. to Members of Parliament.

(c) The workwise details of the projects recommended by MPs, works sanctioned/completed are available in the respective Districts.

(d) All the State Governments have been requested to issue instructions to all the District Collectors and implementing agencies to strictly follow the monitoring arrangements as laid down in the guidelines.

Per-Capita Income

3574. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: . . .

(a) the per-capita income in various States and Union Territories as compared to National per capita income during the last three years in the country, year-wise;

(b) the States which have lowest per capita income along with the reasons; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the per capita income in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The per capita Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) of the States along with the per capita Net National Product (NNP) for the last three years (at 1980-81 prices) is given in enclosed Statement. There are certain regions in the country which are unable to benefit adequately from the over-all growth process. For the most part such regions reflect the inadequate integration of the local economies in the wider growth process due to historical reasons. Balanced regional development has always been an essential component of the Indian development strategy. Since not all parts of the country are equally well endowed to take advantage of growth

opportunities, and since historical inequalities have not been eliminated, planned intervention is required. The Ninth Plan has taken steps to ensure improved opportunity for public and private investment by appropriate policies in favour of the weaker States and

has selected specific aspects of social and physical infrastructure, agriculture, information technology and water policy for which Special Action Plans have been evolved in order to provide actionable, time-bound targets with adequate resources.

Statement

Comparison of per Capita Net State Domestic Product with All-India per Capita NNP at Constant (1980-81) Prices by Ranks

(in Rupees)

| Rank | 1994-95 | | 1995-96 | | 1996-97 (P) | |
|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|
| 1 | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | |
| 1. | Delhi | 6609 | Delhi | 6629 | Delhi | 6612 |
| 2. | Goa | 5743 | Goa | 6101 | Goa | 6311 |
| 3. | Maharashtra | 4299 | Maharashtra | 4635 | Maharashtra | 4866 |
| 4. | Punjab | 4121 | Punjab | 4176 | Punjab | 4412 |
| 5. | Haryana | 3686 | Haryana | 3679 | Haryana | 4029 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 3531 | Arunachal Pradesh | 3667 | Gujarat | 3799 |
| 7. | A & N Islands | 3404 | Gujarat | 3517 | A&N Islands | 3456 |
| 8. | Arunachal Pradesh | 3265 | A&N Islands | 3286 | Arunachal Pradesh | 3444 |
| 9. | Tamil Nadu | 2796 | Pondicherry | 2957 | Pondicherry | 3149 |
| 10. | Pondicherry | 2793 | Tamil Nadu | 2820 | Tamil Nadu | 2918 |
| 11. | West Bengal | 2601 | West Bengal | 2704 | West Bengal | 2866 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 2485 | All India | 2608 | All India | 2761 |
| 13. | All India | 2473 | Karnataka | 2558 | Karnataka | 2668 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 2395 | Himachal Pradesh | 2518 | Andhra Pradesh | 2500 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
|--------------------|------|----------------|------|------------------|------|
| 15. Andhra Pradesh | 2289 | Andhra Pradesh | 2407 | Kerala | 2325 |
| 16. Kerala | 2153 | Kerala | 2200 | Rajasthan | 2290 |
| 17. Rajasthan | 2101 | Tripura | 2111 | Tripura | 2197 |
| 18. Manipur | 1983 | Manipur | 1993 | Manipur | 2075 |
| 19. Tripura | 1912 | Rajasthan | 1974 | J & K | 2009 |
| 20. J & K | 1905 | J & K | 1955 | Madhya Pradesh | 1938 |
| 21. Madhya Pradesh | 1792 | Madhya Pradesh | 1854 | Meghalaya | 1837 |
| 22. Meghalaya | 1673 | Meghalaya | 1808 | Uttar Pradesh | 1748 |
| 23. Uttar Pradesh | 1641 | Uttar Pradesh | 1654 | Assam | 1661 |
| 24. Assam | 1585 | Orissa | 1634 | Orissa | 1469 |
| 25. Orissa | 1580 | Assam | 1606 | Bihar | 1065 |
| 26. Bihar | 1037 | Bihar | 983 | Himachal Pradesh | NA |
| 27. Mizoram | NA | Mizoram | NA | Mizoram | NA |
| 28. Nagaland | NA | Nagaland | NA | Nagaland | NA |
| 29. Sikkim | NA | Sikkim | NA | Sikkim | NA |

- Notes :
1. P: Provisional Estimates.
 2. NA: Not made available by the concerned State Governments.
 3. Source data has been made available by the Directorates of Economics & Statistics of respective State Governments and All India data by Central Statistical Organisation.
 4. Owing to differences in source material used the figures for different State/UTs are not strictly compar.
 5. The State of Mizoram prepares these estimates at current prices only.
 6. The UTs of Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep do not prepare these.

*[Translation]***Fund for Bihar**

3575. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for Bihar for the year 1999-2000 and the amount released for the current financial year;

(b) whether there is any difference between the amount sanctioned and the amount released;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken by the Government to avoid the financial crisis in the State in the coming year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The agreed plan outlay of Bihar for the year 1999-2000 is Rs. 3630.00 crore comprising Central Assistance of Rs. 2390.27 crore and States own resources of Rs. 1239.73 crore. The normal Central Assistance as well as assistance for Basic Minimum Services & Slum Development is released in equal monthly instalments. However, project related funds for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme and Externally aided Projects are released on the basis of guidelines for them. As per the information furnished by Ministry of Finance, an amount of Rs. 1587.47 crore (excluding assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan) has been released to Bihar towards Central Assistance upto 17.12.1999. The details regarding assistance released for Tribal Sub-Plan are being obtained and would be placed on the table of the House.

(d) The Govt. of India has been emphasising on the Govt. of Bihar to raise more financial resources and to reduce non-plan expenditure to avoid any financial crisis.

*[English]***Status of Religious Minorities**

3576. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has expressed its concern relating to the publication of a report that questioned the status of religious minorities in India, followed by the US intention to send a special envoy on religious freedoms to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In response to reports in the media that a US Special Envoy on Religious Freedom desires to visit India, the Government had stated on September 11, 1999 that it had no plans or intentions to invite such an official to India or engage in discussion with any foreign Government or agency on these matters. It had also rejected any intrusive exercise into how we conduct our affairs. The international community is well aware that the Indian Constitution guarantees absolute religious freedom to the citizens of the country, reflecting the well-known social traditions of tolerance and respect for all religions.

Incidence of Silicosis

3577. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made on the incidence of fibrosis/silicosis among the workers engaged in mining or such related industries;

(b) if so, the level of incidence of such diseases in the country;

(c) whether any preventive health programme has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) A number of studies and surveys have been conducted on incidents of silicosis and other Pneumoconiosis in the mines. Silicosis is an occupational disease which occurs due to exposure to free dust in

industries and mines. Fibrosis is not a disease by itself, it is a Pathological process which sets in the lungs of a person exposed to fibrogenic dust. As per information available, the following studies have been conducted on the incidents of silicosis amongst workers in different industries:

| Sl. No. | Name of the Units | No. workers Examined | % cases of No. silicoals |
|---------|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Small Scale Quartz Grinding unit | 57 | 18.18 |
| 2. | Refractories | 158 | 3.16 |
| 3. | Foundries | 136 | 1 suspected case |
| 4. | Ceramic Pipes & Bricks | 29 | 20.7 |
| 5. | Glass (small scale) | 21 | 24.5 |

In the case of mine workers, a comprehensive study on prevalence of Coal Workers Pneumoconiosis conducted by National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad from 1986 to 1993 in the Coal Mines of Jharia and Raniganj Coalfields in West Bengal and Bihar, reported a prevalence rate of 2.8%.

(c) and (d) Silicosis is a notifiable disease under the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952 and the Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986. It is a compensable disease under the Workmens Compensation Act, 1923. Provisions have been made in Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder for monitoring mine environment, initial and periodical Medical Examination of workers employed in mines etc. The public sector mining companies also have their own programme for diagnosis, detection and prevention of silicosis etc. Amendment was made in 1988 and 1990 in Metalliferous Mines Regulations, 1961 and Coal Mine Regulations, 1957 respectively to prescribe permissible limits to respirable dust, its monitoring and dust control measures. The Factories Act, 1948 also contains provisions for use of personal protective equipment to protect the respiratory system and the Medical surveillance programme for the workers who are exposed to dust containing free silica.

Plywood Workers in Assam

3578. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 45,000 plywood workers in Assam are facing starvation due to closure of plywood factories; and

(b) if so, steps taken to rehabilitate the plywood workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) As per the Orders of the Supreme Court of India, a ban has been imposed on felling of trees resulting into no supply of raw material to plywood manufacturers. The workers employed by plywood manufacturers have been paid full wages till November, 1997. The workers belonging to other States have left and no case of starvation has been reported, so far, to the State Government. However, Government is considering a proposal to provide retraining to ex-plywood factory workers in trades which offer scope for wage employment/self-employment with the funds available under the National Renewal Fund.

[Translation]

Productivity Highest in Western India

3579. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI AJIT SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Productivity highest in western India" appearing in *Business Standard* dated 25th November, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the productivity per labourer in the western part of the country is comparatively more than other regions of the country;

(c) if so, the estimates of maximum and minimum productivity in the country; and

(d) the State which stands first productivity in comparison with the average productivity of the world?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) Based on the available information from the Annual Survey of Industries, 1997-98 (latest), a statement on State-wise net value added per employee for factory sector establishments is enclosed. The statement reveals that productivity per labour ranges from Rs. 82312 in Assam to Rs. 873168 in Dadra & Nagar Haveli. The world productivity as calculated by the World Bank as the gross national product per labour force (which comes closest to the net value added per employee) was US \$ 10137.69 or Rs. 417166 in 1998.

Statement

| State | Net Value Added/Employee (in Rupees) |
|----------------|---|
| Maharashtra | 230509 |
| Gujarat | 164940 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 187162 |
| Tamil Nadu | 106157 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 96632 |
| West Bengal | 116899 |
| Bihar | 340623 |
| Karnataka | 138451 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 184639 |
| Rajasthan | 189299 |
| Haryana | 150253 |
| Punjab | 103208 |
| Orissa | 209574 |
| Kerala | 90791 |
| Delhi | 221254 |
| Dadra & NH | 873168 |
| Assam | 82312 |

[English]

Cotton Board

3580. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for setting as a Cotton Board on the same lines as the Tobacco Board and other Statutory Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have sent a proposal for setting up a Cotton Board at Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir, a proposal in this connection was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The proposal was examined but this Ministry did not support the proposal for establishment of Cotton Board in view of the Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton.

Discussion with Japan

3581. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had talks with Japanese External Affairs Minister at Singapore on July 28, 1999;

(b) if so, whether this meeting was successful and the Minister of External Affairs of Japan described it as a meaningful one;

(c) if so, whether the Japanese Minister had invited him to visit that country;

(d) whether he visited Japan in August 1999 and had a number of discussions with the Japanese Government;

(e) if so, whether all the misunderstanding that had created during the Pokhran test has been clarified by India;

(f) if so, whether Japan has fully considered the India's viewpoint and has agreed to improve relations with India;

(g) if so, whether Japan has continued to help India and also decided to continue the aid to those projects which were under implementation and were stopped due to Pokhran test; and

(h) if so, the extent to which both the countries have improved their relations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. I met the then Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura at Singapore on July 28, 1999. We had then affirmed the importance of developing Japan-India relations. He reiterated their invitation to me to visit Japan. The Japanese side subsequently proposed that the visit take place on August 31, 1999. In view of the elections in India, I was unable to visit Japan in August 1999.

(e) to (h) I visited Japan on November 23 — 26, 1999. I met Prime Minister Obuchi, Foreign Minister Kono, Minister for Internal Trade & Industry T. Fukaya and Director General of Self Defence Agency, T. Kawara. I also met Japanese Parliamentarians, academicians, Indologists, members of the press and others. During these meetings, we discussed various aspects of bilateral relations, regional issues and international issues of mutual interest. Both sides agreed that India-Japan relations should be normalised and developed in the interests of peace and stability in Asia and the world. We also agreed that dialogue at various levels should continue in order to enhance awareness and understanding of each other's views and concerns. On the nuclear issue, I stated India's position. The Japanese side expressed the hope that India would sign the CTBT at an early date. In regard to Japan's Yen loan programme, the Japanese side reiterated their position that India's signature to the CTBT would enable them to review the economic sanctions imposed by them.

[Translation]

Employees State Insurance Scheme

3582. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of industrial employees benefited from the Employees State Insurance Scheme in Uttar Pradesh alongwith the percentage of increase in the number of beneficiaries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): As on 31-3-1999, there were 5,14,750 employees covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme in Uttar Pradesh marking an increase of 27.29 percent in coverage during the last three years.

[English]

Study Regarding Effective Implementation of CSS in States/UTs

3583. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has conducted any study in regard to effective implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes in each State/Union Territory;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the shortcomings found in the implementation of these Schemes in the State; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for effective implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Centrally Sponsored Schemes are formulated by the various Central Ministries/Departments in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories Administration and are implemented by the State Governments/Union Territories and monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The Planning Commission reviews the implementation of Plan schemes during the Annual Plan discussions with the State Governments/Union Territories. In addition to the above, the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of Planning Commission has undertaken evaluation studies of a few Centrally Sponsored Schemes at the instance of concerned Union Ministries. A list of the evaluation studies conducted by the PEO during the last five years is enclosed as Statement I.

(b) to (d) A gist of the main findings/suggestions for each of the studies is enclosed as Statement II. The Reports of these studies are sent to the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments for their consideration and implementation.

Statement I**Study Regarding Effective Implementation of CSS in States/UTs**

List of the evaluation studies conducted by the PEO, Planning Commission during the last five years.

1. Evaluation Report on Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).
2. Evaluation Report on Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women (STEP).
3. Evaluation Report on Western Ghats Development Programme in Maharashtra (A Joint Study)
4. Evaluation Study on Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP)
5. Evaluation Study on Impact of Non-Formal Education.

Statement II**Study Regarding Effective Implementation of CSS in States/UTs**

Some of the main findings/suggestions of the following studies are highlighted as under:

I. Evaluation Report on Western Ghats Development Programme in Maharashtra (January 1996)

The analysis reveals that the concept of integrated watershed approach has not been fully followed, though at the macro level allocation of funds across various activities appears to be balanced. In the 32 watersheds selected for the study, it was observed that most of these have only one or two activities of the core sectors. Beneficiaries under the commands of several watersheds reported lack of access to support services like delivery of agricultural inputs, veterinary aid centres, marketing facilities, PHCs, etc. Access to cooperative credit societies, however, has been reported by a large number of beneficiaries.

The following suggestions were offered in the Report for consideration of the implementing agencies:—

- (i) To realise the full potential of sustainable development, the approach of integrated watershed development as envisaged in the Central guidelines may be followed;

- (ii) Monitoring of WGDP needs improvement. The district level committees should be revitalised to ensure inter-departmental coordination in implementation of various schemes. The nomination of a Nodal Officer at the taluka level may also be considered;
- (iii) The existing practice of placing emphasis on only one/two sector(s) is not in keeping with the concept of integrated area development. Realistic assessment of the development need in a watershed should be made before implementing the development programmes and depending on availability of physical and financial resources, various activities may be phased and watersheds prioritised;
- (iv) Targets of various activities need to be realistic as there does not seem to exist a correspondence between targets and expenditure in any of the core sectors. The delay in receipt of funds, insufficiency of funds and transfer of funds from one expenditure head to another, as reported by some watershed level officers may be looked into and addressed.
- (v) There is need for deployment of technical staff at the nursery level;
- (vi) The procedure of maintenance of data and records needs improvement. Appropriate formats for submission of periodic returns can be devised at the watershed and taluka levels. While at the watershed level, information on details of sectoral activities should be sought, returns at the taluka level should contain information on backward and forward-linked activities and assessment of the need for support services that would foster integrated area development. These watershed/taluka level data can be processed at the district level and the necessary corrective actions can be recommended by the district level committees to the State level WGDP Cell.
- (vii) The feasibility of providing support services like marketing facilities or buy-back arrangements through cooperatives may be worked out for ensuring greater participation in the social forestry sector. In general, other support services too, need improvement. For instance, the WG region has witnessed a high growth in the livestock population and, therefore, would need support services and activities like veterinary centres, expansion of pasture lands and market infrastructure for sustenance of this growth.

II. Evaluation Report on Drought Prone Areas Programme (1992-93)

- (i) The prescribed expenditure limits on both core and minor sector activities of the programme had been maintained since Seventh Plan period onwards.
- (ii) The achievements of targets of core sector activities had been encouraging during the relevant Plan periods, as it varied from 93.35 per cent to 98.73.
- (iii) The integrated approach with watershed as a basic unit of planning for area development was not adopted at the project levels. However, the core sector activities were taken up in a dispersed manner. Therefore, the study has suggested that coordination between the nodal agencies and the line departments on the one hand and among various implementing departments on the other be strengthened. The Watershed Committees and Beneficiary Advisory Boards were also not constituted.
- (iv) The watershed approach had not made much dent either on the extension of area under cultivation or changes in cropping pattern.
- (v) It was found that by and large, though the people in the selected areas were aware about the works being executed, but their role in initiation, formulation and implementation of the Programme was limited. It is suggested that the people's participation need to be mobilised by creating greater awareness about the utility of different sectoral schemes and the works of local needs should be taken up on a larger scale. Besides, the village panchayats and voluntary agencies be involved in planning, formulation and execution of the programme works.
- (vi) It was observed that monitoring through field visits was not satisfactory in 8 districts, whereas, the evaluation was conducted in four of the 12 selected districts. Therefore, the study has stressed the need for monitoring and evaluation.
- (vii) By and large, the Programme had made no specific effect on conservation of ground water level and the water harvesting structures could not contribute much to the net irrigated area. It is, therefore, suggested that the watershed approach as the basic unit for area development

should be implemented effectively. Besides, the concerned State Governments may be cautioned against the consequences of excessive exploitation of ground water.

- (viii) It was observed that the Programme had not made impact on increasing the availability of fuel and fodder, drinking water facilities, extension of area under cultivation and adoption of agronomic practices at the grass root levels, although it had helped in checking the migration of the people during the drought periods. It is, therefore, suggested that the activities under afforestation and pasture development need to be taken up on a larger scale with greater thrust.

III. Evaluation report on Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) (1994-95)

- (i) The implementation of the training aspect was found to be weak at the grass roots levels. Besides, the training imparted to the women both under technical and gender issues was found to be not comprehensive. Therefore, an integrated approach to training covering all the important aspects both under technical and gender issues needs to be adopted under the STEP for ensuring skill upgradation of the women as well as gender sensitisation and conscientisation.
- (ii) The backward and forward linkages including access to credit, which were found lacking at the implementation stage, need to be strengthened so that the women found engaged in wage employment in the sectors, like, Handicrafts, Handloom, weaving and spinning, etc., could take up their own activities on a self sustainable basis. This would also help in increasing the income level of the women, as it was found that a vast majority of 63.87 per cent self employed and 77.67 per cent wage employed women were earning their monthly income in the lower range of Rs. 500 and below.
- (iii) It was found that in many of the sample projects, the linkages with other Government Departments and Voluntary Organisations for ensuring the availability of support services to the women were not established. Therefore, the study has suggested the need to identify the link agencies for ensuring the delivery of the support services.

- (iv) The arrangements made for coordination and monitoring were found to be inadequate in many of the sample projects. Therefore, the study has suggested the need to strengthen the same, which would go a long way in improving the implementation of the Programme.
- (v) The role of extension services in mobilisation of the women in viable groups was found to be lacking in majority of the sample societies. Thus, it is suggested that a strong network of trained extension workers needs to be created in the identified rural areas.
- (vi) The women need to be educated particularly about the small family norm and the legal issues, like, marital rights, property rights, minimum wage act, etc., as the awareness among the sample beneficiaries about these issues was found lacking in most of the cases. Besides, the women's participation in developmental works was also found to be limited, which needs to be mobilised through awareness generation.

IV. Evaluation Report on Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (September, 1996)

- (i) The performance of the rural drinking water supply schemes was assessed in terms of the extent of coverage of villages and people, adherence to the norms mentioned in the guidelines for implementation, sustainability and dependability of facilities created and adequacy and quality of water supply.
- (ii) The official records of coverage of areas and people should be maintained in terms of habitations rather than villages, as coverage of villages gives a misleading picture. In the field survey discrepancies between the official records and actual coverage were observed, as many villages were only partially covered.
- (iii) The norms regarding 'distance from modes' and the 'number of people to be reserved per point' need modifications, as a large number of households were not using public sources because of inconvenient location and longer waiting time.
- (iv) It is necessary to monitor the implementation process, so as to ensure that technical norms are strictly adhered to by the implementing agencies. Violation of these norms has been reported in a number of cases. Water quality of sources created must also be monitored, so as to prevent people from using unsafe water from alternate sources.
- (v) It is not possible for the government agencies alone to look after the O&M of the huge network of drinking water facilities without the active participation of the villagers. The villagers should be motivated to take over routine O&M activities and contribute funds for repair and maintenance. Their active participation in implementation is also expected to improve the quality of implementation. The implementation of the guidelines that trained village-level caretakers should be given some incentive for routine maintenance and protection of the installations will go a long way to make public water supply points more dependable.
- (vi) As far as possible, installation of PWS systems in rural areas should be avoided. In general, such systems are found to be less dependable than other sources.
- (vii) Unustainability of drinking water sources is linked with over exploitation of ground water for irrigation. It is necessary to take suitable measures to make drinking water sources sustainable. Such measures could be of two types. First, regulatory measures by the States would be needed to control over-exploitation of ground water for irrigation. Secondly, people's participation in water conservation and harvesting is necessary to ensure a balance between the two competing uses of ground water. In this context, it is worth exploring if the lessons learnt from the model of integrated watershed development in Ralegan Siddhi under the leadership of Shri Anna Hazare in Maharashtra can be transferred to other areas. To replicate this model on a wider scale would require the active involvement of the Panchayats and the people in implementation, operation and maintenance.

V. Evaluation Study on Impact of Non-Formal Education

- (i) The findings of the study tend to suggest that the NFE system has not made any significant contribution to the realisation of the goal of UEE. This, however, is not meant to undermine its achievement in delivering "literacy, numeracy and awareness" to some out-of-school children. If the NFE is expected to deliver elementary education

and/or facilitate lateral entry of learners to the formal education system, major changes in design and implementation of the scheme, and substantial step-up in financial allocation will be required. It is not certain if, with these changes NFE could be a cost-effective instrument of delivery of elementary education to the out-of-school children. All this tends to imply that elementary education needs to be delivered primarily through the formal education system. This, however, is not meant to suggest that all is well with the FE system. The rates of non-enrolment and drop-out for children belonging to some population groups are still unacceptable high in the formal education system.

- (ii) To devise an appropriate strategy for achieving UEE, it is important to identify the factors that constrain access to education. A review of literature on the subject tends to suggest that the quality of school infrastructure (as represented by availability/adequacy of school facilities, teacher-study ratio, proportion of female teachers, separate schools for boys and girls at upper primary level, qualifications and training of teachers etc.) on the one hand and cost-benefit of education (as perceived by parents) on the other are the most important determinants of access. Attempts have been made in the past to improve the school infrastructure (e.g. operations Black Board) and to reduce private cost of education through supply of free books/uniforms/stationery, mid-day meals, day-care centres, fellowships etc. Though these measures have improved enrolment and retention rates, the progress is unsatisfactory partly because of inadequate financial provisions and partly due to inadequacies in planning and implementation. If the gaps in resources, administrative planning and delivery system are bridged, there will be perceptible improvement in enrolment and retention rates in formal education system.
- (iii) The greatest obstacle to UEE is, however, the poverty-illiteracy syndrome. A large proportion of the out-of-school children belong to the poor families. Poor families do not send their children to schools primarily because of high opportunity cost, but also due to the fact that they do not see any immediate gain from education. Thus, poor and illiterate parents will have to be made aware of the value of education through awareness generation programme. Secondly, for the poor children, the entire private cost of

education (both direct and indirect) will have to be borne by the Government.

- (iv) The above mentioned strategy will certainly attract the majority of the out-of-school children to the formal school set-up. However, such changes in the FE system cannot be brought about within a short span of time and hence, the educational needs of the out-of-school children will have to be met partially for some children who, because of economic compulsion, can not enroll themselves in the FE system. Thus, while the role of NFE will get reduced over time, it will continue to be relevant for meeting the educational needs of specific groups. It is with this perspective that the following modifications in the NFE system are suggested.
- (a) The cost of running an NFE centre must be worked out realistically. The NFE-type education can be delivered only by instructors who are qualified and trained. Their honorarium should be commensurate with their responsibility, and regularity in payments to them must be ensured.
- (b) It has been observed that both the Central Government and the States are not releasing even the grossly understated "standard cost" of running an NFE centre. On an average, the centres get about half the money they are entitled to. Many of the centres do not get even this much in time. The Ministry should address the relevant issues.
- (c) If the NFE system is expected to contribute to the realisation of the goal of universal elementary education, it must be linked with the formal education system through enabling State policies. The experience of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, which made an attempt to do so through common examination and certification, may be studied to derive lessons and to identify the measures and policies that would facilitate lateral entry of NFE learners.
- (d) It has been observed that, other things remaining the same, enrolment and retention rates of students are positively associated with the proportion of female teachers. This is true for both NFE and FE systems. If NFE centres are run by female teachers, the enrolment, retention and success rates in NFE are likely to improve significantly.

- (e) As per the provision of the 73rd Constitutional amendment, the PRIs are required to play a role in the management of school education. Wherever the PRIs are in place, the management of NFE centres along with financial resources may be handed over to these institutions. The findings of the study tend to suggest that the VECs are not effective in controlling the functioning of the NFE centres.
- (f) If the two types of centres (State-run & NGO run) the enrolment/retention rates seem to be better in the NGO-run centres, perhaps because of their ability to mobilise additional resources, attract community participation and impart flexibilities in the functioning of the centres. However, for generalisation of this observations, an indepth study of NGO-run centres with a much larger sample (than adopted in the study) would be required as PEO field teams were denied access to some sample NGOs. Nevertheless, it needs to be explored how the services of the NGOs could be fruitfully utilized in the delivery of education services to out-of-school children and whether useful lessons could be derived from some of the successful NGOs.
- (g) If, however, the NGO-run centres continue to play their present role, some changes in the pattern of financing, supervision and monitoring are required. First, the criteria of selection of NGOs must be worked out in consultation with the States and their selection must be done jointly. Second, instead of direct flow of funds from MHRD to NGOs, funds should be routed through the State Government. Third, the performance of NGOs should be evaluated periodically either jointly by evaluation organisations of the States and the Centre, or by independent reputed institutions.
- (h) While the modifications in the design and implementation of NFE system suggested above are likely to bring about improvement in the performance of the system the findings of the study do not lend support to the assumption that NFE system can be a cost-effective and major instrument for delivery of elementary education. There is need for reassessment of the role that NFE could play in the realisation of the goal of removing illiteracy. Perhaps, NFE should aim at delivering "literacy, numeracy and awareness" to those out-of-school children who can not be brought to the FE system even at negligible private cost (direct and indirect) of education.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

[Translation]

Adoption of a New Policy by Pakistan's Military Regime

2. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn on the news-item captioned "Pakistan toughens stand on Kashmir, adopts new policy" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated December 14, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the military regime in Pakistan has adopted a new five point policy on Kashmir;

(c) if so, whether this envisages the stepping up support to the Kashmiri militants;

(d) if so, whether Pakistan will not hold any dialogue with India for restoration of trade, economic and friendly relations till New Delhi agreed to "Meaningful and result oriented talks"; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Government is aware of media reports to the effect that Pakistan's military regime has adopted a new policy on Kashmir, which involves increased support to terrorist groups in India. Some media reports have referred to this new policy as the new "five point policy on Kashmir".

The entire State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union and represents the core of our nationhood. A part of the territory of the State is under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. The military coup in Pakistan has not changed either the country's approach of compulsive hostility towards India, or its assertion of territorial claims on Jammu & Kashmir. Pakistan continues to sponsor and organize cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, and elsewhere in India, as a matter of State policy. The support has been stepped up following the eviction of Pakistan's armed intrusion and India's vacation of this aggression in the Kargil sector of Jammu & Kashmir.

India has always maintained a consistent and principled policy towards Pakistan. We wish to establish ties of peace, friendship and cooperation with the people of Pakistan. It is for this purpose that last year India took the initiative of establishing a composite dialogue process, which sought to build mutual trust and confidence, put in place a stable structure of cooperation and address outstanding issues. Pakistan not only violated the Line of Control through its armed intrusion and aggression in Kargil but also transgressed the territory of trust.

Pakistan need to take steps to restore trust and confidence by abandoning its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and desist from hostile propaganda against India. Government continues to take all necessary steps to safeguard the safety and territorial integrity of the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1.00 p.m.

12.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Thirteen of the Clock.*

13.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Three Minutes past
Thirteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU *in the Chair*)

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Papers to be Laid.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN. Hon. Members, please sit down. This is not 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

13.31/2 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Shri Pramod Mahajan. I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1110/99]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Electronics Accrediation of Computer Courses Society, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Department of Electronics Accrediation of Computer Courses Society, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1111/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1112/99]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Software Technology Parks of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1113/99]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Society for Electronics Test Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Society for Electronics Test Engineering, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1114/99]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Liquid Crystal Research, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Liquid Crystal Research, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1115/99]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Software Technology, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1116/99]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Electronics Research and Development Centre of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Electronics Research and Development Centre of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1117/99]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1118/99]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Pune, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1119/99]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Computer Centre, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1120/99]

- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Electronics Design and Technology of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Electronics Design and Technology of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1121/99]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1122/99]

- (14) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Education and Research Network, India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Education and Research Network, India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1123/99]

- (15) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1124/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): On behalf of Shri Nitish Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Dairy Development Board, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Dairy Development Board, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1125/99]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1126/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Narmada Control Authority, Indore, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1127/99]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd., for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd., for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1128/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shri Dilip Ray, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1129/99]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the M.S.T.C. Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the M.S.T.C. Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1130/99]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Sponge Iron India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Sponge Iron India Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1131/99]

- (d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1132/99]

- (e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mecon Limited, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Mecon Limited, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1133/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Vasundhara Raje, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of the section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Jaduguda, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited, Jaduguda, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1134/99]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1135/99]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1136/99]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Civil Services Cultural and Sports Board, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1137/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Grih Kalyan Kendra, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Grih Kalyan Kendra, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1138/99]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1139/99]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Hand Tools, Jalandhar, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Hand Tools, Jalandhar, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1140/99]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1141/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 819A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1996-97.
- (ii) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects and Tubewells Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1142/99]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Lok Sabha:—

NINTH LOK SABHA

- (i) Statement No. XLVII Second Session, 1990

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1143/99]

- (ii) Statement No. XXXIX Third Session, 1990

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1144/99]

- (iii) Statement No. XXXIII Sixth Session 1990

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1145/99]

TENTH LOK SABHA

- (iv) Statement No. XLII First Session, 1991
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1146/99]
- (v) Statement No. XXXIII Fifth Session, 1992
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1147/99]
- (vi) Statement No. XXXVI Sixth Session, 1993
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1148/99]
- (vii) Statement No. XXIV Eleventh Session, 1994
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1149/99]
- (viii) Statement No. XXI Thirteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1150/99]
- (ix) Statement No. XVIII Fourteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1151/99]
- (x) Statement No. XII Sixteenth Session, 1996
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1152/99]
- ELEVENTH LOK SABHA
- (xi) Statement No. XIII Second Session, 1996
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1153/99]
- (xii) Statement No. XII Third Session, 1996
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1154/99]
- (xiii) Statement No. XI Fourth Session, 1997
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1155/99]
- (xiv) Statement No. IX Fifth Session, 1997
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1156/99]
- (xv) Statement No. IX Sixth Session, 1997
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1157/99]

TWELFTH LOK SABHA

- (xvi) Statement No. VII Second Session, 1998
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1158/99]
- (xvii) Statement No. IV Third Session, 1998
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1159/99]
- (xviii) Statement No. III Fourth Session, 1999
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1160/99]
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT
OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED
SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the
Table—
- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1161/99]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 1162/99]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1163/99]

- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) on the observation of the Ministry of Industry, Deptt. of Heavy Industry, on the Auditors comments on the Report and the replies furnished by the Management of National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1164/99]

- (iii) Annual Report of the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1165/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1166/99]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1167/99]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1168/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1998-99.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1169/99]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1989-90, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1989-90.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1170/99]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1990-91, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1990-91.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1171/99]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1991-92, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1991-92.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1172/99]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1992-93.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1173/99]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Centre for Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1993-94.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1174/99]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, 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 Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1994-95.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1175/99]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, 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 Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1995-96.

- (16) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (15) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1176/99]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1996-97 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur, for the year 1996-97.

- (18) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (17) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1177/99]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1997-98.

- (20) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (19) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1178/99]

- (21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1179/99]

- (22) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Horticulture Board, Gurgaon, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1180/99]

- (23) A copy of the Fertilizer (Control) Second Amendment Order, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1068(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th November, 1999 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1181/99]

- (24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Navi Mumbai, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited, Navi Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1182/99]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Nagpur for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1183/99]

13.07 hrs.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MOTION RE: FOURTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 21st December, 1999."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fourth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 21st December, 1999."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, I want to raise a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call all the hon. Members one by one. Please cooperate with me. I now call Dr. V. Saroja.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, this is a very important matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already called Dr. V. Saroja. Please cooperate with me. Many hon. members have given notice. I will call all of them. Please take your seats.

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Sir, I rise here to draw the attention of the Government on the sensitive issues of atrocities on *dalits* of Keerapalayam panchayat union. ...*(Interruptions)* At Ayapatti village near Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu, houses and shops were looted. The local police refused to register the case ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, riots have broken out in Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give a chance to you. Please sit down. I will call you. I am giving an assurance.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Devendra Prasad, I will call you later. Please sit down.

DR. V. SAROJA: The *dalits* seek protection through the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During the recent Lok Sabha elections, 20,000 *dalits* were prevented from exercising their franchise. ...*(Interruptions)*

13.09 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the chair]

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall call all of you please sit down.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA: Public order and police are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall call all of you. Kindly take your seats first.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down first. I shall call out your name.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA: However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments from time to time, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you. Let there be order.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. V. SAROJA: It was confirmed by the independent fact-finding public organisation Chairman, Shri Krishna Iyer...*(Interruptions)* According to him if ballot is denied, bullet takes over...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, please take your seat.

DR. V. SAROJA: So, I urge upon the Government, the ruling Tamil Nadu...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, please take your seat.

13.11 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY SPEAKER

Re: Observance of Parliamentary Etiquette

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the House was witness to an ugly incident today when a member of Opposition, Shri Devendra Singh Yadav menacingly approached towards Treasury Benches. I am constrained to observe that such behaviour on the part of the Member concerned, was in derogation of the established norms of decent parliamentary behaviour. Such incidents are not only a reflection on the parliamentary conduct of the Member concerned but also erode the dignity of the whole House.

I deprecate the behaviour of the Member in strongest terms and urge upon the leaders of Parties and Groups in the House to ensure dignified parliamentary behaviour from their Members. I would also like to reiterate that Members, including Ministers, should address the Chair and should also exercise restraint while participating in discussion on the floor of the House. Perhaps, observance of this parliamentary norm may prevent recurrence of such incidents.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you, Shri Geete.

DR. V. SAROJA (Rasipuram): Sir, my name was called. I have not yet completed.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I will call you later.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cows and the calves were being taken for slaughter in 40 Railway wagons in Faudi in Rajasthan. The people from that area led a peaceful agitation to prevent the cow-slaughter. Cow slaughter is banned in Rajasthan. I have been informed that the people of Faudi were leading a peaceful agitation under the leadership of the former MLA and a train was stopped in this connection. The Railway authorities were asked to allow the cows and calves to be taken off that train. In the meantime, some persons started pelting stones on the people who were a part of this peaceful agitation. The Railway Police did not take any action and remained a

mute spectator...(Interruptions) The Government of Rajasthan also did not take any action against the persons indulging in stone pelting. The State President of Shiv Sena, Shri Murli Vohra ji was brutally murdered. He was attacked with swords and his dead body was thrown on Railway tracks. The Railway Police did not take any action in this regard. Even the S.P. did not take any action. Instead the people leading a peaceful agitation were lathi charged.

Shri Vohra was murdered and the S.P. was lathicharging people instead of preventing the assault...(Interruptions) All the MLAs asked the S.P. to take action against the miscreants but the S.P. did not listen to anyone...(Interruptions) The S.P. called Shri Vohra...(Interruptions) A meeting was held with the leaders. When Shri Vohra could not be traced for seven hours, enquiries were made. After seven hours, the S.P. stated that a dead body was lying in the Railway station. When our workers went here, they found that it was the dead body of Shri Vohra. ...(Interruptions)

S.P. is involved in this conspiracy. Therefore, we have demanded that the S.P. should be immediately transferred from there. Sir, the whole of Rajasthan is in the grip of terror...(Interruptions) There is an apprehension of riot and agitation taking place there...(Interruptions)

Sir, I demand from the Central Government to intervene in the matter as the Government of Rajasthan is unable to remedy the situation...(Interruptions) Directions should be issued to the Rajasthan Government. A probe should be conducted in this matter...(Interruptions) Proper action should be taken in this regard. Centre should intervene in the matter to curb the riots likely to take place there...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. There are other members also who want to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the S.P. is shielding the persons who are responsible for the attack...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No running commentary, please.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): The day before yesterday, some people including Murlī Vohra in the leadership of ex-MLA Shri Bal Krishan Thanvi staged a 'Dharana' on the railway line in Falaudi area of Jodhpur Lok Sabha Constituency. They sat there from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. At around 8 o'clock some people went there armed with swords and made an attack on Shri Murlī Vohra in which he was killed. Such incidents are taking place everyday in Rajasthan. A murder and a rape is taking place there on a daily basis. It is painful that the Rajasthan Government is giving political protection to the criminals which is affecting the communal harmony in the State and riot took place in the area like Falaudi. State Government is responsible for it. Therefore, State Government should be dismissed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any reaction from the Government?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. The Minister is giving reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): He is a Member of Parliament from that area. Please listen to him.

[Translation]

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan faces frequent droughts. This year also it has faced this calamity. Cattle rearing is the prime occupation of the people of this area. I would like to say that 70-80% of farmers are earning their livelihood through cattle rearing. Cattle fair is organised there every year. It was organised in Falaudi also. The State Government looks after the arrangements for this fair. Farmers buy goats and calves there...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not your job.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, 80% of farming is done by camels and bullocks as tractors are not available there. Farmers were taking these cattle for farming. Some people resorted to pelting of stones there and provoked the farmers. ...*(Interruptions)* They are trying to engineer riots between Hindus and Muslims...*(Interruptions)* They are trying to deprive the farmers from their means of livelihood...*(Interruptions)* They are trying to disturb the communal harmony...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Minister will reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale. take your seat. The Minister is on his legs.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the members who are agitated on the issue of Falaudi that will draw the attention of the Union Home Minister towards the issue raised by them so that he could talk to the Rajasthan Government in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, how can I speak in this atmosphere?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. The Minister has given his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

* Not recorded.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important matter...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not proper. Please resume your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I would like to know the reaction of the Government on a very important matter...(Interruptions)

Shri Mohan Rawale, I am speaking now. You have already spoken. I have got the permission from the Chair to speak. Please allow me to speak. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole of Rajasthan is disturbed today.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much. Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: How can I speak? The Minister has already replied to it. The NDA partners are doing like this. What can I do? The hon. members from the Treasury Benches are doing like this. How can I speak?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has already given the reply. Please understand it.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan Government has not taken any action in this regard. ...(Interruptions) Rajasthan Government should take some action on it.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If you do not allow us to speak, we will also not allow you to speak.

[Translation]

Please allow us to speak. What is the matter, will you not speak?

[English]

Let the Parliamentary Affairs Minister control his Members. How can I speak?...(Interruptions)

I would like to raise a very important issue. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to one important issue...(Interruptions) What are they doing? I am on my legs. They cannot prevent me from speaking. I have to speak now. How can they prevent me? They should not do like this. What is this?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If they do like this, we will also not allow any one of them to speak. Is it the way of doing things? When the Chair has allowed me to speak, why are they doing like this? The Government has already replied to it...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

What is this? Why do you do like this? Please let me put forth my views.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is 22nd December. Only one day is left before the House is adjourned. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important matter. I am glad that the Defence Minister is present here. The entire nation paid its tributes to the great jawans ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today morning I read this news in the newspapers. I tried to get the information from the members belonging to Rajasthan but no authentic information has been received till now from the State Government. I will inform the House tomorrow as soon as I get the authentic information. Central Government's

*Not recorded.

opinion is that in such a situation communal harmony should be maintained and efforts should be made to curb such incidents. It should not spread in other areas. Therefore, I will say only this much that I will inform the House after getting the authentic information from the State Government in this regard.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This issue is over. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Sir, riots can erupt there any time. S.P. himself has stated this...(*Interruptions*) Shri Vohra's dead body was found on railway track. S.P. is involved in this conspiracy. Action should be taken against him under section 302.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, please take your seat. The hon. Home Minister has already given the reply.

Now, Shri Dasmunsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Today is the 22nd December. We are left with only one day, that is tomorrow, to discuss important issues of this country.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and point out that the entire nation irrespective of caste, creed or religion stood by the Government like a rock in the hour of crisis when our brave jawans tried to defend the country in Kargil. The entire nation, the Government and all the political parties paid tributes to the jawans of the Armed Forces, Air Forces, Paramilitary Forces and the Civilians, who laid down their lives in Kargil.

Soon after Gen. Parvez Musharraf took over Pakistan, he has been constantly, directly or indirectly, threatening the border, and several incidents took place. Our jawans laid down their lives again in the hands of the intruders who were all backed by Pakistan.

Sir, a solemn assurance has been given by the Government, by no less than the Prime Minister himself, that if there is any lapse on the part of Intelligence, as reported in the media, in various quarters would be looked into by a Committee headed by Shri Subramaniam. It was reported in the media that Shri Subramaniam called on the Prime Minister before this Session began. It is not known whether he met the Prime Minister with the

report or without the report. But it was reported that by the 15th December, the Report would be placed before the Government and the Parliament would have an access to discuss this matter. The nation has a right to know as to what causes the delay in presenting this Report. The Parliament Session would be over tomorrow and we are proceeding to the next millennium soon.

It is important because of the grave threat of Pakistan. If there are any shortcomings on the part of Intelligence or on any front, the morale of the Army should be kept aloft. The Government should be in a position, with the confidence of the entire House, to respond to those shortcomings so that in future if any repercussion takes place, the country understands the position, the Army understand the position, and the Air Force understand the position, and an integrated kind of coordination on the matter of Intelligence is further ensured.

Sir, I wrote a letter to the Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati to get a verbatim copy of the news cast on the 23rd November by Doordarshan that the Report has already been presented. Finally, it was found that the Report has not been presented. So, I asked the CEO to give me the verbatim copy of that. Till today, I have not been favoured with that.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Sixty-six names are there with me. Please conclude.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I will conclude within a minute.

It was reported that before submitting the Report on the Kargil issue, Shri Subramaniam met the hon. Prime Minister. We do not question the integrity of the hon. Prime Minister. He is the Leader of this House and he is the Prime Minister. But the propriety demands that before completing such Report, normally the Head of the Committee does not go and confer either with the Prime Minister or with the Defence Minister. If so happened that he called on the Prime Minister. This was reported in the newspapers and it was not contradicted by the spokesman of the Government. It was further reported that by the 15th December, the Report would be handed over to the Government. Today is the 22nd December. I would like to know from the Government the exact position, what has been reported is correct or not, and also when this country will know the findings of the

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

Committee because the nation is anxious to know about it because of the grave threat from Pakistan once again. I know that the Defence Minister will reply, 'Everything will be ready. We are proud of our Army, we are proud of our Air Force, we are proud of our Paramilitary Forces because it is they who sacrifice their lives once again.' We frame the policy only but it is they who sacrifice their lives and they are the martyrs. We salute them.

In order to keep their morale high in future, the nation demands that the Report should be placed as quickly as possible. It is unfortunate that the Government could not bring the Report till now.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair has just now made an observation both to the Members of the Treasury Benches and also the Opposition to address the Chair and not to the Members because it is creating problems.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I have only addressed the Chair.

It is not that I do this. I only addressed you. I always address you, Sir.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, I also associate with what he has said.

MR. SPEAKER: All right, you can also associate with him.

13.35 hrs.

RE: INCREASE IN ACCIDENTS IN INDIAN AIRFORCE PLANES ESPECIALLY MIG AIRCRAFTS

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Mr. Speaker Sir, I wanted this subject to be discussed in detail but you are kind enough to allow me so that I can raise it and the hon. Defence Minister can reply this query. There has been a serious concern of all of us and the nation over the increase in the aircraft accidents in the Indian Air Force, especially the MiG aircraft. We have lost the best pilots. We have lost nearly 18 aircraft in this year, and out of 18, I think, if I am not mistaken, 15 are the MiG aircraft. I recollect this aircraft was flying with the man and the machine. The man has to be fit and the machine has to be fit. I am told these aircraft machines are of 35 to 36 years old. They are 35 years old. They have crossed 20 squadrons of MiG squadron. They have crossed their designed limit and they are on extension. The pilots are aware of it.

I had been a pilot. When I sit on the aircraft, my morale will be there but I also know that the machine is not that fit which I need. So, this is a concern which the Government must take care of it. I am told that they are not getting spare parts even for all the flying machines and also MiG aircraft. I do not know the reason. I do not know whether it is because of lecnuae in the agreement or financial problems.

I am also told that the purchase of Advance Jet Trainer has been pending. Well, I also share this because during our Government's time also, it was discussed. It is one thing. There is a very, very vast change of reactions and actions of a pilot when flying from the Kiran which is a Jet Trainer and straightway going to MiG. The hon. Defence Minister would appreciate this. I have flown Kiran. I have sat in the MiG aircraft. Kiran and MiG are no comparison. Advance Jet Trainer has been in demand. If I recollect when La Fontain was the Air Chief Marshal in 1982-83, he recommended it. It was agreed by the Government and till now, the Advance Jet Trainer has not been bought. That itself is a first thing. I think that this country is only doing this type of a sudden change from Kiran to the MiG and Jaguar. The brave pilots of our Air Force are just coping with it.

The second point is that in 1995 when we were in the Government, we started a self-reliance initiative. We were 30 per cent self-reliance on these things. We had promised that we should reach 70 per cent self-reliance. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the progress on self-reliance. Have you really gone from 30 to 40? Or are we going on below 30 per cent on self-reliance? These are the needs of the Defence which are really very important.

The last point is about the man who sits in the cockpit. My information is that there is already a 10 per cent shortage in the Air Force of pilots and other officers at the lower level. Is Government aware of this shortage? Why is this shortage? Why more pilots are not coming? Why officers are not coming to the Defence Services? Just now my colleague, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has mentioned that defence and security of the nation is the most important aspect.

The whole Parliament discussed the Fifth Pay Commission and we all passed it. I am told, Sir, that flying pay for the pilots has not been implemented yet. There was some controversy. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is not here. He was the Defence Minister at that time. A Committee was appointed with the Defence Secretary heading that Committee. That Committee had also given the report two years back. Still, the flying pay to the pilot has not been decided.

Now, imagine the morale of that man who is sitting on that cockpit. What does he must be feeling? He is not having a machine to fly. He is not having a fit machine; and imagine his morale. He knows very well that his welfare should be looked after by the Government. I am not saying that you compare with the civil pilot. Even if a civil pilot gets invalid in flying accidents, his licence is insured for a few lakhs but in Air Force, the pilot gets invalid. I do not know whether he gets anything, except that his Branch is changed and he continues in this.

I brought this information just to bring to the attention of the Government and to show their concern so that Government reacts both on the machine and the man so that our flying pilots remain fit to defend the nation. I think the Minister might react.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very important issue. Several times this has figured in the House either through Questions or through such interventions.

I will reply point by point rather than make a statement. In so far as the strength of the pilots and the shortage are concerned, we are, at the moment, holding 95.9 per cent of the sanctioned strength in the Indian Air Force. In so far as the Combat Squadrons are concerned, we are holding 100 per cent. So, there is absolutely no shortage of pilots.

In so far as the Combat Squadrons are concerned, we are very well-equipped. I want the House to rest assured that both in terms of recruitment and in terms of positioning them, there has not been any kind of tardiness or any kind of shortfall. There is, however, an effort now to see that we get better talent. That is where, out of the 60 pilots who are brought in for training, a large number get into the Transport Squadron and the Helicopters. We select the best available talent for the fighter pilots.

In so far as these accidents are concerned, it is true that there have been a large number of accidents. These accidents have been on even when the MiGs were less than 20 years old, perhaps, even when they were 10 years old. In fact, in the decade of the sixties, the number of accidents averaged 40 a year. In the subsequent two decades, that is in seventies and eighties they averaged 30 a year. In this decade, which is now coming to a close, the average has been 22. So, there has been
...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: You please explain in comparison to the flying hour task. Your task force has also reduced compared from 1960 to 1999. The flying task of the Squadrons was much larger in Sixties.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Well, I think we have a very large Air Force today than we have in Sixties.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The flying task has reduced.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is including the flying task. Over the years, there has been an improvement for a variety of reasons. After all, in the Sixties it was a very young air Force, learning, training, making mistakes. In the seventies it improved. In the Eighties it improved further and now in the nineties it has acquired a capability which you saw demonstrated. You have been a pilot and you have seen action and you know how...(Interruptions)

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): He is Rajesh Pilot. ...(Interruptions)

*SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, Shri Rajesh Pilot takes his surname from that. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I hope he is a political pilot.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Therefore, it is not the flying task. It is much more today than it was earlier. It is the improvement in the quality of the man behind the machine which is responsible for reducing these accidents.

Now, you made the point that invariably it is the MiGs that crashed or it is the large number of MiGs that crashed. You said about 15 out of 18 crashes were MiGs. Well, almost 80 per cent of our Air Force is MiGs. From three categories of MiG-21 to the MiG-29, 80 per cent of the Force is MiGs. Invariably it is these aircraft which see most action whether it is in training or in other areas and for training purposes. The hon. Member himself knows the real problem of not having an Advanced Jet Trainer so far.

Advanced Jet Trainer was the subject of a long investigation by the Standing Committee on Defence. The Standing Committee considered this question over a period of almost four years and, finally, gave its report at the beginning of this year. Now, Sir, the proposal for an Advanced Jet Trainer was first mooted in 1982, and the Air Force got into action immediately to identify what they thought was the best available in the market —

[Shri George Fernandes]

invariably, one had to import this. The idea was to buy them overseas because we do not produce those things here. But from 1982 till date, we have not been able to procure those Advanced Jet Trainers. Last year, when this matter came up before me, we started working on this at a greater speed than had happened in the earlier phase for whatever reasons. Money must have been one of the considerations, I presume. But for whatever reasons, this matter had not been attended with the required urgency for almost ten or twelve years. We have now reached a point where those two aircraft that had been short listed earlier have been again short listed; not only that, we have set up a Committee, and I happen to be the Chairman of that Committee so that we can take an early decision on this. So, the aircraft have been identified; the choice has to be made. There are certain norms that the Air Force has worked out; and on the basis of those norms, the Air Force is now evaluating which of the two would be a better option. I am sure, the hon. Member and those who are aware of this branch of our defence requirements know that both of them are supposed to be more or less on par in so far as their capabilities are concerned. But there are other factors which are also to be taken into consideration. The Air Force is doing it in very close collaboration with the Ministry of Defence. As I said, we have a Committee which is headed by the Defence Minister himself, and a decision on acquiring new AJTs will be taken very soon. Whatever difficulties have been experienced over these many years, which has quite rightly agitated, Sir, my dear friend and the hon. Member, Rajesh Pilot, I am sure, we will be able to overcome them without much delay.

One of the points that he raised was about self-reliance, and whether we are moving forward or stationary. Well, we are moving forward. There is a lot of indigenisation which the Air Force Workshops themselves are engaged in, HAL is engaged in, and even there are certain areas where the private sector is also engaged in producing the spare-parts that we have been importing over a period of time. I am unable to be specific about the percentage, that is to what point we have reached from the 30 per cent, but I can assure the House that we are progressing in this region.

Sir, there is this problem of pay or the implementation of the Pay Commission's recommendations and taking care of the anomalies that emerged while the Pay Commission's recommendations were sought to be implemented.

Sir, a Committee was set up under the Defence Secretary. That Committee gave its Report in proper time. That Report then went to a Group which included the three Chiefs — the Chiefs of the three Services. After they vetted that Report, that Report went before the Cabinet and a decision has been taken on some aspects

of the recommendations. There are two aspects of those recommendations which are still pending. There is a Group of Ministers that is seized with it at the moment. We shall have a settlement of this matter in the next few weeks.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: What about the Kargil Report?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, this matter was raised by the hon. Member last week during the Question Hour. I had said then that there has been no receipt of that Report. The Report has not been received. When the Report is received, then the Government will be able to consider it and then react..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister has given an elaborate reply.

Now, Shri Ashok Pradhan.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, I want to raise another issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I will call your name.

13.52 hrs.

RE: RELAXATION OF STANDARDS IN MATTERS OF RESERVATION IN PROMOTION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN (Khurja): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important issue.

I would like to draw the attention towards 5 orders issued consequent upon the decision given by the Supreme Court regarding the ban on reservation quota fixed in promotions for the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. This was the matter of discussion among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribe communities during the last few days. But after this Government came to power, a decision was taken in this regard. Right now, I would like to thank the hon'ble Prime Minister for the decision taken during the last session that a special convention would be held for elaborate discussion on reservation policy for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The convention was held on 5th, 6th and 7th December. The Prime Minister himself inaugurated the convention and remained present there during the

entire period of discussion and thereafter a good message went to the country in an effective manner. The Prime Minister had himself stated..(Interruptions) that it is being implemented.

Hon'ble Prime Minister had said that he himself and his Government was seriously considering the issue. Constitution will have to be amended in this regard and our Government will do it. I would like to say that on the whole it was an all party conference and all participated in it. Members from all political parties participated in it. The issue was discussed threadware. Hon'ble Prime Minister has clearly stated on this issue. I would like to quote two lines from his speech, "The interests of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pradhan, please sit down.

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: I would like to request the hon'ble Prime Minister to inform the House regarding the constitutional amendment about which he had said earlier. When this amendment is going to be introduced as this session is going to end tomorrow. Tomorrow is the last day of this session. I would like to request the hon. Prime Minister to announce it by tomorrow so that a good message goes to be entire country. The Government should accept it.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Big rallies have been held in the country on this issue. Reservation for scheduled castes and schedule tribes is being withdrawn and they are talking about constitutional amendment..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Hon'ble Prime Minister is going to reply.

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Members are aware that certain operational guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training regarding reservation in Government jobs have created some discontent among the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. These guidelines were issued by the then Government after certain pronouncements of the Supreme Court.

I would like to inform the hon. Members that, in pursuance of my assurance on the floor of the House in the 12th Lok Sabha, our Government has already taken steps for reviewing these guidelines.

In respect of one of the Office Memoranda, the Cabinet in its meeting held on 21st December, 1999, has approved the proposal to bring about a Constitutional Amendment Bill to incorporate a proviso to Article 335 of the Constitution with a view to enable the State to restore the relaxations of qualifying marks and standards of evaluation in matters of reservation in promotion for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It may be recalled that these relaxations had been withdrawn as per the instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on 22.7.1997 in pursuance of the Supreme Court judgement dated 1.10.1996 in the case of *S. Vinod Kumar Versus Union of India*. I may also mention that the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was also consulted on this aspect and that the Commission has expressed its appreciation of the proposed amendment. The proposed Constitutional Amendment Bill will be introduced in the Parliament as early as possible.

The proposal to bring about another Constitutional amendment which would make it possible to clear the backlog of jobs through special recruitment in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is also at the final stage of consideration.

The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court, in a recent judgment dated 16.9.1999, has reiterated its earlier judgements regarding the principle of fixation of seniority on promotion of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees. The legal and constitutional aspects of this judgment are under examination with a view to bring about a Constitutional Amendment to restore the seniority principle that was prevalent prior to these judgements.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to assure the House that this Government is committed to protecting the interests of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees and will take all possible steps for their upliftment.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.58 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.35 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA in the Chair)

RE: COMMUNAL TENSION ARISING OUT
OF SHILANYAS IN HAL MODI VILLAGE
IN SURAT, GUJARAT

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The 'Zero Hour' is over now.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): I want to raise an important matter. I have given a notice also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Many hon. Members have given notices.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, a very serious situation is prevailing in Gujarat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not possible. You can raise it tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, this is a very sensitive issue. The *Shilanyas* is going to take place.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, secularism is a part of our Constitution. There is an assault on our Constitution taking place in Gujarat as well as Karnataka. You may extend the 'Zero Hour' by a few minutes to enable us to raise this issue.
.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He can raise it tomorrow also.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: There are some issues that cannot wait and the protection of secularism is an issue which cannot wait.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kurup, you may please finish with a very brief mention.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: The Government of Gujarat has allowed the Hindu Jagran Manch and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad to go ahead with the *shilanyas* in a village neighbouring Surat. The site is a disputed one.
...(Interruptions) The entire Christian community has

protested against it. For quite some time the Sangh *parivar* has been targeting the Christian community in Gujarat. ...(Interruptions) It was during the last Christmas season that in the Dang district of Gujarat, the Christian community was attacked. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please finish it now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Churches were systematically attacked there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI C.P. RADHKRISHNAN (Coimbatore): This is a non-issue. They want to make an issue out of it.
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, I cannot allow a debate on this now.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, please give me a few minutes to associate myself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you just have to associate yourself.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I will do it in one sentence.

SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN: This is totally a non-issue. They are trying to project the Government of Gujarat as an anti-Christian Government. This will create unnecessary tensions between the Christians and the Hindus. ...(Interruptions) this is an evil design to create tension all over India. This should not be allowed.
...(Interruptions)

Sir, he is asking who I am. I am a Member of Parliament. He should know that only Members of Parliament can enter the House. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please take your seat.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra); Mr. Chairman, Sir, under what rule is this going on?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now call Shri Indrajit Gupta.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prabhunath Singh ji, you please be seated.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanji): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you please listen me first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, first you resume your seat. I will not allow you to speak right now. First, you take your seat, only then I will listen.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you give us a chance to speak after he concludes.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot allow everybody now. This is not a debate.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Will you please listen for a minute? You are going on talking all the time with all the Members. ...(Interruptions)

I am saying that incident to which a reference has been made and has been widely reported by all sections of the Press is something that will contribute to communal tension apart from anything else.

Anything which contributes to communal tension in this country deserves the attention and the concern of the House, especially, in light of what has happened recently in Gujarat. Several such incidents have taken place. My hon. friend here seems to think that nothing has taken place. According to him, these are our inventions. The Member says that it is a non-issue. If it was a non-issue why did the Prime Minister go there? I would like to know it. It is a matter of great concern. We only wanted to know the exact position because the Gujarat Government has done something which in my humble opinion should not have been done if it did not want to contribute to this escalation of communal tension. That is why we are very anxious to see that this matter is resolved. ...(Interruptions) The Home Minister is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot direct the Minister to react.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I wish to associate myself to what has been said by Shri Suresh Kurup...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, would you like to say something?

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You should have heard the views of all others before calling the Minister of Home Affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no need to hear the views of everyone.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajan): What was the need to give an opportunity to speak to the members sitting on treasury benches. If you feel a need to provide such an opportunity to those Members, you should also feel the same for us. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you listening? Home Minister is reacting...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): We had given the information, hence we are submitting repeatedly...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: When you are in the Chair, he is most vocal.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a few days before, two programmes are announced in Southern Gujarat — one in district Dang and another in Surat. The announcement which was made in Dang was that on 25th December, i.e. on Christmas, a public meeting will take place there, which will be addressed by Jagatguru Shankaracharya of Karwar Peeth, Maharashtra. Second announcement was that in the village Hallmodi in Taluka Devra of distt. Surat, Bhoomi Poojan for Ram temple will take place on 24th. When both these programmes were announced, the Gujarat Government immediately took note of these developments and tried to get in touch with the leadership of both the sides because the village Haldoi has a divided population of Christians and Hindus totalling 700. Last year, many such incidents occurred in Dang which have just been mentioned by Shri Indrajit ji and after which Mr. Prime Minister had himself gone there. Therefore Gujarat Government was itself careful to avert the repetition of any such occurrence. Therefore, the representatives from both the communities were called and compromise was reached after holding negotiations between them which once again resulted in peaceful atmosphere in the village. It was decided that the meeting which was due to be held on 25th December, will not be held. It was also decided that the site of the temple should not be controversial but one based on consensus of both the communities. The Christian Community too is not against it and I guess that this programme would have been completed peacefully because it was decided to hold it on 22nd instead of 24th. They intervened in the matter and persuaded both the parties to compromise. Programmes free from controversies were held on the basis of compromise. For this they should be applauded, there is no reason to complain over this.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

14.45 hrs.

- (i) **Need for Early Start of Work on Bar Bilara Rail Line in Pali District in Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

SHRI PUSP JAIN (Pali): Pali District in Rajasthan State is my parliamentary constituency. The Jaitaran sub-section in Pali district is a historically important place. On this very land, the historic battle of giri was fought in which Sher Shah Suri had remarked that he could have lost his entire empire for a handful of Bajra. Staunch devotee Meerabai was also born in this land. Record production of Raira, Cumin, chilly and wheat also takes place here. The huge depits of lime stone are also present here. Besides, thousands of people from here daily go to South and North India. It has been the demand of the people of this area for the last fifty years that this area should be linked with a rail line. Earlier, in 1977, the then Minister of Railways had announced for laying Bar-Bilara rail line but till now no work has commenced there.

Through you, I demand from the Union Government to immediately start, the work on Bar-Bilara rail line.

- (ii) **Need to take effective steps to make the Daman Ganga river and nearby areas in Gujarat toxic free.**

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): I would like to draw the attention of the Union Minister for Environment and Forests to the news report in *The Hindustan Times* dated 16.12.1999 about detection of three global toxic hot spots in Gujarat, that is, Ankleshwar Industrial Area in Bharuch district and the Nandesari area of Vadodra district, as observed by the Green Peace International.

It is observed that treated effluents from more than 600 chemical industries are discharged in Daman River. The Green Peace activists had also chained themselves to a ship containing toxic waste which was being brought to the world's largest ship breaking yard at Alang in Bhavnagar district. Three workers at Alang yard are reported to have died on entering a ship's chamber in which leaking carbon monoxide gas had accumulated. Local environmental and social activists have also filed public interest litigation (PIL) which is pending in Gujarat High Court.

The analysis of the soil samples collected from Daman Ganga River bed revealed high toxic contents.

This is a matter of vital public interest and I, therefore, strongly urge Union Government for effective and immediate intervention.

- (III) **Need to provide Better Postal Services in Erandol Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.**

[Translation]

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: There are several villages having more than 3000 population in my constituency Erandol. Despite fulfilling all the conditions for opening post offices, no steps have been taken to open post offices in these villages. The criterion of population is also fulfilled and the survey has already been conducted in this regard. Several reminders have been sent but due to non-initiation of any action the villagers are facing difficulties and there is a resentment among them.

There is a shortage of staff in the existing post-offices. For example in Badhgaon, Pachora, very few postmen are working. People have to face difficulties and there is a resentment among them.

There is a shortage of staff in the existing post-offices. For example in Badhgaon, Pachora, very few postmen are working. People have to face difficulties due to shortage of other staff too. Some facilities are lacking there.

I, therefore, strongly urge Union Government for effective and immediate intervention.

- (iv) **Need to expedite construction of a rail bridge over the river Ganga between Patna and Sonapur in Bihar.**

[English]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): The proposal to construct a rail bridge in Bihar between Patna and Sonapur over the river Ganga has been under consideration and the Railway Ministry has undertaken the survey work. The testing by model preparation is underway at Roorkee, but the slow progress made over the years with respect to the construction of bridge over Ganga is adding to the miseries of North Bihar. There is an immediate need to clear the project and make necessary financial provisions in the next Budget (2000-2001) and transfer the complete work to the newly created Zonal

Headquarter at Hazipur from administrative point of view. The construction of this bridge is also in the strategic defence interest of the country, serving not only North Bihar, but also parts of the North-East bordering China.

- (v) **Need to Accord Early Approval to the Proposal for Installation of hand Pumps in Bihar with the Financial Assistance of World Bank.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first phase of the government tubewell scheme which was implemented with the assistance of World Bank has come to an end on May, 1994. Many schemes taken up under the first phase could not be started as the amount provided by the World Bank was exhausted in May, 1994 itself. A plan has been again put up to the World Bank for providing assistance for the installation of the remaining tubewells which also includes construction of 2000 new government tubewells. The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 1126.68 crore. The scheme has been sent to the Ministry of Water Resources of the Government of India *vide* a letter No. 463 of the State Government dated 17.2.94. The above project is pending before the Ministry of Water Resources Government of India. The Government should expedite the long-pending matter.

- (vi) **Need for Early construction of Ganga Barrage in Kanpur, U.P.**

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue of construction of Ganga Barrage in Kanpur Metropolitan is pending for a long time. Due to non-implementation of this programme, the problem of drinking water in Kanpur city is aggravating day by day. The construction of Ganga barrage is imperative for permanent solution of the problem of drinking water in Kanpur city. Its construction will not only help in resolving the problem of drinking water but will also help in protecting lakhs of acres of fertile land of Unnao district by checking soil erosion caused by Ganga. If soil erosion caused by Ganga is checked, the hydro-electric power House of Kanpur city which is lying closed for many years could be made operational. It will help in solving the power problem of the city.

Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government that the construction of Ganga barrage may be completed at the earliest.

- (vii) **Need to set up Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Aquaculture at Village Sathangudi in Nagapattinam District, Tamil Nadu.**

[*English*]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): In July, 1995, the Union Minister of State for Commerce laid the Foundation Stone for the Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Aquaculture at Village Sathangudi, Tharangambadi Taluka, Nagapattinam District, Tamil Nadu. No work at all has been done in the last four years. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) now proposes to surrender the land that was to be acquired and shift the headquarters from Mayiladuturai to Chennai. In view of the fact that it was MPEDA itself which selected the site and the fact that the Central Brackish Waters Fisheries Institute already has its headquarters in Chennai, I request the Minister for Commerce and Industry to kindly instruct MPEDA to reconsider the decisions of the 14th Executive Committee held on 22.09.1999 with a view to retaining the site and the headquarters at the present location and proceeding with all deliberate speed towards the realisation of the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture so that lakhs of small fishermen living along the Coromandal coast of Tamil Nadu are benefited and the export of Indian marine products diversified and promoted.

- (viii) **Need to lay broad gauge railway line between new Mainaguri and Jogikhopa via Baxirhat, Galakganj, Gouripur Dhubari and Belasipara, West Bengal.**

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Sir the proposed construction of alternative broad gauge rail route from New Mainaguri to Jogikhopa *via* Baxirhat, Galakganj, Gouripur Dhubari, Belasipara project is almost life line of the people of the adjacent area. The people of the area are waiting for a long time and have reached the limit of their patience and have now become restive.

Recently, on 28.3.99, about 40,000 people assembled at Chagolla in a mass rally to raise their voice for immediate taking up of the project.

You are well aware that the area through which the proposed rail route traverses is laden with hard atmosphere of extremist groups. The situation may be out of hand, if the project is not started immediately.

I urge upon the Union Government to look into the matter and to start the project. If it could be started, the economic condition of the area would be abruptly changed and the essential movement by the ultra extremists would automatically come down.

Alternative route through the above area is therefore very important.

(ix) Need to introduce one more shuttle train between Vizag and Kirandal in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Sir, in my constituency Visakhapatnam, there is a very important tourism spot called the Borra caves. There is a heavy traffic to Borra caves and Araku Valley from Visakhapatnam every day. A request was made by the General Secretary, Uttarandra Development Naupad, Visakhapatnam and the Managing Director, Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation also to operate one more shuttle train every day. At present, only one train is running between Vizag and Kirandal touching Borra caves and Araku Valley which is not sufficient to meet the ever-growing traffic demand.

In view of the position explained, I request the hon. Railway Minister to introduce one more shuttle train every day in the above route immediately to help develop tourism in that area.

(x) Need to ensure procurement of entire amount of cotton by agencies in Maharashtra with a view to protect the interests of cotton growers.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has been a record cotton crop this time in Maharashtra. In comparison to the last year, about 16 thousand quintal more cotton has been procured in the State, but due to excess production, the Marketing Federation has no storage capacity. As a result, it had to close many centres and due to which many farmers who had spent thousand of rupees on transportation of cotton have to return without selling it.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take appropriate measures in this regard so that the farmers may not have to incur loss and their interests are protected.

(xi) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Orissa to check the recurrence of flood in the State particularly in the districts of Bhadrak and Balasore.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak): Sir, in the recent floods and cyclone in the districts of Bhadrak and Balasore of Orissa, hundreds of villages situated near the railway

lines between Sabira and Markona Railway Stations of Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railways bore the brunt of the flood water of unprecedented magnitude due to the less drainage of water in the rivers bridges of Kansbans, Pitakalia and Bargodia. Had there been additional spans of these bridges constructed after the cyclone and floods of 1971, the losses of the people living nearby villages could have been minimised. Hence, additional spans may kindly be constructed by the Railway Administration immediately to save the people.

In the National Highway Number 5 in between Soro and Jamujhad, repeatedly there have been breaches caused by these above-mentioned rivers due to less drainage system. The bridge constructed over the river Kansbans is not providing sufficient vent for the flood water to pass. Hence, the additional spans may kindly be constructed to save the people living besides the National Highway No. 5 in this locality.

There have been provided escape points over Kanti Nala on the left side of the river Baitarani under Akhupada irrigation sub division of Jaipur Irrigation Division to provide protections to 15 Gram Panchayats under Bhandari Pokhari and Dham Nagar Panchayat Samitis of Bhadrak district of the State. Because there is an extra gap of 2240 ft. from the Kanti escape to existing irrigation embankment, it causes severe devastation during high floods. Hence, this gap should immediately be closed by constructing earthen embankment or by providing rubble embankment of four feet height. At the same time, the crest level of Kanti escape should be raised by three feet more. This is badly essential to provide protection to the people of the 15 Gram Panchayats.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to provide necessary financial assistance to the Government of Orissa for this purpose.

15.00 hrs.

(xii) Need to clear the proposal of Government of Kerala for release of 100 hectares of forest land for all-round development of Sabarimala Shrine.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): Sir, every year during the festival season from November to January, millions of devotees from all over India, specially from the Southern States visit the Sabarimala shrine. During the last festival season, on 14-1-99, 52 people died in an accident which occurred due to heavy rush, resulting in land slide and stampede. The State Government has sought the permission of the Central Government for the release of 100 hectares of forest land for the developmental works in and around the shrine. To cater

to the well being and security of the pilgrims, certain urgent developmental works are to be taken up. The Government of Kerala has submitted to the Central Government a Master Plan for the development of Sabarimala prepared by the Committee on Environment of the Kerala Legislative Assembly.

The following steps have to be taken for the development of Sabarimala and to solve the difficulties faced by the devotees.

1. Declare Sabarimala as a National Pilgrimage Centre.
2. Construction of parallel roads and widening of existing roads.
3. Improvement of accommodation, transportation, parking and sanitation facilities.
4. Setting up of Base Camps.
5. Setting up of a super speciality hospital to improve health care facilities.
6. Projects for drinking water supply, sewage and garbage disposal.

So, I request the Union Government to take urgent favourable action in this matter and also to accord Central Government clearance for the release of 20 hectares of forest land for the above mentioned developments, as a first step.

15.02 hrs.

COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now let us take up Item No. 18. The time allotted for this Bill is one hour.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Act of 1957 was very good Act in itself. It was working very well, but after the signing of TRIP agreement, it has become necessary to make some amendments in it, because, according to WTO and TRIP agreements, as India is also among its signatories, it has become essential to make some amendments in this regard. I am glad to say that some of the amendments are wordy and some amendments in this bill are aimed at benefiting the literateurs, artists and other people working in Doordarshan and films.

15.03 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

Therefore, I understand all the amendments in the Act, which are introduced through this bill could be easily passed. It has got an amendment which is wordy, it means that where 'data basis' is written, it should be replaced by 'data bases'. This correction has become essential, because definition has changed. After that, amendment is being made in Article 14-B of it. According to it, computer programmes will not be included in it. The computer programmes are not the essential part of the original programme in which they are installed. For example, you hired a car. It is an equipment in itself. The car has got computer programmes installed in it. But you have hired the car, not computer programmes. In this situation, we can remove computer programmes from it. Similarly at present the rights of the artists are limited upto 25 years. This Bill seeks to extend this period to 50 years. Similarly, there are certain countries which do not provide those rights to our artists and broadcasting organisations, which we give to them. we will try that if they do not give national rights to our artists and broadcasting organisations, we will also not give them the same. If they are giving us national rights, and are dealing us at national level, we will do same to them and therefore, we have added new section 40 A to it. Similarly, the scope of decompilation of computer programme has been widened. These amendments are of very general nature. An amendment has also been given in regard to extending the period of copyright from 50 years to 60 years for our literateurs. There is nothing in these amendments which goes against the interest of the artists and literateurs, or our interests. There is no such intervention which might go against our interest under WTO. It is an amendment to a law which is very much in the interest of our country. Therefore, I understand, there will be no difficulty in passing of this bill. Therefore, we have to keep in view that there is an international pressure on us and for proper implementation of these agreements we have to pass this bill before 31st December. We have to amend these laws before January 1, 2000. The previous Government had signed it and for that, amendment is required in these laws. I feel that these amendments are in the interest of the country and I would like to request the House to pass it unanimously.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dated 22.12.99.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Mr. Chairperson, Sir, welcoming a few amendments which the hon. Minister want to carry out in view of the WTO requirement, I want to invite his attention to the fact that while we are protecting the rights of the authors and poets etc., who are alive today, we must go back to many years in our history where famous personalities like Meera, Raidas, Kabir and Narsi Mehta have also written poems and many articles about our country and about our *sanskriti*. Now, it is experienced that in our own cinema field, authors are making only some changes in the songs written by our Saints and *Mahatmas* and giving in their own name, earning credit and money. The Government should think about protecting the rights of our own Saints and *Mahatmas*. While protecting the rights of present authors and *sahityakars* — extending the time limit to 50 years or 60 years is not the only solution — we should not forget that there are many languages in our country. Suppose, an author from Kerala writes a book or a poem, he has no control over other Indian languages. The Government should have a machinery and they should see to it that once a book or a poem or something is written in one language, it should not be copied within the country. If somebody translates a book or a poem written in Malayalam, maybe, into Gujarati and gives his own name, what is the *modus operandi* with the Government to protect the rights of the authors in regional languages in our country?

[Translation]

A poet writes a poem but he did not get benefit thereof whereas other people all over the world translate his poem.

[English]

The Government should find out a solution to this particular problem, and there should be a Central Agency which would collect the books written in all the Indian languages. If an author applies for a copyright, then that information should be fed, and the Government should exercise its control. The rights of authors should be protected. This is the only submission from my side.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. From 1952 Bern Convention to 1995 WTO Round, as a consequence of the Uruguay Round, we have come a long way.

Sir, when we have come a long way from Bern to WTO signature in 1995, many things have taken different shapes and so that Copyright Act must also take a different shape. My hon. friends in this august House would know that copyright mostly relates to and extends upto cultural activities of the country in literature, fine arts, music, painting, dancing, drama, sculpture, architecture and the vehicles of this culture. Whatever are the vehicles of this culture are related to the Copyright Act. Over the years, many other things have been added to it. It is mentioned in Section 38 of the Copyright Act that many other things have also been added taking into consideration the availability of creative genius, like the dream merchants produced the Doordarshan episode and such other matters had to be taken into account in the Copyright Act.

Sir, as you would know, the WTO has had three aspects. One was the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade; the second was the General Agreement on Trade in Services; and the third was the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). When we think of the Copyright Act, we mostly have to think of the TRIPS. Now, what are the matters that the TRIPS has to think about? The hon. Minister has said that the TRIPS has to take into account as to how the countries should protect the rights of the international community so far as the property rights are concerned and as to how the matter has to be settled or the disputes are to be settled. There might be some transitional agreements relating to TRIPS. These are the matters which are being taken into account at this juncture in this Bill.

Sir, in supporting this Bill, I must say that we have travelled a long way and in travelling a long way we have acquired other properties which are tangible and which are not tangible. All these aspects would have to be taken into account. The tangible properties would have to be taken into account and the intangible properties also would have to be taken into account.

Sir, the two amendments that we have had earlier. The last amendment, I think, was in 1994, where we had added some intangible properties. We had added computers earlier. But the process of computers, the data base and all other such matters relating to computers are very complicated and have been getting into a lot of developed ideas. So, when we are thinking of the Copyrights Act *vis-a-vis* the TRIPS agreement, we have to change it at different places so as to adjust ourselves to the requirements of the international organisations. Now, as the hon. Minister has said, some of the properties become the domain of the public after a few years. In some cases where it was 50 years, it has now become

60 years. It was 25 years in some cases, now after this amendment it would become 50 years in some cases. It has been indicated in this Amendment Bill. But we have to take into account the requirements of this country, of this society and also the people who are here. At the same time we have to think of international commitments.

Sir, that is why, a measure of safeguard has to be inducted into the Copyright Amendment Act. I think, more is not possible now because of the transitional phase. Those safeguards can come later. The immediate requirement, as has been indicated in the Bill, is regarding the data base. Only the words 'data base' has been made into plural in this Bill.

Sir, so far as the translations are concerned, I think, this TRIPS may not be of any help to the literary authors of India. There are many authors in India and as we all know, the writers in India are a poor lot and royalty also is very limited. As my predecessor has said that there is a lot of plagiarism in the fields of writing, music and even in architecture. Although we may say that there is no copying in architecture, but there is, in fact, copying in architecture as well.

So when we are thinking of any translation, we have to think of the public domain so far as India is concerned, and the persons who are associated with it must be given a little bit of help so as to see that in the international level, they are not marginalised or neglected.

Broadcasting, microfilming, litho photography and movie cinemas have come a long way in India. And, in movie cinemas, talkies, we are very adapt in copying from outside. After this Amendment, and after we have signed the TRIP Agreements, there will be a lot of difficulties for our dream merchants to cope up with the problems that they have to face. That is their way of facing the problems.

But my contention here is that we have to obey the enormous international obligations that have come to us, and we must cope up with these things. But so far as the Copyright Act itself is concerned, it is observed more in violation than in adherence. Those people who are genius, those who have some originality and write a book or create music, they do not get any sort of protection from the Government. We have to think about them. Whenever we are thinking of an Amendment, we have to think of stringent provisions. Then, there is Civil Procedures in dealing with copyright but the punishment given is only 3 years, and Rs. 50,000 as fine. That is nothing. Although these things are not within the ambit of the Amendment that is being placed today but I would urge the Government to think that some more stringent

provisions could be enforced or could be enacted so as to prevent any sort of plagiarism or any sort of copying in flagrant violation of the Copyright Act.

About the amendments which have been indicated, Clause 42(a) is a very vital amendment which has been proposed, and it requires an immediate approval of the House. It has already been approved by the Rajya Sabha, and now, it requires the approval of this House. Clause 42 would be very important because of broadcasting organizations and performances. And, it is related to the trade and properties.

So, with these few words, I support this Bill.

SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Respected Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party, CPI(M), I stand here to oppose this Amendment. They have said that 'this Amendment to Copyright Act is a guided amendment. It is not an amendment which has been proposed by our Government'.

In the Statements of Objects and Reasons it is also written:

"India is a signatory to the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. As per Article 14 of the Agreement, the term of protection available to performers shall last at least until the end of a period for fifty years computed from the end of the calendar year in which the performance took place..."

The Copyright was for 25 years. It is very good that we extend it to 50 years or 100 years. The Copyright was for 50 years. It is very good that we extend it to 60 years. But what is the relation of the Amendment to Copyright with TRIPS so far as our Indian intellectual property is concerned? I come to the point of relation. The relation lies not in New Delhi. But the relation lies somewhere outside our country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, our respected colleagues sitting on your right and left, both of them, have surrendered to some foreign countries.

I quote from the 'Economic Times' of 4th May, 1998, New Delhi edition:

"The United States has named India in Special 301 priority watch list."

We are in the watch list of the United States and we are an independent and sovereign country feeling pride of everything in us. So, a foreign country is bold enough to declare us as a country in the watch list. In continuation of the above quotation, it is stated as follows and I quote:

[Shri Swadesh Chakraborty]

"The Clinton administration has placed 13 other countries and the European Union of the list, US Trade representative Charlene Barshefsky said yesterday. India's Patent and Trade Mark laws continue to fall well short of providing adequate and effective protection."

To whom our laws give protection? Our law has to protect our country. Our law does not need to protect the US interests. So, US Trade representative has the audacity, I would rather say, to state that Indian law falls well short of providing adequate and effective protection.

"India has enacted modern Copyright legislation, but improvements continue to be necessary in the enforcement area."

The Amendment Bill by our HRD Minister is not a proposal from his Department or his own concern. It is a proposal which is guided by US State representative Chairman Barshefsky. And what is the result? He has directed us in the year, 1998 to move the amendment of Copyright for the interest of the US industries or other trading communities.

There was a convention in New Delhi on this Copyright Act. While inaugurating the convention, Justice S.B. Wad (retired) said:—

"The world has gone through three ages *i.e.* of wisdom, valour and commerce. In the present business-oriented age, even the field of knowledge is dominated by Goddess Lakshmi who has taken it over from her counterpart Goddess Saraswati, the imparters of knowledge and arts."

My respected HRD Minister is a worshipper of Goddess Saraswati. Why should he go for worshipping Goddess Lakshmi? He is an educated and respected man. Where lies the relation? Apparently it seems that this Copyright Amendment is for the interest of my own country. But I feel as a patriot, as a Bengali, as a proud Indian, that this Copyright Amendment Act is against the interest of my country because it is guided by US State Administration and bodies to the conditions of WTO. Have they been able to do it in all other countries.

Has the United States been able to promulgate their Acts and rules forcing other countries into the WTO list? ...*(Interruptions)*

What is the position with regard to other countries? I now quote from *The Financial Express* dated the 6th May, 1996 (New Delhi Edition):

"The White House and business groups are gearing up for a major push this month to renew China's favourable trading status, even as Washington proposes to impose sanctions in a dispute over copyright piracy."

In the name of copyright piracy, they wanted to put conditions on China. But China refused to budge and Washington had to give the MFN status in relation to trade to China. When China has the courage and boldness to say, 'We are not going to abide by your dictation', our Government and our respected friends sitting on your right and left have signed off the sovereignty and integrity of the country. That is why I stand to object to this amendment.

The real purpose of this amendment is not to protect the interest of our country or our writers or our performers or our cultural organizations. It has been written clearly in clause 42(a), 'If it appears to the Central Government that a foreign country does not give or has not undertaken to give adequate protection to rights of broadcasting organizations or performers..., the Government shall not give the necessary protection.' In the same page, clause 40 (a) (5) states, 'In the case of ownership of rights of broadcasting organizations and performers the provisions of Chapter VIII shall apply with such exceptions and modifications as the Central Government may, having regard to the law of the foreign country, consider necessary.'

So, why are we thinking of imposing some control over the foreign agencies who want to pirate our intellectual property? We are putting in the Act that we are to abide by the Acts of the foreign countries. Is there not a basic contradiction? The cat is now out of the bag. What is the real intention of this amendment?

I stand to oppose it. We oppose it but we know that our opposition will not stand in this House. We know that with their brute majority, my respected colleagues sitting on your left and right, will pass it by vote. But I appeal to the patriotism in all the Indians present here. I appeal to the nationality of all Indians present here to think twice, before they go by the dictum of their Parties, whether we will save the intellectual integrity and sovereignty of our country or not.

We have signed off many things.

In the name of WTO and such other things, we have surrendered our economy our underground treasurers. The point is, our intellectuals, right from Mira Bai, Rabindra Nath Tagore and Satyajit Ray, have produced quality literature, cinema and films of international standard. Now, in the garb of protecting the Indian interest, the Government seeks to bring an amendment which will be in the interest of US traders and US industry. That is why, we oppose it. I feel, if you compare any Indian product for its value and quality, it will always be richer than its counter-product in foreign countries. I will conclude my speech with a quotation from great Rabindra Nath Tagore:

Jania Tor Dhan Raton Achey Kina Ranir Maton
Shudhu Jani Mor Ango Juday Gela Tomar Koler
Kachary.

"I do not know whether you have the treasures of an empress, but I feel relieved when I lie on your lap."

I am proud, we are born in this country. I am proud to be born in mother India. I am proud to be born as an Indian. I am proud to die as an Indian, an Indian of an independent India and not the India which my friends on your right or left want to make it. With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): I will make a brief submission about the Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 1999.

Sir, section 40 of the Amendment Bill aims at protecting the broadcasting organisation and performers from foreign country. We are benefited by the broadcasting organisation and the performers. What Copyright are we going to impose on our organisation? How either our performers or the films are being protected from exhibited in a broadcasting organisation outside the world? It aims at protecting the broadcasting corporation and performers as if they have performed in India. It is in respect of the territorial jurisdiction or the global jurisdiction. No doubt, it aims at the globalisation of the broadcasting organisation and the performers but it shall apply to broadcasting organisations whose headquarters is situated in a country to which the order relates or the broadcast was transmitted from a transmitter situated in a country to which the order relates as if the headquarters of such organisation were situated in India or such broadcast were made from India.

This creates a doubt in our mind. It is our feeling that our films after being directed and produced by our Indian Directors and Producers, are first transported or exported to foreign country and the first viewers of our films will either be in the Gulf, Singapore or other Asian countries. We are not able to protect our producers, directors and artists. The market in India falls down because before coming here our films are being exhibited in foreign countries.

It is being video-taped; it is being sold in the market there; it is also being imported into India. Our films have been transported to foreign countries, video-taped and they are coming back as if they have been produced in those countries. Where is the protection for this kind of infringement of right? If it is a local Copyright violation, Section 40 of the principal Act will govern it. But there is a flagrant violation, there is a usual violation and there is an ordinary violation in today's Indian film industry.

Section 42A says:

"If it appears to the Central Government that a foreign country does not give or has not undertaken to give adequate protection to rights of broadcasting organisations or performers, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, direct that such of the provisions of this Act as confer right to broadcasting organisations or performers, as the case may be, shall not apply to broadcasting organisations or performers..."

This provision will not have local relevance. No doubt, it is to protect the Intellectual Property Rights. No doubt, India is a party to WTO. No doubt, right from 1957 this Copyright Act has not protected the broadcasting organisations and performers. But, after the signing of the WTO Agreement, will it protect the Indian performers and the Indian broadcasting corporations? Normally, before we get our news through AIR, people are able to get the news from BBC. Before the telecasting is done in the local TV, foreign TVs collect and disseminate information. So, as such this Bill is aimed at protecting the rights of the broadcasting organisations. Though it is a welcome measure, though it is an advance measure, though it is a needed measure today, there should be an enforcement mechanism to protect the Indian interest in the broadcasting organisation.

Yet another thing is, yesterday only we deliberated on the Prasar Bharati Act as to what are its shortcomings, whether it should be there at all, etc. In the same way, we have an autonomous corporation that we needed. We want an autonomous corporation. Are the broadcasting organisations in those foreign countries independent

[Shri P.H. Pandiyan]

themselves? Are they subjected to Government control? Do they belong to individuals? In Malaysia and Singapore the position is totally different. Some TVs take films here; they go to Philippines or Singapore and telecast them from that place. So, the law of that country will not apply to them. The local laws will apply to these broadcasting corporations. So, I appeal to the Minister for Human Resource Development - it needs no human resource - to look into this aspect.

Sections 40A and 42A are inserted to honour our commitment at WTO. It is beneficial to the nation, I know. But, whether this amendment is going to protect our future generation, the future of our country for another 25 years, is the big question. You have signed it for 50 years. From twenty-five years, the words 'fifty years' shall be substituted — amendment No. 38. Within twenty-five years where are we? What is the fate of our country?

What is the protection that we are going to get from other countries? So, I appeal to the Government - the Minister is here - to put certain safeguards. We have not moved any amendment because WTO agreement is there. We are not going to oppose it. We are not against the Agreement. We want the Agreement and those amendments. We want India to be developed. We want India to be a powerful nation and to compete with other countries. But these safeguards should have been incorporated in sections 40 (a) and 42 (a).

So, I appeal to the Minister to protect our Indian broadcasting agencies, to protect our Indian film industry, to protect our Indian performing artistes, Indian artists and Indian culture, not to be exploited by any other foreign country and not to be benefited by those countries. In whatever we do, we should eat the cake. We are not here to make the pound-cake and they are not there to eat the cake. So, I appeal the Minister to incorporate these suggestions or at least amend the Statement of Objects and Reasons and protect the nation from violation of copyright by any other foreign broadcasting corporation or agency.

With these words, I support the Bill as it is in the interest of the country and as we also want to go on a global line.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak. Man cannot live only on food. Music, dance and reading are also equally important for human beings. There had been a poet namely Daneshwar in Maharashtra. Poet Kusumraj Agraj lived

in Nasik. I would like to recite one of his Marathi poems. He had said:

Jaa swasanu vayusange
Oladuni bhiti,
Ann aalla Kadwa Aamchi,
Hirdayati lakhant,
Sangawe ki tusi chawade hya Andharaat,
Maate tula Karati aakhichya,
Pranipaati.'

15.42 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN *in the Chair*)

He had said that Indrajit range is a wall demolish that wall and proclaim that we will fight till we are alive. Such great poets had born in our country. There had been a great man by the name of Belaben. All the people went to Rana Pratap Singh for protection but he did not go because he had a cow and he said loudly before that cow, "Ranaji do not go to bow your head before Akbar." Such good and great poets, singers and dancers had born in India. We should think over about it. Two three members who spoke before me had said something very good. I have not risen to support this Bill. I have risen to oppose this Bill. It appears to me that this Bill is meant to distort the true culture of India. I am of the view that still there are good people in rural areas. Maharashtra State has provided them facilities. It is a good sign that you intend to give them facilities through this Bill. But I request that the poets and dancers in the rural areas should also be organised and protection should be given to them. With these words I oppose this Bill.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while introducing this Bill, the hon'ble Minister had claimed that the government are going to increase the period of copy right from 25 years to 50 years. It appears that sympathy towards the writers and artists has suddenly overflowed in the heart of these people but it is not so.

Though I am concerned about it, I was not eager to speak on this subject. But in view of the statements made by the hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development against the Dunkel proposal and World Trade Organisation I am compelled to speak. I have not brought the record with me otherwise I would have read out it in the House...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I suggest that you must read them.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have not brought the record with me but I would like you to remind you that he was totally against it. Shri Joshiji and Shri George Fernandesji were dead against the WTO. The intellectuals and economists of the country were of the view that joining the W.T.O. would be detrimental to the interests of the country.

It includes Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMS) and (GATTS) General Agreement on Trade in Services. In the statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill he has said that this Bill has been brought under compulsion of clause 14 of the W.T.O. agreement. How can we support such a Bill. He has not claimed that he is implementing this because of our freedom and high thinking and ideals. He has brought it as per the W.T.O. agreement which he has been opposing all along and had been saying that it was a danger before us.

The patent law is related to Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights and the Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Maran is present here and he has opposed this move in Seattle. Despite this he will bring a Bill to enact law regarding Trade mark and Copy Rights. All this is being done according to the W.T.O. agreement. Today he is posing himself as a well wisher of the Artists.

In our country, there have been many luminaries in the field of art. The great poet Kalidas wrote epics like 'Abhigyan Shakuntalam' and 'Raghuvansham'. The learned people say that dramas and other literary creations of Shakespeare have influence of Kalidas, though there is difference of opinion on this point whether Shakespeare was of the calibre of Kalidas. Epics like Ramacharitmanas of the great poet Tulsidas, Mahabharat, Geeta and Geetanjali of Ravi Babu had been written in this country. Was there copyright at that time? It has been propagated in and outside the country that you are taking measures to protect the interests of artists, therefore I strongly oppose it. It is being done under pressure from WTO and not in the interest of the country. Under instructions from WTO, they are trying to endanger the sovereignty of the country, though it may not be their own intention. Charge of Ministry brings duplicity in behaviour and speech of a person. I am amazed to see that they are trying to ring forward such bills to enact law which suits the requirements of foreign developed and powerful countries to demoralise our own people. Not only this Bill but the bill relating to trademarks and geography will also be brought. This is the conspiracy of WTO and its danger is growing in all the fields. The people engaged in small scale industries are also disturbed as imported goods are being sold at cheaper rates. That day Nitishji was also lamenting that import of skimmed milk powder could not be stopped. Farmers are also suffering due to import of foreign product.

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi): The bill regarding import of milk was passed during the tenure of your Government in 1995-96.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not have direct talks. Address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member cannot raise it like that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: First, you should get permission from the Chairman.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; you cannot raise a matter in the House like that. Why should I sit here?

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It was not imported in 1995-96 or in 1996-97. 16½ lakh tonne of skimmed milk powder was imported in 1998. Why import duty on milk is not being increased as has been done recently in the case of wheat. I have apprehensions that they may be having some sort of alliance with them but we will raise the voice of the farmers, the poor, labourers and the exploited class in this House. This country belongs to 100 crore people. I have said it earlier also that 1/6th population of the world lives here. WTO will try to create differences amongst us. It has been stated here that if we come out of WTO it will harm the interests of the country. But it is not so. WTO cannot function without the presence of India. You should speak on behalf of 100 crore people. A conference is going to be held there and Maranji should speak and work for protecting the interests of our countrymen. He need not succumb to the pressure of anyone. You must do something for the protection of the poor people of India. But I am not very hopeful that they will do something. I am afraid they will succumb under pressure.

I would like to tell Pilotji to look into the economic matters. The economic policy of the country is being decided by big capitalists and the affluent class. A mention has been made about Ambani and Bajaj here. This Government has given them the charge of economic matters. Such persons cannot take care of common man.

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL: You should admit that the decision regarding milk was taken during the tenure of your government.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: He is correct, this decision was taken in 1998...*(Interruptions)* Open import policy for what was introduced when Government of our party was in power but we did not import wheat and your Government imported wheat.

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL: Not the Government but the agencies engaged in the milk trade have imported skimmed milk powder.

(English)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I disallow it.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the procedure. Kindly address the Chair.

(Translation)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mother Dairy is under the Government and it has imported. The imports were not made during that regime, it has been made in this regime. The capitalists and the multinationalists have been reaping huge profits in this regime. They say that for them there is nothing to fear. The rich are becoming more rich in their rule. This will not benefit the hard working farmers and the poor of this country. Hon'ble Minister, Sir, you have participated in Swadeshi movement and protested against Dunkel and WTO. You must remember that also. The copyright Bill and trade mark design Bill are being brought on the instructions of WTO. I wish to say that we would not let any Bill be passed which is dictated by WTO. We would oppose them. Any measure that endangers the dignity and identity of this country would be strongly opposed.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have heard the debate on this Bill very carefully. Just now the hon'ble Member who was speaking, gave a very exciting speech but he did

not have any depth in his views. Had he thrown some insights into the debate I would have been happy. Merely speaking loudly does not prove a thing true, it requires certain logic and essence.

First I would like to say that a point has been raised that an author sometimes does not know that his work is being translated into various languages, which is a violation of copyright. Now we are taking steps in this direction. We are making efforts to see that copyright office is computerised and other inputs are provided for this purpose. Otherwise also permission of author is necessary if his work is translated. If any work of an author is translated without the knowledge of that author, it amounts to a violation of copyright. The government cannot give assurance to every writer that if any of his work is translated. If any work of an author is translated then he will be informed about that. The government cannot do this. But government would make arrangement to apprise people of what work belong to which writer and if that work is translated in any other language without the consent of the writer concerned, then that writer would be made aware of it. But the action has to be taken by the writer himself/herself because the work belongs to him/her only.

Sir, the copyright belongs to writer and not to government. We are trying to strengthen the copyright office. I assure you that you need not worry about this. This arrangement will be made. I myself, had inspected the copyright offices. They have not been reformed and strengthened since their inception. The problems will be rectified and the steps are being taken for that.

Secondly, it has also been pointed out that violation of copyright is taking place in the field of cultural activities and architecture etc. As the purview of copyright widens we would try to enact laws to meet those requirements. If complaints are lodged and grievances are brought to our notice, more steps would be taken to deal with cases of copyright. But today there is no need for it because there is no such complaints. Just now one of my friend has said that due to copyright our film industry will be in trouble - it is possible. It is true that once we restrict the rights of other countries, our own right would be subjected to those restrictions. Therefore, there is no need to worry about that. We should understand that Section 42-A has been misinterpreted. Actually this is the only additional security being given to the writers of our country. It is two sided. It will be in the interest of both. If those people indulge in violation of copyright they would surely be punished because now we are bound by multilateral agreements and not by bi-lateral agreements. Only American writers are not involved in this. There are 134 countries who are members of WTO and many countries like China would like to become its member. The countries which were not member of WTO till now, are also trying to become its member. My friend had opposed strongly...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister conclude his speech.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: China is trying to get into it...*(Interruptions)* An issue was raised that we had opposed it. Yes, we had opposed. I remember all my speeches and when this was being opposed throughout the country at that time I was saying to the whole country not to accept it but when the country has accepted it, when government has signed this treaty the responsibility has been shifted to our country.

16.00 hrs.

Now you cannot take the stand that we had opposed. Today the country has signed an international treaty and it is not possible to back out. If the Parliament decides to back out then the situation will be different but today we are the signatory of TWO agreement, whether you accept it or not. It is very easy to say that WTO should be opposed but now the time to do is over. We were opposing it but became unsuccessful and the country has accepted it. What can we do? Everybody has accepted it too. Now there is a need to adopt a positive attitude. Now the point is as to how to make best use of it so that country may not suffer loss. I would like to assure hon'ble Member Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh that no one can hurt the interest of India till this government is in power. Shri Maran Saheb is seated here. What was the attitude of government in Seattle. I am a part of that government and so is Shri George Saheb then we will definitely project the viewpoint of our country. It is for the first time that the case of India was put so strongly at Seattle in USA. All the countries of the world have appreciated this and supported our stand. You may speak anything here but our Maran Saheb has presented his views in a very balanced manner. I would like to tell you that today the economy of the world is very complicated from which we have to rescue not only our country but also other countries of the world. It is misleading to say that we are enacting this law under the dictates of some other country.

It is mentioned in the objectives of the Bill as to why we are bringing this Bill today. There is no doubt that an agreement which is reached under Intellectual Property Rights and WTO, have some obligations. If we do not follow those obligations then several sanctions will be imposed and we will have to face lot of difficulties. You will have to face several difficulties from commercial point of view. Therefore, you will have to take decision to effect such amendment in the said law and you will have to

fulfil the international commitments and agreements. Just now it has been said here that it is not in the interest of country and it is being protested since it is in compliance of WTO agreement. It has also been said that an American official has given this statement that.

[English]

"India is on the watchlist."

When we conducted nuclear test at that time also we were in watchlist. India is in the watchlist but this does not mean that we are doing anything under the pressure. We were threatened. It was also said that since we have developed atomic bomb they will impose sanctions upon us and will not allow our scientists to work in their organisations. At that time I had said in this House that if they impose sanctions on our science and technology and if they expel any of our scientists then I will provide facilities to all our scientists *i.e.* security, job and facilities to work in laboratories. I am happy to inform this House that only one scientist has returned to India and that too because his term was expired and the remaining scientists are still working there. Today neither America nor any other country of the world can dare to expel our scientists. Today our scientists are not at the mercy of any country. Today foreign scientists are approaching us to enter into contract with us. They are ready to work on the mutual understanding. They are ready to send their scientists to work here on exchange basis.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the scenario is changing. This I can assure that in the coming millennium India would enjoy such reputation and prestige which it never enjoyed before. You would soon see the outcome of the efforts being made by NDA Government under the leadership of Shri Vajpayee.

We do not keep changing like this. Just now one member has said that we are doing all this under pressure of other countries and we are imitating others—it is not our habit. It is the habit of those people who had changed the colonial war into people's war overnight. The communist party, which was backing some forces of this country and fighting against the Britishers suddenly changed its stand and started supporting the British rule. At that time, they used to all Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as dog of Tojo. They should remember this...*(Interruptions)* They should understand that they used to talk about communism in India on the line of communism in Russia. Once a comrade was sitting under a 'Pandaal' with a unfolded umbrella over his head and when somebody asked him as to why he was sitting like this, he replied that:

[Shri Murl Manohar Joshi]

[English]

"Don't you know it is raining in Moscow?"

[Translation]

When there was rain in Moscow, the Communist in India used to unfold their umbrellas. It is their mentality to imitate the people of other countries of the world. This government and its allies function according to our circumstances and our culture and they are committed to safeguard it. I would like to tell that...(Interruptions) You need not worry. I have been told that there should be protection with regard to Mir, Meera, Kabir, Sur, Tagore and all others.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF (Bangalore, North): I want one small clarification.

[English]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, please sit down. He is not yielding.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Mr. Chairman, when you were there, they were yielding to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different thing.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am not yielding.

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Why?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: That is my right. At the moment, I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, please sit down. He is not yielding. After the reply is over, you can seek clarification?

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: After the reply, what will be the use of it? It is relevant only now...(Interruptions) He has said that a large number of people from other countries are coming here to share our knowledge, and the country has reached a stage that it need not depend on others. Is it the result of the *tapassya* of all these years or just three months after he took over?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Yes, of course, it is the contribution of every Government, it is the contribution of people of India that now we have reached this stage.

[Translation]

Why are you so perturbed?

MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): Jaffer Sharief Saheb, why you are having inferiority complex?

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Why you are thinking that you have no contribution in this. First atomic explosion was conducted during the Indrajit regime. What happened. You must know this...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Joshiji has said as to which government took decision in the interest of country which he should have not said. Whichever party was in power had given priority to country's interest. Whether it may be who so ever was in power...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to remind that on the golden jubilee celebrations of India's freedom, I made a film in which I have depicted the great contributions of all the Prime Ministers of the country. Therefore, you cannot hurt this allegation against me. I was talking about the contribution of other governments, till now the governments which were in power...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): It is not that he has done some favour. It is the part of the history...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please confine to the Copyright Bill.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please sit down. Some are copyrights of the Congress and some are the copyrights of the BJP. That is all.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Dasmunshiji, please listen attentively, whenever your party is in power, you totally ignore the views of other parties. Your party do not want to listen even their problems also...(Interruptions) Please pay attention towards this also. We have decided to extend financial assistance to the cooperatives for

copyright whereby the rights of writers can be safeguarded. This amendment is being made so that our law could become tenable at international level. I would like to assure you that this is such a Bill which does not hurt the interests of the country. About any other Bill, you can find out some drawbacks. But in this Bill you will find that it has no drawback. We have considered every field in this. Therefore, I feel that in order to protect the rights of artists, producers and writers so that there may not be any dispute, the House will pass this Bill unanimously. The writers have to face many difficulties in proper follow up of the procedure in case of any dispute. They cannot fight these cases as they lack resources. Therefore, this law has been enacted keeping this point in view, it has also been enacted to respect international agreements and in the interests of artists and writers. Hence, I urge to pass this Bill unanimously.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Copyright Act, 1957, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed"

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.12 hrs.

TRADE MARKS BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, Shri Murasoli Maran may move the Trade Marks Bill for consideration. Time allotted is 2 hours.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration and better protection of trade marks of goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the proposal before this House to consider the repeal and replacement of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 and to enact a new legislation to be called the Trade Marks Bill, 1999 is part of the Government's initiative to modernize the laws relating to intellectual property and make them more user-friendly. The law relating to the registration and protection of Trade Marks in India is the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act of 1958. In the four decades since the statute came into force, the Act has not been amended even once.

The proposed legislation seeks to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks in order to provide for the registration and better protection of trade marks for goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks. Market conditions, presently prevailing in India, have undergone a radical change. Most importantly, there has been a demand from the industry to modify the present legislation in line with the requirements of the trade and the need to protect consumers against new forms of fraudulent merchandise. Hence the need to replace the existing Bill. As it is a replacement Bill, the Act of 1958 will stand repealed and replaced by this Bill.

The proposed Bill seeks to introduce protection for registration of trade marks for services in addition to goods. It also seeks to extend protection for well-known trade marks and to do away with the system for registration in Part A and B and to provide for a single computerised register with a simplified procedure for registration with equal rights. The Bill also seeks to introduce protection for registration of collective marks

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[Shri Murasoli Maran]

owned by associations. It further seeks to provide for an Appellate Board for the speedy disposal of appeals and rectification of application which presently lie before the High Court.

We need to provide adequate protection for our own commerce, trade and industry to prosper in a competitive world and we should not be the ones losing benefits and protection for want of proper legislation.

The proposed legislation will provide a simplified and more accessible framework for the administration of trademark law and also protect commercial and consumer interests. It also provides for reciprocal protection of Indian trademarks from all countries.

A Trademarks Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in April, 1993. It was referred to the Departmentally-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, which presented its report in April, 1994. All the recommendations of the Committee were accepted by the Government and necessary amendments were incorporated while passing the Bill in the Lok Sabha on May 29, 1995. The Bill lapsed on account of the dissolution of the Tenth Lok Sabha. This Bill is therefore the same as the Bill of 1995. However, on the suggestion of the Ministry of Law, some changes from the drafting point of view and change in the composition of the appellate body have been incorporated. Other than these, there are no changes in this Bill. Therefore, I seek the unanimous support of this august House in considering the Trade Marks Bill, 1999.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration and better protection of trade marks of goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry that Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi is not here at the moment.

I thank the present Government of India first for the inconsistency when they were in the Opposition and also the inconsistency when they are now in the Treasury Benches. When this piece of legislation was brought in during the Narasimha Rao Government in 1995, it was opposed by our distinguished friends who are now sitting in the Treasury Benches. Similar was the case to the Copyright Bill, which was opposed tooth and nail by the distinguished Members of the Treasury Benches. Anyway, belated wisdom has come to them and they have realised that what the Congress did was correct. Therefore, they

have now changed their words. I thank their late wisdom and also feel pity for the inconsistency in their approach.

This piece of legislation has been brought in by your Government now. I have nothing much to speak but I have to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a few things because the issues are very much involved in the Ministry that he is heading.

First, I take up the case of Darjeeling Tea and Assam Tea. The hon. Minister will agree with me that the logo for Darjeeling Tea was introduced during 1984-89 by the Rajiv Gandhi Government to earn more foreign exchange. There were efforts made in this country to copy the trade mark, the logo and the whole thing in a very clandestine manner and to sell the different kinds of spurious tea as Darjeeling Tea outside India, especially in the Middle-East. It was brought to the notice of the Commerce Minister at that time, he looked into it carefully and said, 'Certain provisions are to be linked up with our trade mark concept.' Similarly, Assam Tea has a different kind of brand, logo and smell. It was also earning better prices both in the domestic and international markets. Attempts were made in our domestic tea industry, especially by those who wanted to sell tea in the Middle-East and Gulf areas, to copy that.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister regarding the provisions of clause 115. Unfortunately, I was not in the Tenth Lok Sabha. I would have pointed out that there was a lapse. I am sorry that the Government did not look into that carefully. The Government is in a hurry to pass the Bill. What is that lapse?

Under the Copyright Bill, a sub-inspector is to take cognizance of the case and to prepare the documentation so far as police investigation is concerned. Here, in the Trade Marks Bill, under clause 115, any police officer not below the rank of Deputy-Superintendent of Police is the authorized person. I will leave the question before the hon. Minister. Now, consumerism has grown fifteen more times than it was supposed to be.

Because of the opening up of our economy, the consumerism will go right down to the village in a wider scope of the market. All the companies, be it within India or outside, will come and compete or overlap with each other. Suppose, in a village or a tehsil of Gujarat, a block of West Bengal or a sub-divisional town of Uttar Pradesh, if such complaints come, who will investigate them? In each district, at the present moment, there are not more than two or three Deputy Superintendents of Police. One is engaged to maintain the law and order. Other is engaged to monitor the judicial cases and the

third one is engaged just to compensate the S.P. in case he is out of station. The Government has taken away these trade mark matters from the sub-inspector because the big companies and such other groups will find it more convenient to avoid the jurisdiction. One has first to lodge the complaint, bring it to the knowledge of the administration and then the DSP goes. Do you think it proper for a DSP from the headquarters to go to a tehsil to do all these things? In the Copyright, it has been left to the sub-inspector of police but in trademark, the volume of which is more than the copyright, it has been left with the DSP.

I am not at all proposing any amendment either on my own or on behalf of my party. The Government can pass the Bill as it is but it can have a wider discussion in the ministry with experts in the field. Possibly, this is a provision which will give a lot of chance to those who are deliberately violating the trademark obligations and are carrying on their trade. Such people will never be brought to the net. Since the sub-inspector is not in its jurisdiction, I am not talking of the honest sub-inspector but a dishonest sub-inspector, he will make them thrive as he likes. They are not accountable to take cognizance of these things unless a DSP comes to the scene. In a town called Ahmedabad, Cannanore or in a district of Darjeeling, it will be very difficult for him to take cognizance of these people and bring them to book. It is very difficult. I know the functioning of the DSP. I still wonder that this concept is still there. Maybe, it was felt that the trademark cases will be very few and the high-ups, the big companies may not like to be interrogated, supervised or negotiated by a person less than a DSP. In that case, I think it will be much more dangerous.

I personally feel that this is the only provision where some lacuria can be found out, otherwise, the other things are in their correct form. I request the hon. Minister, after passing it here, to have a general study of this Bill to see which are the areas where counter-efforts may begin at the time of opening up of economy, competition or challenging the trademarks of Indian products. As also, to see the loopholes which may require amendments to be brought in future to plug them.

Some of the established trade marks are also causing some problems. There is a provision not to give any trade mark which is susceptible to any religious sentiment, etc. I agree with it. Mamataji is not here. I wonder, how does smoking link with monkey? There is Vanar Bhai Biri in India. I do not understand the logic of linking smoking with monkey or an elephant with mustard oil.

[Translation]

Hathi Brand oil was touted as good. At one point of time it became so popular that all the people used to by anything labelled as Hathi Brand.

[English]

Somebody riding on an elephant shouts. He will buy oil. He is not giving food to the poor elephant. But he is putting somebody as a rider on the elephant. I personally feel that since we have a lot of respect for the wildlife, the way we are using the symbol of elephant or tiger or monkey for the sake of our consumerism is very very painful and sickening to me. This matter of course does not cause concern for the trade. But it sometimes creates laughter and mystery behind it.

It is true that Brooke Bond is a multinational company. But they are doing business in our country. Somebody has copied Brooke Bond Tea. When I was a Minister, I found exactly the same thing. They wrote Book Bound Tea. When I asked why it is Book Bound, they said:

"After selling tea we bind ledger book with this paper."

Brooke Bond and Book Bound are two different words in English. But while speaking, Book Bound sounds nearer to Brooke Bond. Of course, Brooke Bond is a very powerful company. They fought and finished them. That is a different issue.

In India it is very well established. If somebody wants to challenge it one day and do some mischief, there are provisions. How are provisions there? I give a classic example. I am from a rural constituency. There are two brands of soaps called Rexona and Lyril by two very well established groups. They have their own trade mark. They have their own pattern also. One day I went to a village *haat* in my constituency to address a meeting during the election campaign. I found something called Resona soap was being sold. It was just like Rexona soap. All of them were announcing:

Villagers are purchasing Rexona at cheaps rates. It was looking like the original stuff, only the letter 'x' was changed. Unless the Sub-Inspector gets hold of them on the spot, how will the DSP come into the picture?

I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Minister to look into these aspects. They can pass the Bill today. We all support it. But these are the apprehensions that are gaining ground. In future, if you feel that some more areas could be covered to tighten the arrangement, it will be good for the industry, good for the trade, good for the future participation and the competition of the company.

I support the Bill.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Bill. The hon. Member from the Opposition said that this Bill was brought by

[Shri V.P. Singh Badnore]

their Party when they were in power. It is being supported by them though it is being piloted from this side.

This Bill is one of the most important Bills for India. It will change the whole market, trade, commerce mainly because E-Commerce is coming into India in a big way. In another ten years most of the people even in the rural India, not to talk only of the bourgeois or the urban elite, people will be buying things looking at the TV and by sending E-Mails. That is why Trade Marks Bill is one of the most important Bills for India.

16.29 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

There are some apprehensions which were expressed like today curry is being made a trade mark in Japan. What has curry got to do with Japan?

In America, there is basmati and all these things are there. These apprehensions are there in the minds of the Indians. You will have to do something to stop this. The biggest market today is the perfume industry. It is even bigger than marketing liquor or beer. It is the biggest market. Do you know what they are doing? They have already got the Jaipur perfumes. Now what is Jaipur? It is a famous city in India. It has a history behind it. It has got hundreds of years of history and that also of the Maharajas and the system. They were with Akbar and they also fought against the Marathas and what not. The whole history is being taken away by a perfume company. Can we stop it? We cannot stop it.

Then, there is another problem that we have to look into. A Jaipur firm called Autolite went to Paris and for a small little error which they may have committed, the police of France caught them and put them behind bars. They did not even have money with them and they did not know as to why they were behind bars and what is their fault. It was due to trade mark; it was due to patents or the trade marks. Things like these are happening to the Indian industry and we have to do something about it. We do not have that sort of money to fight against and be in litigation with foreign companies which are very very big. These are the apprehensions and that is why, we will have to do something about these things.

There is a very interesting story about how the trade marks system works. It is interesting to quote Mr. Atio Morita, Chairman of the Board of Sony. He gives an illustration about international trade marks in his book "Made in Japan". He writes that in 1955, when Sony was a very small company making radios, he went to US and there, he got a big order of 100,000 pieces of radios but

there was a condition put forth by an American firm, Bullova. It said not to put 'Sony' on the radio but put 'Bullova'. Imagine the plight of that small trader, Sony in 1955 getting a big order of 100,000 radios! He said, "Should I take it or should I stick to the name, Sony?" Suppose he had taken over that order of Bullova, then the name of the famous radio which is the household name today, would not have been here today. We would not have been able to get the name Sony today. He writes that it was his best decision that he ever made, that is, he refused that firm and he want to make Sony. The fact is that we have to learn a lesson from Sony and how our industry can cope up with the international competition. Otherwise, we will get big orders and we have a name in the international market. But those people are really using us.

In the end, while supporting the Bill, I would like to mention only one more thing that they must also think of changing the renewal system. Now, in the renewal system, if somebody forgets to renew his trade mark, and it goes on for some time like this, will the Government give that trade mark to somebody else? Will it be possible? For example, let us say that there is the Indica Car of the Tatas. After some time, if they start using another name and the Indica is phased out, will the Government be able to give the India name to some other car manufacturer of Indica who will use the Indica name and the Tatas' trade mark? Will that be open? Nothing has been said about this in the Bill.

There is another thing that in Japan, France and the USA, if there is a trade mark which is not used for three years, that trade mark is again open and he cannot use it any more. It is cancelled. Mr. Minister, have you thought of something of that kind in our country also? Basically, this Bill has to be in consonance with or in conformity with the rules and the regulations of the other countries where we should also benefit. It is not one-way traffic that they benefit from us and we do not benefit from them.

With these words, I support the Bill otherwise. Thank you very much.

SHRI BIKRAM KESARI DEO (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill brought forward by the hon. Minister wholeheartedly. This Bill was piloted in the year 1993 in this House but the same was referred to the Standing Committee for eliciting its views. Eventually, the views came and now the hon. Minister has again piloted this Bill.

This Bill is of great importance. It is essential for the merchandise of the country. Because, as you know, India

is a country of varied cultures, varied agricultural practices, varied trades and varied people. Therefore, every region has got its own trade mark. It has got its own individuality thereby its own identity. To save that identity, this Bill is very essential.

As you know, today in the world of globalisation - India has accepted the liberalised policies - if this Bill is not passed and if this Bill is not to be in vogue, then, our Indianised products, the Ayurvedic products or the products which are made through the Ayurvedic process or the products which are Indianised products would be globalised; gradually these products would die and the people depending upon these products would fade away. Therefore, this piece of legislation will protect their identity. It is like the Copyright Act which was passed half-an-hour before this piece of legislation which protects literature and the artists. Therefore, trade mark or the trade product of merchandise has got a vast area of operation.

It involves a lot of local items which are to be protected. Therefore, this Bill is being piloted by the hon. Minister. We support it wholeheartedly. We hope that it is maintained.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, I rise to support the Bill. But certain things are to be made cleared. It is no doubt a necessity for the country to have a comprehensive law for the trade marks. It is also a necessity to replace the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958. It is also a compulsion.

The hon. Member Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmuni was telling that the present Government or the party in power are making a U-turn; they were opposing it in 1995 and they are now supporting it. In 1995, the whole of the country was burning when India became a party to the Dunkel proposal when India signed the GATT. The then Government also signed the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights known as the TRIPS. The World Trade Organisation came into being from 1st January, 1995. We were very much aggrieved at that time that India should not have done that. By becoming a party, by becoming a signatory to the WTO, we wanted to know whether we have gained or not. But we have not gained anything. It is my personal view that I am telling you. It is against the interests of India, no doubt. Sir, you shall agree with me in this regard. I have no doubt about it. In the World Trade Organisation and in the TRIPS Agreement, there are certain compulsions on the member-nations - whether they are developing nations or the developed nations. They have been told to frame

laws relating to eight aspects. They are (1) Copyright and related rights; (2) trade marks rights; (3) geographical indications of goods; (4) industrial designs; (5) patents; (6) lay-out designs; (7) topographies of integrated circuits; (8) protection of undisclosed information and control of anti-competitive practices in contractual licences. These eight aspects are to be enacted by respective nations. That was the Agreement. For the developed countries, one year's time was given. That means, by 1st January, 1996, they had to enact their laws if they had not done that earlier. For the developing countries like ours, four more years were granted. That means, we have time up to 31st December, 1999. Because 31st December, 1999 is coming closer, we have to pass this Bill. It is a compulsion. Out of these eight aspects, we have four existing laws; (1) the Patents Act, 1970 which is going to be amended; (2) the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 which is going to be repealed and replaced; and (3) the Designs Act, 1911 which would be taken up very shortly and Copy Right Act, 1957, which was amended a few hours before the Copyright Act, 1957 has already been passed in both the Houses. Other laws are there. So, it is a necessity and also a compulsion by World Trade Organisation and Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights. These two Bills, - the Trade marks Bill and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Bill - should have been taken up together. I think, in that manner, the discussion would have been better. Let me tell you that I am also one with Mr. Munshi so far as section 115 of the earlier law is concerned. Now, this is also there in the present Bill. A DSP will take cognizance of the offence. It should be handed over to the Sub-Inspector of Police. It is all right. He is right in stating so and the hon. Minister will definitely examine it and then bring forward the necessary Amendments.

I tell you about certain things. I come from an eastern part of this country. Most of you, particularly the ladies, are aware of 'Sambalpuri' sarees and Sambalpuri handloom cloth. It is an unparalleled one. It is totally different. It is not just a printed saree. It is done by 'tie-and-dye' system. The man who popularised it is no less than Padam Sri Kuthartha Acharya whose son, Shri Prasanna Acharya, has been elected to this House as an hon. Member.

The Sambalpuri saree has been copied. That has been done not by print but by tie-and-dye technique. Such a methodology or a technique has not been applied elsewhere in the world for handloom sarees like the Sambalpuri sarees or Sambalpuri cloth. The Sambalpuri saree has been imitated by others by print. Therefore, the trade in Sambalpuri sarees has been affected not only inside the country but also outside the country.

[Shri Trilochan Kanungo]

I tell you another thing. There is a sweet, called Neemapada Jhilli'. It is made out of cheese. 'Neemapada Jhilli' is made in an area from where the hon. Member Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy comes. I represent that constituency. No where in India, you can find a parallel to 'Neemapada Jhilli' which is produced from cheese. Many persons have tried to copy it. But they have failed to do that.

My friends from West Bengal are here. They are very much fond of 'Rasgullas'. I tell you that if anybody goes to Shri Tripathy's constituency, 'Pahara Rasgulla' has been given a national name.

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN (Jangipur): It is a bengali form of 'Rasgullas'.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: 'Pahara Rasgullas' are different.

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN: Then, what is the rate of that per kilogram?

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Next time, I shall bring it for you!

I tell you that unless a trade mark is given, the things would naturally be imitated and they will lose their market throughout the country.

Not only this, regarding flora and fauna, there are 45,000 species of plants in this country.

A clear survey has not been done and only 50 to 60 per cent of the whole of India's survey has been done. It has been done at random. They have identified about 45,000 different species of plants. There are about 81,000 species of animals and birds.

Sir, a patient, Shri Banke Behari Das, a Member of the House of Elders — the Socialist people must have heard about him — had come to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. He was suffering from Rheumatism. The doctors told him that he had come from Orissa, the land of medicine for this disease. They asked him why did he come to Delhi when the medicine was available in Orissa. Banka Babu said "I do not know what is and where is that medicine." The doctors told him that Indian hornbill was the medicine. The Oriya equivalent of this is known as *Kochilakhaichadahi Kochilakhaipakhi*. *Kochilakhaipakhi*, he who takes the entire thing in totality by roasting it, the rheumatism and arthritis will go.

My point is that all these things should be identified and should have been taken in right earnest long back.

These trademarks and geographic indications have not been taken in right earnest for which *Basmati* has been patented in America by Ricetec Company as *Texmati*. In reply to one of the question I have heard that Meghalaya *Haldi* is good. I would like to inform the House that the best *Haldi* or Turmeric in the world is found in Phulbani District of Orissa and *Kandhas* cultivate it.

16.52 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA in the Chair)

My point is that we have to be very careful. When *Haldi* or turmeric was going to be patented by an American company that was protested and, of course, that could not be patented there. The trade mark, the geographical indications and all those things should be taken up in right earnest. We have not done in the past, that is all these related matters and we understand it. But in 1994 we signed the GATT Agreement, that is, the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights Agreement. We did all these things but we are dragging our feet for long six years on enact related laws.

I do not know that even if we enact this law, whether we would implement it sincerely or not. The hon. Minister should come forward with a statement that all these things will be taken care of and we shall see that the trade marks and also the geographical indications are dealt with sincerely. Those things will have to be taken up in right earnest and for paucity of funds, we should not fall back upon it. We should see that it is implemented properly. We are now rising when others are patenting our commodities, our *Basmati* Rice, our *Haldi*, our *Neem* and all other things.

Sir, in Orissa, *ghritkumari* is found. In Oriya it is known as *Gheekumari*. For blood pressure ailment, it is a patent medicine outside it has been tried to be patented. There are many more things which I am telling you. Another thing is *Patalagaruda*.

We have to register these things, bring them to the Registry and implement them in the right earnest. As it has been stated by the hon. Minister that since the passing of Trade and Merchandise mark Act in 1950, no amendment has yet been made. That shows that we have not been properly implementing it. We are not serious about the law. Now, we have to become serious about this law especially when we have opened up our economy. Whether by opening up, we have gained or lost, that will be discussed on some other day. Anyway, I support this Trade Marks Bill. I request the hon. Minister and the Government to see that it is implemented in the right earnest and nothing should stop it on the plea of paucity of funds.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, even though this Bill is a belated one, we have to become richer by implementing the Act with all our efforts and with all the dynamism of the hon. Minister so that we can become richer which we have lost for the past six years. Had it come earlier, we would have protected our interest from the international competition. Therefore, I am just rushing through certain provisions alone which need some more explanations.

Clause 9(1) (a) of the Bill while laying down an absolute ground for refusal of registration of trade marks which are devoid of any distinctive character, vests unlimited discretion in the Registrar in assessing whether or not the trade mark is distinctive. The current practice of Trade Marks Registry permits overcoming of the objection of non-distinctiveness on the ground that the trade mark in question stands registered in Commonwealth countries such as U.K., Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, etc., without even letting in any evidence. Hence, a further provision may be added to the Section to give effect to the above established Trade Marks Registry practice. This is all I want to submit regarding Clause 9(1) (a).

Regarding Clause 9(3) (c), the expression "the shape which gives substantial value to the goods" is vague and ambiguous. It is proposed that it be deleted altogether. Or, in the alternative, its import may be clarified by way of a proviso or explanation.

Explanation (2) Clause 11 lays down the guidelines for determining what constitutes a well-known trade mark. However, the guidelines be further clarified to include knowledge or reputation of a trade mark in India as a result of international advertisement and promotion which spill over into India through satellite communication etc. In this connection, it would be material to refer to the following ratio of a judgement of Delhi High Court in the case of Apple Computer Inc., Vs. Apple Industries Ltd.

"I am in agreement with the view expressed by the Ontario Supreme Court with respect to the need to carry on business in the jurisdiction in a particular territory as also regarding the meaning of goodwill in passing-off matters. In other words, it is not necessary in the context of the present day circumstances, the free exchange of information and advertising through newspapers, magazines, video, television, movies, freedom of travel between various parts of the world, to insist that a particular plaintiff must carry on business in a jurisdiction before improper use of its name or mark can be restrained by the court. Similarly, I am also in agreement with the view expressed regarding the

meaning of goodwill in passing off cases. In passing-off cases, the main consideration is the likelihood of confusion and consequential injury to the plaintiff, and the need to protect the public from deception, deliberate or otherwise."

The above decision is followed by the Calcutta, Bombay and Madras High Courts also. Therefore, this may also be considered.

Regarding the clause 11(3)(a), providing for a relative ground of refusal of registration by virtue of law of copyright should be further elaborated so as to protect India's commitments under the Universal and the Berne Copyright Conventions as endorsed by Parliament in the International Copyright Order, 1991 as also its obligations under the TRIPS Agreement of the GATT.

17.00 hrs.

Clause 11(4) be deleted altogether since its retention would be contrary to the purity of the Register and may facilitate trafficking in trade marks. A person who has registered earlier can also come forward with another registration, with some permission from the previous registered person.

Clause 17: The note on the clause states that it seeks to omit the provision relating to the requirement of disclaimer. The disclaimer clause should be specifically retained in the new law in the form in which it exists in the existing law.

Sir, I would like to go to the next clause: "Application for registration" in clause 18. I am quoting based on the judgement of the Supreme Court...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Natchiappan, you are reading the whole speech.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: No, Sir. I am just reading the judgements alone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can quote from quotations. But you are reading the whole speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: I am quoting a particular judgement in the DRISTAN case.

"It was also submitted by Dr. Gauri Shankar, learned Counsel for the First Respondent that the Appellant was not entitled to retain the trade mark DRISTAN on the register because it had obtained its registration by making a false statement in its application for registration in as much as it had not

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

stated in the said application that the said trade mark was proposed to be used by a registered user but instead stated that it was to be used by the Appellant who claimed to be the proprietor thereof. This point was not raised at any time before the Registrar or the High Court and it is not open to the First Respondent to take this point for the first time in this Appeal by certificate. Apart from that, there is no substance in this point, Form TM-1 appended to the Trade and Merchandise Marks Rules, 1959, does not contain any column similar to the column in the new Form TM-2 appended to the English Trade Marks Rule, 1938."

I would like to submit that provision 115(4) is about giving the dual role to the Magistrate. When they have got the complaint, then that should be referred to the Registrar. They have to get the permission from the Registrar. That will make a lot of delay in confiscating the contraband. Therefore, getting a reference from the Registrar will make the actual accused to escape from the clutches of the law. Therefore, that provision should not be there. The Registrar can be enquired into whether that particular violation is there or not.

Sir, finally, I would like to submit one thing regarding the Appellate Tribunal. This is very important. It is really the need of the hour. But the selection of the members is more important. The more importance should not be given for the retired High Court Judges or Indian Law service people. Therefore, we should give more importance for the clause 4(b) in respect of the practising lawyers who have got ten years experience. A provision is already made.

But those type of persons should be given more chances that they can come with fresh knowledge which is of the international level because the Appellate Tribunal is going to have powers of the High Court. Therefore, they are going to decide the work of High Court. The power of the High Court is going to be taken away by the Tribunal. Therefore, the Tribunal should not be manned only by retired people, but people who are in the service, a High Court judge or a person who has practised as a lawyer and having some expertise should also be allowed so that he can give interpretation in a proper way. That will be helpful for the subordinate services also to explain the law in a proper way, to the level of international expectation.

With these observations, I thank you very much.

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Thank you very much Mr. Chairman, for giving me the opportunity to speak.

The hon. Minister has put up this Bill, which is already four decades old. It is as old as 1958. He has not made any changes or modifications in it. When the Bill came up for the first time in 1993, it was referred to the Standing Committee for Industry. Some suggestions were given by the Committee and the Report was presented to the House on 21st April, 1994. All the recommendations of the Committee have been accepted. The Bill that has come up even today is a part of the main object. Except for a few changes which have been made by the Law Ministry, this Bill is more or less on the same lines.

The Trade Marks Bill is very essential in the present circumstances and it had to be implemented much earlier. We know that there is a lot of delay in registration and other things and the present rate at which it is growing, we need to improve and develop the system with computerisation and various other requirements that we are looking for. I know that some of the hon. members have made it that the WTO is responsible for some of these things, including probably the next Bill - Geographic Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Bill - which is coming up. Whatever it is, today the situation has completely changed than what it was about 10 or 15 years back. Some of the Members have also made it that the people who opposed it earlier are now supporting it in the present conditions. The changes are going on very fast and the circumstances must have made it more fast.

The WTO has made a lot of provisions due to which we have to live up to the world conditions and there is a lot of opposition to the WTO. However, there are a number of countries which are waiting to get into the WTO. Today, there may be 138 countries in the WTO, but at least 40 or 50 countries are looking forward to join it, including China, Russia and so many other countries. There are a lot of advantages of joining WTO and we need the world trade to be developed. When we are exposed so much to the world trade, we need to protect that part of our culture and our products in this country. That is the area where we have to see that the trade marks law should be improved. Not only trade marks, what we are talking of, geographical identification of our both plant-based and animal-based and various other circumstances has to be protected by this law.

We also need to protect our patents. We have a lot of technologists and scientists in this country who are still hesitant that the other countries will be able to come and encroach upon this country. It is not a fact. Our own scientists are going outside because we do not have protection in the case of patents in this country. This has to be modernised today. They are looking from outside when they can come back and introduce their patents in this country.

You can look at what has happened in the case of pharmaceuticals. India can produce bulk drugs at substantially cheaper price than any other country can do. We may not have enough resources to develop a drug, which needs to be very expensive. Even Japan was not able to do it. In regard to electronics industry, the Silicon Valley produces goods and they commercialise it. So, we have to take advantage of something that is being developed with our own resources and with our own capabilities, we can go further and take advantage of it.

Sir, India would be the biggest exporter of pharmaceuticals and we may need very little imports.

Sir, coming back to the various aspects of this Bill, I would like to submit that there has been good protection for the development of various products. This Bill provides for a lot of support for various items which we need for our country. Earlier hon. Members have mentioned that Darjeeling and Assam tea need protection. Earlier there might have been a small number of patents but today the products under the trade marks are increasing very fast. Today, we have to deal with, maybe, 50,000 to 60,000 such products. Well, it could even be more. Under these circumstances, the passing of the present Bill is very essential.

Sir, some of the hon. Members have mentioned about *Basmati*. The United States, of course, has come out with a different name, *Texmati*, for this. We have been fighting about this in the WTO and we are quite sure that we would win this case. There are a lot of protective measures, safety measures and safety clauses in the Bill which we can use to protect our products. It is up to us as to how fast we could make use of all these safety clauses to protect our own agriculture and trade-related products.

Sir, there are a lot of Ayurvedic and plant-based medicines also. This is one area which is expanding very fast. Even today, in the protective market, or what we call the reserved forests, we do not have the full data as to what type of plants are available and what kind of plant species are available which could be developed for useful purposes. Some hon. Members have mentioned that some work in this regard has been done by Australia. This has been done to protect the people of their country. Some hon. Members here have mentioned about paper being utilised for some useful purpose by Vietnam. We also have to start with such things ourselves and see how we could go ahead with them. The Basira cow even has been termed as the Mongal cow and there are such other things which need to be protected either by protecting them by their name and local geographical basis or on some other basis. Again, there is a species by the name germ plaza. It is an indigenous plant. We have to take care of it.

Sir, some hon. Members have also mentioned about the Appellate Board. At some point of time there would be a requirement for referring cases to the Appellate Board. The suggestion that has been made is about the type of judges that are required to be appointed in these Boards. They should either be experienced lawyers or retired High Court judges who have the ability to dispose of the cases quickly and not drag on with them as has been the case on earlier occasions.

Sir, there are a number of people in the Indian management pool. Their services could be taken to see as to how they would be able to help in the expansion of trade by protecting the products that we are developing.

Sir, finally, I would like to submit that I did not want to say anything except for extending my support to this Bill. But since I have to say something, I thought, I should make some points on a Bill which I strongly support.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would have been very happy if I could extend my support to this Bill. It is because in this environment of, so called, globalisation, this comprehensive Bill has been brought, of course under the directives given by the Supreme Court and many other courts in relation to trade marks, to give encouragement to flow of investment and transfer of technology.

Sir, although there are several good things in the Bill, yet I have noticed at least four to five areas which the persons involved in drafting the legislation have either not cared to look into properly or they have looked at it very casually or maybe, in this globalised era they have deliberately not taken care of.

First, let me come to Section 15. I think, my esteemed colleague from that side had made a reference to it. They say that they would look into, enquire raids and cause seizure of the spurious goods, and others who are involved in violation of infringement of trade marks.

Clause 115(4) says:

"Any police officer not below the rank of deputy superintendent of police or equivalent, may, if he is satisfied that any of the offences referred to in sub-section (3) has been, is being, or is likely to be, committed, search and seize without warrant the goods, die, block, machine, plate..." etc. etc.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

There can be no objection to that. But then, there is a proviso. The proviso says:

"Provided that the police officer, before making any search and seizure, shall obtain the opinion of the Registrar on facts involved in the offence relating to trade mark and shall abide by the opinion so obtained."

But how many Registrars will be there in the country? To my mind, they are five. Suppose, there is a case. Because of opinion of the Registrar is very important, the violator contests the case and calls the Registrar as witness. Of course, according to the law, a Registrar cannot be prosecuted. But as per the law of the land itself, he can be called, as a witness. On the basis of the Registrar's opinion only, it is being executed. But how can a Registrar move about from one end of the country to the other end? How can it be feasible? This is to make the whole exercise futile. In that case, the Registrar will have to sit in the courts only. But that also will never be possible. In different courts, it will be challenged and the Registrar will have to sit all the while without having any time to look into the Registrar's part which is being simplified.

Before I give my suggestions, I would like to touch Clause 134. There is something new. In the Code of Civil Procedure, it is the defendant whose residence should be taken into account as a jurisdiction of the court. But it is being reversed here. It is a plaintiff. What will happen in the case of a multinational company? A small Indian company which is having a trade mark to a poor fellow will be facing problems. A multinational company with so many branches will become the plaintiff. If a unit, say, is in Kerala, he will lodge a complaint in Rajasthan. Will it be possible for the defendant to go there and challenge it? Financially also, it would be absolutely impossible. That way, the multinational company will trade away all our genuine trade marks and monopolise it. And, Sir, I suspect that this has been done deliberately and not as careless mistake or lapse.

We think that these days, the multinational companies do have their influence in very many quarters. I am not aspersing anything on anyone in the Legislation Section engaged in the drafting. But here is the case. I would like that the hon. Minister should just explain it. How can it be that the Indian law, as applicable as per the Civil Procedure Code, is being reversed. The result would be that it will be to the disadvantage of the indigenous holders of trade mark. It will just encourage and strengthen those who have financial strength, earnings, that is, the multinational companies.

It has happened here. I can go on giving any number of cases. The multinational companies have expropriated our indigenous trade marks because of their financial strength and also because of the inability of the poor indigenous trade mark holder to contest in the court of law, because he does not have money, he does not know whom to approach there and all such things. They are not there. Let us take Clause 17. It is also a very important Clause will the Register be preoccupied in the court of law or Appellate Body as witness all the time? The disclaimer provisions earlier existed in the Act is being changed. Suppose a company is just monopolizing a trade of beauty shops. There are so many ingredients of it — almond oil, etc. Now, what is being suggested is that the whole concept of beauty soap with any of the ingredients will be monopolized, and ultimately none including those having something to do with one of the ingredients, will be able to produce anything. This disclaimer clause which was there in the earlier Act is being removed. This will help only to the multinationals. Having said that, I want to emphasize on one thing. In the name of investment flow and in the name of having more access to foreign technology, they are opening up our Indian markets for the multinationals by bringing these changes.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister to tell us what are the stipulations of WTO that compel us to bring such a legislation. To my mind, there is no such compulsion. It has nothing to do with the WTO. Nowhere, it is written that they are to make such changes. But still, they are doing it. We have seen in other cases also. When we are asked to bend, we crawl; when we are asked to do something by 2005, we do it before 2000.

Sir, here, we have never been told by any international body to undergo such changes. But such changes are being caused or proposed to be caused. It is a very dangerous thing.

Now, I come to the point of Appellate Board. I know about the problems facing the Ruling Alliance. They have their own people there who had been defeated in the Elections they are now unemployed. After putting so many of them as very high officials — I am not mentioning their names. How can I say they are being given the post of Governor or something like that — even then, there are a large number of people who are to be given employment. That is what they are talking about it. There are High Courts. Why do they not set up exclusive benches for the intellectual property right cases? That will not involve any additional cost also. They say that they are in deep debt trap. Daily they are assuring the nation that they shall bring down the fiscal deficit. Daily

they are speaking about Expenditure Commission. And, now, they are saying that they propose to set up another Appellate Board, it will have technical Members. But what is the technicality involved in the trade mark? There is obviously, no technicality. This is the packaging. These are the marks. If any technicality is required, it is required in the Copyright Law. But in the Copyright Law, they have not placed any technical officer. But here, they have proposed to put in one technical officer. What for he is there? I think, Sir, the Ministry has been misdirected. There are so many things mentioned in the Bill, but it is not that everything is bad. But there are so many important areas, some of them I have already mentioned, about which the hon. Minister need to explain to this House. I think, they should make appropriate changes. Instead of the Appellate Board, this power should be given to the High Courts' Special Bench. Clause 17 is a disclaimer clause, and it should be retained to protect our indigenous interests.

It should be retained to protect our indigenous interests, that proviso in section 115 should be changed of bringing everything. Say for example, someone is selling some spurious products. Someone is importing something spurious and police had the knowledge. Now the Registrar will be approached and asked to give permission. What will happened? The multinational companies will require one man, maybe on the pay roll, in the Registrar's office, one man in the Appellate Board and another man, at some other which connected area comes to a total of three persons. They will give the information. And also one advocate should be there. Of course, I am not mentioning that because there are many friends of ours who are advocating the cause of MNCs only.

The Trade Mark Bill suffers from several infirmities. I have mentioned three or four only. My plea will be that for proper study and scrutiny, it should be referred to a Select Committee and there should be people like Dr. Nitish Sengupta, eminent lawyers like Shri Ajit Kumar Panja.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (Calcutta, North East): Whether I am here or in Bengal, CPI (M) will always touch me.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: I am seeking legal opinion. The Government should be helped by people like them, by people like Dr. Nitish Sengupta and by many lawyers and other eminent people. The Minister should be heard.

The Ministry should be heard. These measures are being brought forward because of the pressures of the multinational companies. So, I oppose the Bill. I would have been very happy to support the Bill had there not been the provisions mentioned by me. I think the hon. Minister will have a relook at these clauses. I have mentioned them and the govt. should desist from setting up an Appellate Body. Instead High Court should be involved in such cases with the special bench.

17.27 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Friday, the 17th December, 1999 adopted the following motion in regard to the Committee on Offices of Profit:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted for the purposes set out in the motion adopted by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th December, 1999 and resolves that this House do join in the said Joint Committee and proceed to elect in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, five members from among the Members of the House to serve on the said Joint Committee."

2. I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following Members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Committee:

1. Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat
2. Shri Sanjay Nirupam
3. Shri E. Balanandan
4. Dr. M.N. Das
5. Shri Banarsi Das Gupta.'

TRADE MARKS BILL—Contd.

[Translation]

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jaleear): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion over this important Bill. It is not a new legislation, it was also moved when Narasimha Rao's Government in 1993 was in power and at that time our friends in BJP were sitting in opposition. At that time some clauses of the Bill were very fiercely opposed by them and today the same Bill has been brought here. During the 12th Lok Sabha also, you had sat on the opposition benches. But at that time, this Bill was not brought. I feel that during the 13th Lok Sabha, the proximity between the Congress and the Bhartiya Janata Party has increased to a great extent and it also appears to me that the attitude on the Women Bill to be introduced tomorrow will be a reflection of this increasing friendship and closeness between these two parties.

The opinion of the people who get benefit or get adversely affected due to this Bill should also be sought regarding the Bill. The opinion of small and big traders of various trades, law experts, doctors etc. should have been taken before bringing this Bill. While enacting the Bill all the important suggestions should be taken into consideration together in the first instance to avoid frequent amendments later on.

One more thing which I would surely like to say regarding the Trade Mark Bill is that the important products like life saving drugs or food stuffs should also be closely monitored because a mad race for earning money is going on today. I feel whether it is a Copy Right Bill or Trade Mark Bill, we are feeling the pinch of the pressure of United States or W.T.O. in one way or the other. In this regard I would like to say that we should never handover our driving seat to someone else. If once you do so there is a possibility of a serious accident because you never know as to where will your vehicle move once you handover the steering wheel to someone else.

There are some products which are very popular and have a monopoly in the market. Whenever we find a chance to pass our night in a village, we find that on getting up in the morning, the villagers ask that if you had brushed your teeth with Colgate, you get ready to breakfast. Such is the popularity of Colgate that while, it is only a brand of toothpaste among hundreds of others, it has become synonymous with toothpaste. Duplicity begins in these very popular brands.

The markets are very small in our rural areas. There I found that the Colgate was spelt in such an ambiguous way that 'C' could be read as 'G' also, in case of any controversy in the court. Hence a separate review is essential for the very popular products. But it has become a practice to imitate the popular brands and at the same time they get away with the penalty for doing so.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I was in police job, I saw a vehicle on which a word 'Polite' was written in such a manner that the alphabet 'c' could be interpreted both as 't' and 'c'. It was written in the blue and red ink to avoid nabbing the vehicle and if it is nabbed it could be proved the word as polite and not police. They said that we belong to a peace campaign Committee which is a registered body and the use of red and blue colour is also permitted and the word written on our vehicle is 'Polite' and not 'Police'. Such mentality is on the rise.

There is a Pan-Masala market in Delhi. If you go there, the agent will ask as to where from you have come. If you reply that I have come from Agra, they will name the most popular Pan-Masala brand selling there and assure you to make available thousands and lakhs of wrappers of that brand within ten minutes. If one kind of Pan Masala becomes popular in a particular region duplicity starts in it. We have to pay our attention in this regard too.

Many of our intellectual parliamentarians mentioned about 'Basmati Rice' which has been patented by America. If they produce such kind of Basmati Rice in their country, we will appreciate their capability. But from where will they bring the atmosphere and climate of Nainital, the cowdung and the climate of India? I think that America can not generate the scent and fragrance of India. Basmati Rice even with the help of a number of multinational companies which manufacture perfume, though it has reached the moon. They have patented some items. I was reading that they have also patented turmeric and Neem. However, we have many such resources which we have to save from being patented by others. Though a thing like 'Amrit' has been mentioned in Puranas but I do not think that a thing like nector would have ever been produced. But, in India, there are several things like Basil and other herbs which are like nector owing to their immense benefits as medicinal plants. We have also to keep in mind that a conspiracy is being hatched to patent the things originally found or produced in India and this conspiracy must be stopped. The factories of those products which were highly popular 30-40 years before, have closed down today for one reason or the other. But some other people have started running these factories with the same name. Devidayal steel factory used to run before I was born. The factory closed down afterwards but it has been one again started in order to befool the people.

I would also like to bring one more thing to your knowledge. Munshiji said that the trade mark of some products were living animals and birds. I do not talk about big cities but in villages if a Biri brand with monkey mark, is in the market, the manufacturers cage the

monkeys for publicity purposes. Similarly if there is any 'lion' marked brand, the manufacturers bring an old lion from the circus and it is meted with very inhuman treatment in the countryside markets. This also needs to be banned.

At last I would like to draw your attention towards multinational companies. It is an old saying that 'the fittest survives'.

The way the multinational companies have been entering our market, will pose a threat to our own indigenous companies. Why these companies are getting success; because they hammer our minds with continuous barrage of advertising. The sign boards of our companies are simple while that of multinationals are such as they illuminate even in the night.

They make advertisement of their products on television repeatedly which make us tempted to buy those products. It is called hammering. Through hammering they put a particular product in our mind. Women and children are most attracted to such advertisements. We have to pay attention towards this also.

The daughter of Emperor Jahangir got her hand burnt. There was an Englishman in his court...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. If you want to raise some specific points regarding this bill, you should say that. These are the common things.

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL: I am just concluding.

When princess got her hand burnt, that Englishman stated that he had an ointment with him, but actually he had not any such vital medicine. He applied vaseline on her injury, and she got relief from it. The Emperor became happy and as a reward he allowed the Britishers to pitch a tent on the seashore for trade purposes. With the passage of time, this tent expanded all over the country in the form of East India Company. Some people may feel happy on the decision of inviting multi-national companies here but once these companies will get a chance to establish themselves, they may prove to be another East India Company. Our country may suffer losses as it had suffered earlier by East India Company. We should learn a lesson from the history.

[English]

That history is the root of politics and politics is the fruit of history.

[Translation]

We have to consider it.

Thank you for giving me a time to speak.

17.43 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Tentative Proposals for revision of wages in respect of Working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper and News Agency Employees

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): In exercise of the power conferred by Sections 9 and 13-C of the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955, the Central Government constituted the Wage Boards for the purpose of fixing and revising rates of wages in respect of Working Journalists and Non-Journalists Newspaper & News Agency Employees under the Chairmanship of Justice R.K. Manisana Singh in September, 1994. The Wage Boards have on 21-12-1999 submitted their tentative proposals for revision of the wages. These proposals shall now be published in Gazette Notification inviting comments/objections from the persons interested in the fixation or revision of rates of wages within six weeks from the date of Notification. The Boards will soon thereafter hear the parties who offer their comments on the tentative proposals and make a written request for being heard. The Boards will then hold meetings to consider the objections/comments before framing the final recommendations. Based on the final recommendations, a Note to this effect will be taken to the Cabinet for its approval. Thereafter, the decision of the Government will be notified in the Gazette of India for implementation by the newspaper & news agency establishments.

17.44 hrs.

TRADE MARKS BILL — *Contd.*

[English]

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL (Erandol): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise here to support the Bill. This Bill is a revolutionary Bill. I know that some speakers have shown a little suspicion and also fear because of certain pressures or maybe because of fear from the multinationals.

Sir, this Bill has been in the cold storage for the past six years and it has come up as we have to compete or come in line with globalisation or we should also be in the same line internationally as far as trade and industry are concerned.

[Shri Annasahib M.K. Patil]

Sir, trade mark is a very essential activity in the industry as it denotes the specific quality and reputation based on various factors. For example, trade mark is basically dependent upon geographical grounds, process of manufacture, mode of machinery, packing style of the product and so on. These are very essential aspects as far as the quality of the product is concerned.

When we are moving for competition in the global sphere, it is needless to say that the procedure adopted should be a simplified one. Therefore, this Bill intends to simplify the procedure and legal aspects as also the procedure for registration. I cannot elaborate more on these points because the time is short. Therefore, I would say that this is an essential Bill. I have experience with two *jarda* manufacturing companies in my area of operation. Both are very similar ones. They are in the court for the last several years. It is observed that even though they fight with each other, we can differentiate the quality of both the companies as to which one is better than the other. Therefore, this Bill would certainly ease the tension between the manufacturers and also simplify the procedure.

Sir, I have certain suggestions to make to the hon. Minister. There are a lot of pending cases regarding the disputes. The Appellate Board should have a procedure which can tackle the cases speedily within a minimum time schedule.

With these words, I support the Bill.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem): Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill though many Members who participated in this discussion supported to a long extent since the very basis of the Bill blows the economic sovereignty of the nation.

The hon. Minister has cited his own reasons for the introduction and for the consideration of this Bill in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. He has clearly pointed out that in view of globalisation and liberalisation and in view of increasing trade activities and development of the commerce, he seeks to take up this Bill for consideration.

After all, in the name of liberalisation and globalisation, the wealth of many of the developing nations has been drained. This is what the history taught us. Since 1994, there are reports and statistics to indicate that \$60 billion have been drained from the developing nations alone. Then, what is the purpose in enacting such type of a Bill. Serious blows have been inflicted on the economic sovereignty of our country one after another.

I am really surprised that this Government has come to power only in order to serve the multinationals. This is my question. Right from the inception of this Government, that is, the 13th Lok Sabha, this entire Winter Session was devoted for the purpose of passing the Bills which help multinationals and foreign powers to the core. Take, for instance, Insurance Regulatory Authority, Mines and Minerals and Copyright. The Patents Law and other Laws are yet to come. The trade and commerce and the investments have been predominant in the entire session. The whole thing is devoted for the purpose of helping the multinationals. This is another attempt.

They are not only selling out but they are also in the process of speedier sellout. They are selling out the nation. The Indian history taught us many things right from the East India Company. It took us nearly 200 years to drive that Company out. I do not know what would happen to this nation if in the name of liberalisation and globalisation, we take the entire nation to the hands of the multinationals. I reiterate that it is a clear surrender to the multinationals. This Bill is only to protect the interests of the foreigners. Sometime back, the hon. Minister, Dr. Murlidhar Manohar Joshi, was fuming how this liberalisation was in the interest of the nation. In support of his Bill, which was considered earlier than this Bill, he was explaining as to how his Government was committed to protect the interests of this nation. But it is very unfortunate that when this very Bill came up before the Rajya Sabha in 1995, Dr. Joshi was opposing it. I may be permitted to quote his words. On 31st July, 1995, when this Bill was taken up for discussion in the Rajya Sabha, I quote the words of Dr. Joshi. He was quoting the example of 'Singer':

"Singer was doing the same thing as what Bata is doing. They used to manufacture that machine for Rs. 200 and they used to sell it for Rs. 500. So, where was the gain for the Indian industry?"

This was the query posed by him. You just made 'Singer' popular. I just quoted his words. So, I want to repeat the same thing. Where are the provisions for safeguarding the Indian industry? The small entrepreneurs of this nation, that is, millions of small industries have, time and again, been thriving this economy. These will be totally jeopardised because if this Bill is introduced, a floodgate will be opened to the multinationals to protect their own interests.

Sir, it will be a fatal blow to the small entrepreneurs and small industries of this nation. In My opinion, the owner of the trade mark, if this Bill is passed, just because he is the owner, even if he is not producing the product, will have the control over the entire item in which

his trademark is registered. He will become the owner of all products which come under his trade mark. This is fatal to the very existence of the small entrepreneurs.

Another question is whether the Indian product will be accommodated in the same way in the international market? I doubt, the Indian product will not be allowed to enter the international market. There is no safeguard. The multinational corporations alone will have the upper hand, if this Bill is passed.

Sir, coming to the core provisions of this Bill, let me take two provisions, I understand the paucity of time. Assuming one is, accepting this Bill. This Bill is not valid for the changed circumstances now even. Almost seven years have lapsed since the introduction in 1993. I do not know whether the Ministry has taken that into consideration and whether they have deliberated on the changed circumstances or not. Vast changes have taken place since 1993. Therefore, this Bill may not be valid at this present juncture.

Another thing which I would like to mention is that the main provision in this Bill is, the Government has lost its control over the registration now. As per the provisions of this Bill, Government's control is totally surrendered to one individual, that is, the Head of the Department, Registrar. Registrar is the sole person, who takes the entire control. He can act on his own whims and fancies. There is no authority, which can question him. There is no Government to which he is accountable. Therefore, I call upon the Government to see that there has to be some safeguard, to have checks and balances with regard to the functioning of the Registrar.

The hon. Minister knows the tendency of the bureaucrats. The absolute authority will lead to more malpractices. Therefore, I say that the Registrar's authority has to be checked. In one of the provisions the Registrar can even call for the application pending..(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Sir, I am concluding.

Another draconian provision in this Act is Clause 93. I may be permitted to read it.

"No court or authority shall have or be entitled to exercise any jurisdiction, powers or authority in relation to the matters referred to in sub-Section 1 of the Section 91."

As per this Section, against the order of the Registrar, one can go to the appellate board. But beyond the appellate board, there is no way for an appeal. It is a

draconian law and in our system nobody can curtail a party to go to the court or approach the court of law.

Therefore, I would say, as our friend, Com. Rupchand Pal has deliberated, Chairman is appointed by the Government and because of the political affiliations, only those people may be appointed as Chairman and there is no chance for a person to go in for an appeal. First to the Registrar, then to the Appellate Board Chairman and there ends the matter. So, I urge upon the Government to remove this particular provision.

Another important aspect is that there is no time limit prescribed in this Bill for the registration of the trade mark. Therefore, there has to be a prescription of time limit.

18.00 hrs.

Finally, because of the time constraint that Mr. Chairman has been imposing on me, I quote the Report of the Select Committee. The Chairman of the Committee has categorically stated:

"Some Members of the Committee were of the opinion that the liberalisation of trade marks registration may provide added advantage to the foreign multinational units. Instead, the policy should go slow in according recognition to foreign trade mark with a view to encourage domestic initiatives in the same or similar lines of production, the need to make efforts to encourage the use of indigenous trade marks."

Therefore, there is no provision in this Bill either to protect the small entrepreneurs or no provision is enunciated to encourage the millions of domestic traders, who are small entrepreneurs of this nation. Rather, this Bill would only serve the foreign companies. Therefore, I oppose this Bill. I call upon the Government to bring a comprehensive Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity given to me.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to seek the consent of the members to extend the House. Two hours' time was fixed for the discussion on this bill. Still the concerned Minister has to make a reply on it and the bill has to be passed by clause.

[English]

Sir, we have to consider clause-by-clause of this Bill and also pass this Bill. So, I am requesting that

[Mr. Chairman]

the time of the House be extended by one hour to pass this bill.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua): We have to see the Prime Minister at 7.30..(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: A lot of business of the House has to be taken up tomorrow, therefore, it will be difficult. Tomorrow will be the last day of this Session. Now, the Minister will give reply. Then it will be passed clause-by-clause.

[English]

Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by one hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the time of the House is extended by one hour. Now, the hon. Minister.

..(Interruptions)

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga): What will happen to the last Bill? ..(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for having given their general support to this Bill.

After all, this is a Bill which has been placed here in the year 1993. We have simply added the service marks, for example band box, Travel Corporation of India (TCI), Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). These are all service marks. We have just only added these things.

Sir, a view has been expressed that this Bill will support and protect the interests of the multinationals. Comrade Rupchand Pal is just now entering. He let out him steam against the multinationals. I agree with his views but I refute the view that this Bill will lead to protect the multinational companies. Out of the total applications filed in India for trade mark registration, nearly 70 per cent of the applications are filed by Indian entrepreneurs. If the Indian entrepreneur and his product is to be recognised in the domestic and world markets, he needs to give his product an identity. So, trade mark achieves this purpose. We are all Members of Lok Sabha and are identified by our party symbols. We are here because we have won on a symbol. We are emotionally attached to our symbols. If some symbol is taken away

because of the split in the party or because of the order of the Election Commissioner, we know how we suffer. Therefore, we should understand the importance of trade mark.

So, if the symbol is attached to the politicians during elections, trade mark is attached to the trader, producer and the entrepreneur for his trade. Now, trade mark has attained a lot of importance in the business world. In fact, I would say, Sir, that trade marks are very important to promote one's business.

The hon. Member, Shri Dasmunsi, mentioned that even monkeys and elephants are made as trade marks. It is true. Sir, here is a great authority, whose name is Mr. Kapferer, has written in his book:

"Starting as a nonsense word attached to a new product year after year, it acquires a meaning composed of the memories of the past emergent communication and products."

It starts sometimes as a non-sensical mark and then it attains importance. So, trade marks and brands have become the atomic core of our consumer driven economy. It fuels commerce. So, I would even say that the brand essence can reside in its founder, which gives Fords something that Chevrolets do not have. Therefore, trade mark includes a package, a package of brand vision, its names, its performance standards, its signage, its packaging, its pricing philosophy, its marketing communications, its community relations policy, its sales force activities, its promotion strategies and so on. Therefore, we have to protect trade mark.

Regarding promoting our own business, I would give one example. In the year 1994, the *Financial World* made an estimate of the value of the trade mark. so, according to that, in the year 1994, Coco Cola stood first as the well-known trade mark in the world. Its value was estimated to be in that year 35,950 million dollars. The second was Marlboro cigarette. Its value was estimated to be 33,045 million dollars. Such is the value of trade marks. So, in India also, our trade marks are becoming very popular. Therefore, to protect our trade marks, this Bill has been brought in.

I would make a remark regarding Clause 115. He has asked why Clause 115 is required. Sir, it is there because the law seeks to protect the honest trader. The creation of the post of Registrar is required to prevent harassment. Since penal provisions are enhanced, the provision also harmonizes the process with Copyright Act. So, Shri Pal referred to the Registrar. The Registrar is not required to move about. The expert opinion is related

to the technical aspects of the registration of trade mark after verifying the Registrar of Trade Marks. It is just only a safeguard.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): I have asked totally a different question because the prosecution is dependent on the opinion of the Registrar only. The one who is accused will seek the Registrar as witness and the Registrar will have to move about from one end of the country to the other. So, he will have to be preoccupied as standing in the witness box only. How could this proviso be a safeguard under this situation?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: What we thought was like this. We do not want to give the power to a police man or a DSP. He should act in a scientific manner with hard evidence. That is why, we have given the powers to the Registrar. On the advice of the Registrar, the Superintendent of Police will act and not the ordinary constable. So, if Shri Pal feels that it will not lead us in the good way, naturally after seeing the implementation, if necessary, then we will come with an amendment. There is no doubt about it.

We have the constraint of time. Sir, many Members expressed their opinions about Basmati against which I want to say something. The Government has taken all steps to contest the case in America. During September, 1997, a particular patent entitled 'Basmati Rice Lines and Grains' has been granted by the United States' Patents and Trade Mark Office to M/s Ricetech Inco., Texas, U.S.A.

There was a case filed by Ms. Vandhana Shiva, as a public interest litigation, in the Supreme Court. The learned Attorney-General of India who appeared on behalf of the Union of India had assured the Court on 13th July, 1998 that all steps would be taken to challenge the patent.

Sir, we have created a fund called Basmati Development Fund. It was set up in December, 1995 primarily for the purpose of protecting the name of Basmati in the international market.

The Fund has engaged a Trade Mark Watch Agency which stands watch on its behalf for any new trade market applications for Basmati or its deceptive variations in literally every part of the world. As a consequence, the Fund is currently involved in pursuing the legal actions in 18 jurisdictions in the world including Greece, United Kingdom, South Africa, Jordan, U.A.E., Chile, Spain, Turkey, Brazil, Kuwait, Taiwan, etc. We have achieved success in U.K. We have won the case in U.K., Columbia, Brazil, Spain and Taiwan. We have filed opposition in Chile, Denmark, Israel, Jordan, Turkey and South Africa.

Sir, this is the position. So, we are going to fight the case.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur): They have not sued the name of Basmati. They have used the name of Texmac.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: That is right. That is the distinction they have made. So, anyhow, we are going to test it. We are examining it. For example, an Inter-Ministerial Group has been set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industrial Development, to examine the implications of the patents and determine the ways and means of challenging this thing.

Sir, again, a Technical Committee was also set up to provide necessary technical information and documentation for challenging the patents.

Sir, we are doing our best in this matter. I do not want to take much time of the House. I thank all the hon. Members, from all sections of the House, for having given their full support.

I request, once again, to pass the Bill.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Sir, I have one question. Why has it been made a voluntary thing? Trade mark is not a compulsory thing for a trader. My point is: why should it not be made compulsory?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I am sorry. We cannot compel people. It is a free country. *..(Interruptions)*

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: You are reversing the practice as per Code of Civil Procedure where the defendant resides is considered to be the jurisdiction, but here you are reversing and giving the plaintiff the choice to select his own jurisdiction for complaint and the defendant will have to come from distant places to attend the cases. In such a situation, the poor holder of the trade mark will be at a disadvantage and will not be able to contest the cases and the multinational and powerful companies will appropriate the trade marks of intellectual entrepreneurs.

I am quoting Section 134(2):

"The person instituting the suit or proceedings, or, where there are more than one such persons any of them actually and voluntarily resides or carries on business or personally works for gain."

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Shri Pal, you may be a lawyer, but I am not a lawyer.

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: No, I am not a lawyer.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I will try..(Interruptions)

Regarding clause 134, the law seeks to protect the honest trader and will be as beneficial to the petty trader honestly doing his trade on the basis of a registered trade mark. That is the intention, if it is not, we will come here with an amendment. ..(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have allowed Shri Selvaganpathi.

..(Interruptions)

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI: Clause 93 says that there is no appeal allowed against the order of the Appellate Board. People will take shelter under this.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Every law says like that. Do you mean to say that the High Court does not have any appeal? Here is a great lawyer. Let him say.

Sir, writ appeals under article 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India can be filed. It is provided. But it is, probably, the custom of the Legislative Department to put like this. Nobody bothers..(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: How many appeals do you come across in a year? It may be 60 or 65 appeals in a year and for that five Appellate Boards have been set up. What will they do? What is the necessity of it? Rather you may set up a Special Bench for Intellectual Property related cases in all the five High Courts.(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already replied.

Now, the question is:

"That the Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to trade marks, to provide for registration and better protection of trade marks of goods and services and for the prevention of the use of fraudulent marks, as passed by the Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: As far as article 134 is concerned, the hon. Minister has said that he will look into it. Let the assurance be given that he will look into it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are considering clause-by-clause of the Bill. He has already replied. Afterwards, you can speak.

...(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 159 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 to 159 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

18.16 hours

GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS OF GOODS (REGISTRATION AND PROTECTION) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, Geographical Indications refer to indication which define goods as originating in the territory of a country or a region or locality in that territory and where a given quality, reputation or other characteristics of the goods is essentially attributable to its geographical origin. Some well-known examples of geographical indications include Darjeeling Tea, Malabar Pepper, Allepey Green Cardamom, Sambalpur saree and Nimapara chenna and Baha rasgulla.(Interruptions). All these things are there. Therefore, we require a codified law. Unless we protect our own geographical indications in our country, we cannot get the same protection outside the country.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section-2 dated 22.12.99.

Sir, this is a very important legislation. In the national interest, I request the hon. Members to give their unanimous support to protect our national industries, our handicrafts, our national wealth.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, this Bill also is on the same lines of the Bill that has already been passed. The principles involved in the Trade Marks Bill and the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Bill are more or less the same. Now, I have to oppose the Bill on certain conditions. One is that some provisions of this will create an area of litigation. Now take the infringement provision. If there is any infringement, the matter shall be taken to a district court and not below the jurisdiction of a district court. The position will be that there will be no end of the matter. Even now the district judges are not in a position to do their normal work. The cases are pending before the district judges in thousands. So, the decision under the provisions of this particular Bill by the district judge is not possible, within a generation, if I may put it. That is one thing. We will have to find out a method by which a speedy disposal of disputes with regard to infringement will have to be provided. I request the hon. Minister to bring in a legislation or come with an amendment in future at least to make things easier and the decisions made easier. Quick disposal is the most important thing in deciding cases. If we refer all these matters to the district court, it will consume a lot of time. That is one aspect.

With regard to Section 39, it is a penal Section. It says:

"Any person who, —

- (a) falsifies any geographical indication; or
- (b) falsely applies to goods any geographical indication; or
- (c) makes, disposes of, or has in his possession, any die, block, machine..."

When any person is found to have committed an offence, the provision is the same as provided in the Bill that we have passed just now.

Here also, there is a difficulty. We find that a certificate from the Registrar is required. The same provision is here which means that there will be delay. There is only one such Registrar. We will have to obtain a certificate for search, for entry into the premises and for investigation from him which means delaying the proceedings. There will be no end of the matter. That will help people with money and not the poor man who is already in possession of a geographical indication. He would be put to difficulties. So, I would suggest to find out a method by which the procedure is made quicker and easier.

When we go through clauses 44 and 45, we find that imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine is provided. Now, the matter will have to be decided either by a Metropolitan Magistrate or a first-class Judicial Magistrate, and the person who is to institute the prosecution proceedings is the Dy. S.P. He has other jobs also. As we know, three or four Dy. S.P.s may be available in a district. Whenever there is any case coming up for discussion, the Dy. S.P. may find it very difficult to proceed against him and at the same time, he has to obtain a certificate from the Registrar, which means delay. So, our attempt for a speedy disposal of such cases will meet with failure or difficulties in future.

Then, clauses 46, 47 and 48 require changes. Otherwise, the procedure or the purpose for which this Bill is passed will be difficult to attain. So, I request the hon. Minister to bring in a legislation so that the procedure may be made easier.

In the instant case, I have to dwell upon the Ayurvedic preparations of Kerala. We prepare some very famous medicines. We have a soap, Chandrika soap which is produced in Kerala and it may require a geographical indication.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Chandrika soap is not of Kerala.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The name Chandrika itself is from Kerala. You will have to understand.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Radhakrishnan is not of Kerala. We have another Radhakrishnan here.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: So, I would suggest that the provisions, relating to taking cognizance, of clause 50 will have to be amended to make it easier. ...(*Interruptions*) These are the main aspects which I would like to dwell upon when I take into consideration this Bill.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Hon. Chairman Sir, I support Chapter I and II of the Bill. It is necessary for protection of the manufactured goods, especially it is indicated as 'agricultural goods, natural goods, manufactured goods originating or manufacturing in India.'

I do not agree to clause 51 relating to cost of defence or prosecution. It says that in any prosecution under this Act, the court may order such costs to be paid by the accused to the complainant, or by the complainant to the accused as the court deemed reasonable having regard to all the circumstances of the case and the conduct of the parties. It is quite unknown to law. It is an intimidatory provision. Secondly, the complainant has to rush to a court or to give a complaint.

Section 9 refers to:

"A geographical indication—

(a) the use of which would be likely to deceive or cause confusion..."

If you take the Samsonite briefcase, it is sold in Singapore as well as in Delhi. This briefcase originates from USA. People are guided by the name 'Samsonite', and they know that it originates from USA. Similar is the case with Rolex and Omega watches, though the duplicate watches are made in Hong Kong. So, the provision to recognise the place of origination of manufacture and its registration is a welcome measure. In Tirupur, the knitting industries are manufacturing banians, T-shirts. They are being exported, but the place of manufacture is not mentioned in the foreign countries. If it is stated that it has been manufactured in, say Tamil Nadu, India, naturally, the goods will carry the name and fame of our State and the nation. As the Minister mentioned, similar is the case with *Rasgullas* Tirunelveli *halwa*, Muscat *halwa*, Kadambur *boli* and Kozhikode *halwa*. They have their origin here. So far, they have not been accorded any legal recognition. Therefore, this provision in the First and Second Chapters is a welcome measure. Naturally, it will boost the production, it will boost the recognition of manufacturers, and they will manufacture to the satisfaction of foreign companies.

So far as textile industry is concerned, we are not lower in any way. We have spinning mills, we are producing so many dressing materials, which are being exported to other countries. As you know, in Tamil Nadu,

we produce Kancheevaram sarees. In that way, the place of origin, if it is stamped and protected, that is, if it is geographically indicated, then the place of manufacture will be recognised by the whole world.

A few doubts were raised about Section 32 which says:

"No court or other authority shall have or, be entitled to, exercise any jurisdiction, powers or authority..."

As the Minister said, it is very usual. In all the States' Acts, they will say that 'no court shall have any jurisdiction'. But the court's jurisdiction cannot be ousted because the judiciary is independent. They will exercise their powers under Article 226, that is, writ jurisdiction.

Section 31 says:

"Appeals to the Appellate Board:

- (1) Any person aggrieved by an order or decision of the Registrar under this Act, or the rules made thereunder, may prefer an appeal to the Appellate Board within three months from the date on which the order or decision sought to be appealed against is communicated to such person preferring the appeal.
- (2) No appeal shall be admitted if it is preferred after the expiry of the period specified under sub-section (1)."

Here, the Registrar is entrusted with triple duties, that is, under Section 3, he is the Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks; and he is also the Registrar of Geographical Indications. He is exercising the powers both as Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, and also as the Registrar of the Geographical Indications. Shri Pal, raised the same issue while speaking on the previous Bill.

Normally, in the courts, we used to implead the Chief Secretary of a State, say Tamil Nadu. But the Chief Secretary will not respond to the summons. It will be the Under Secretary who will appear and file a counter; he will contest the case. So, I would like a clarification on this point. The legal position should be informed to the House. I support the First and the Second Chapters of the Bill.

Sir, there are a number of cottage industries and they may not like to indicate the place of its origin in case their products are confiscated or forfeited. That section should not apply to the cottage industries.

Sir, with these words, I support Part-I and II of the Bill and rest of it, legally, I oppose it.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is again a Bill which, being piloted by the hon. Minister, relates to the TRIPS Agreement. The provisions contained in this Bill of geographical indications are very vital for the protection of our trade and protection of our indigenous products and for becoming a player in the global market.

Sir, India is a land of 45,000 plant species and about 81,000 animal species. These figures have been recorded when a survey to this effect was conducted. If the products that are produced in India are not protected today, then eventually — every product is recognised in the world as 'made in USA', 'made in Japan' or 'made in England' — the products which are made in India would be patented by other countries. I would like to give the example of turmeric. On a research conducted by the Jackson University it was observed that turmeric had the ability to heal wounds. They patented this product. But healing wounds and treating injuries — both internal and external — with the help of turmeric has been an age-old practice in Indian traditions. So, this was nothing new that they did. But it was just that we did not have this law in place and so they robbed us off our knowledge and utilised it and marketed it in the world.

Sir, this Bill envisages geographical indication of places basically which is used to identify goods or products as originating from a specific region or locality. I would like to cite here a very well-known instance of Champagne and Scotch whiskey. Champagne is made from Chaton grapes the name Champagne relates to the Champagne district in France and chaton grapes are grown only in that district. But you cannot call champagne anywhere else.

Sir, similarly, there are a lot of products like this. Take the case of *Chayawanprash*. It is of Indian origin and it has ayurvedic properties. The other countries wanted to steal it from us. We are protecting these products by bringing this legislation.

Sir, earlier, the Intellectual Property Rights of these products were being protected and regulated in accordance with the provisions contained in the Patents Act, 1970; the Trade and Merchandise Mark Act, 1958; the Design Act, 1911 and the Copyright Act, 1957. But today I am very happy to state that this particular legislation is being brought in during the regime of the BJP Government under the able leadership of our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee which would enable India to become a global player with their own products and face the challenges in the trade market. With this particular piece of legislation on geographical

indications, our products could now be protected. I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this Bill and hope that this Bill would find a smooth passage.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, it seems to me that the hon. Minister is in a hurry. Through you I would like to remind the Government that very adverse comments have been made that the Members of Parliament are failing to apply their mind to important Bills and the Bills have been passed which are not to be passed. There is no stipulation, no compulsion and this is one area, as the previous one also. I am making this reference because the name of the Bill is "Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Bill, 1999."

May I ask the hon. Minister, really speaking in concrete terms, what are the geographical indications? Everything is kept in notification only and this Parliament is giving approval to the executive and they will incorporate whatever they like to incorporate and whatever they are pressurised to incorporate, they will not incorporate. But this is very important. Through you I just draw the attention of the Government and also of the hon. Minister to the fact that there is a debate going on in Europe. That is, the lawyers practising intellectual property related cases are debating about these things and they are having only one Agenda, that is, wines and spirits, and wines and spirits only, and wherever the Indian delegation tries to just bring into the discussion, be it basmati rice or Kulu shawl or Darjeeling tea or, whatever it may be, they have been objecting to it and strangely enough, many such things are there. But here' there is a mention of only one thing, that is, wines and spirits. This is clause 84 (2) which reads as follows:—

"Identify wines or spirits in connection with goods by any citizen or domiciliary of such country were used at geographical indication in continuous manner."

Where is the reference in the Bill itself to Basmati? Is there any reference to Darjeeling tea in the Bill? Are you not very sure about the geographical indication of these things? You are very sure. Why are you not mentioning it? Because there is a pressure by Western countries and developed countries in many meetings. You can know it from your Ministry people also that there is a serious objection by the developed countries at important levels where our own men had tried to raise matters about basmati and Darjeeling tea, they refused to discuss this, but they discussed about wines and spirits, scotch whisky and champagne and all these things which we are incorporating in our Bill. For whom is this Bill? Is it for the foreigners, for the multinational companies or

[Shri Rupchand Pal]

for our own country, our own products? It is a serious matter and this Government is trying to push through this Bill and the media has correctly commented that the Members are failing to apply their mind. This is a reflection on this institution itself. I request the Government through you not to push through such Bills in such a hurry where there is no compulsion on us to pass this Bill.

SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Chairman, I fully support this Bill. I shall not repeat a word which I had said at the time of consideration of Trade Marks Bill. I shall confine myself to one or two things only.

This is an enactment, I have said, under the compulsion of Trade-related Intellectual Property Rights Agreement.

As per the agreement this has to be enacted before the 31st December, 1999. So, this is no doubt a compulsion. This is an enactment against international piracy by multinationals particularly bio-piracy and India is awakening at the end of this century, at the end of this millennium. There is a verse in Sanskrit. "Chore gate ki Musavdhanam", Right from Ghorī, Lodi, Moghuls to Britishers, when they were taking away everything, of ours we were sleeping. It was a sound slumber with loud snoring. We did not wake up. This is an enactment of awakening though it is a belated awakening. Let me emphasize it. It is better late than never.

Had we given proper emphasis, after Independence, to the survey, registration and recording of the flora and the fauna of this country and had we taken adequate measures to register and record the birds and animals and their properties and had we taken adequate care to develop our Ayurvedic medicines we would not have waited till the end of this century or this millennium to go in for such an enactment. This is an enactment against international piracy by multinationals. It is only when they were taking away basmati rice and patenting turmeric that we woke up to bring in this enactment. I fully commend it. I fully appreciate that it is a belated legislation but it is better late than never.

The hon. member Shri Rupchand Pal has referred to clause 84 (2). He perhaps wanted to mislead the House. I emphasize it. I now read clause 84 (2):

"Nothing contained in this Act or the Trade Marks Act, 1999 shall prevent a continued and similar use of geographical indication relating to a country or a country which is a member of a group of countries or union of countries or any Inter-Governmental organisations, as the case may be,

notified under sub-section (1) identifying wines or spirits in connection with goods by any citizen or domiciliary of such country who has used that geographical indication in continuous manner with regard to such goods or any goods relating to such goods, as the case may be, in any part of the territory of that country..."

We have not told anything about our goods. As Shri B.K. Deo said, we are not going to affect the patenting or the geographical indication of champagne. We are interested in our own goods.

In the Trade Marks Bill, I had wanted one commitment from the hon. Minister. He did not give that. I am repeating it again. The hon. Minister should commit here that within a time-frame of one or two years, all the flora and fauna of this country will be surveyed and recorded with their properties including healing properties and their geographical indications, that all the birds and animals of this country will be recorded and registered with their properties. He has to commit to this time-frame. Otherwise, the purpose of this enactment will be totally defeated. That is my view.

Of late, we have awakened from deep slumber. Better late than never. Let us awaken and give a good start.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): I am beholden to the hon. Members for their full support to this Bill. As Shri Trilochan has rightly said, In Tamil we say Tri Lokam, we are awakening from a deep slumber. What happened to the Dhaka Muslin? What happened to the Indigo of West Bengal? They have all gone. Therefore, I would call this a historic legislation, which is trying to protect our products of geographical indications. The list is very long. It may apply to the Malabar tea, Darjeeling pepper, Alleppy Green Cardamom, Alfonso mangoes, Kolhapuri chappals, Pashmina shawls, Kanjivaram sarees, Sambalpur sarees, Tirunelveli halwa, I would say anything which has special characteristics should be protected.

Shri Deo has clearly stated that champagne is not a name of a drink but a name of a place. So, they are protecting. There is a famous case. In Spain they produced some kind of a wine and called it by the name Spanish Champagne. It was banned and they had to go to court. So, nobody can use the word champagne. Likewise, nobody can use the word Scotch Whisky. It is not because it is cheaper. Here is a case in India also. The famous case of Mohan Meakin Breweries versus Scotch Whisky Association in Delhi High Court is a good example. They wanted to use the words "Highland" and "Highland Chief". It was not allowed by the Delhi High Court. The Scottish people were worried about the standards. They think that the word 'Scotch' is associated

with a quality product. I would appeal to the hon. Member from Tirunelveli: Kanjivaram sarees mean, sarees produced up to a standard in Kanjivaram alone should be called Kanjivaram sarees. Halwa produced in Tirunelveli should have a particular quality. Similarly, Kolhapuri chappals mean that they conform to certain quality.

We should appeal to all concerned to come forward, form association, and define the standards. It is a historic piece of legislation. I once again appeal that this legislation may be passed unanimously.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

18.49 hours

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That Clause 2 to 87 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 to 87 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.50 hrs.

MOTION RE: CONCURRENCE OF THE HOUSE TO JOIN JOINT COMMITTEE ON PATENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): I beg to move:

"That this House do concur in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill further to amend the Patents Act, 1970 made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st December, 1999 and communicated to this House on the 21st December, 1999 and do resolve that the following 20 Members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely:—

1. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar
2. Shrimati Krishna Bose
3. Shri T.T.V. Dhinakaran
4. Shrimati Sheela Gautam
5. Shri Trilochan Kanungo
6. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
7. Shri Subodh Mohite
8. Shri Rupchand Pal
9. Shri S.S. Palanimanickam
10. Shri Shrinivas Patil
11. Dr. B.B. Ramaiah
12. Shri Ram Sajivan
13. Shri S. Jaipal Reddy
14. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
15. Shri Shyamacharan Shukla
16. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
17. Shri Kirit Somaiya
18. Shri Kharabela Swain
19. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma
20. Shri Murasoli Maran"

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do concur in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill further to amend the Patents Act, 1970 made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st December, 1999 and communicated to this House on the 21st December, 1999 and do resolve that the following 20 Members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely:—

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9. Shri S.S. Palanimanickam
10. Shri Shrinivas Patil
11. Dr. B.B. Ramaiah
12. Shri Ram Sajivan
13. Shri S. Jaipal Reddy
14. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
15. Shri Shyamacharan Shukla
16. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
17. Shri Kirit Somaiya
18. Shri Kharabela Swain
19. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma
20. Shri Murasoli Maran"

The motion was adopted.

18.52 hrs.

SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT BANK OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989, be taken into consideration."

This Bill is neither a surprise nor is it complicated. It is a very simple Bill. I had promised in my Budget speech of 1998-99 in this House that SIDBI will be delinked from IDBI and make it an independent body. This Bill contains a provision to delink SIDBI from IDBI. The main features of the proposed amendments are:

Enhance the authorised capital of SIDBI from existing Rs. 250 crore to Rs. 1,000 crore with an enabling provision for further increase up to Rs. 2,000 crore.

Enlarge the shareholders base of SIDBI by enabling IDBI to transfer at least 51 per cent of equity share capital of SIDBI held by IDBI to public sector banks, insurance companies and such other institutions owned or controlled by the Central Government.

Enable SIDBI to offer up to 49 per cent of its shareholding to public. Restructure the Board of Directors and empower the Board of Directors of SIDBI to exercise the powers relating to borrowings, acceptance of deposits and investment of surplus funds.

Empower the General Body of shareholders for appointment of Auditors, approval of rate of dividend and approval of annual accounts.

Empower SIDBI to reduce its share capital with prior approval of Central Government and to issue redeemable preference shares and/or to convert part of its existing share capital into redeemable preference shares.

Enable SIDBI to meet the entire refinance requirements of State Financial Corporations and State Industrial Development Corporations.

These are the provisions which have been included in the Bill. I submit that this Bill be taken up for consideration.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2 dt. 22.12.99.

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

19.00 hrs.

"That the Bill to amend the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989, be taken into consideration."

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (Murshidabad): Mr. Speaker Sir, there was a principle when financial institutions like that of SIDBI was established. I would like to recollect that principle of the Small Industries Development Bank of India. I would like to quote:

"...for the purpose of promoting, financing and development of industrial concerns in the small scale sector and for coordinating the functions of the institutions engaged in promoting, financing or developing the industrial concerns and for matters connected therewith."

In this situation, I would like to say, to some extent, that the performance of SIDBI is not up to the mark today. The hon. Finance Minister has already mentioned in his Budget speech that SIDBI would be delinked from IDBI. Delinking of SIDBI from IDBI is a long pending demand from different quarters. Everybody wants to look SIDBI as an independent financial institution in our country because it should play a more effective role in the overall development of small scale industries in our country. I suppose this independent position of SIDBI would raise resources in a big way in the domestic as well as international markets.

I have gone through the Bill. There is a new provision to strengthen the small scale industries through SIDBI. The hon. Finance Minister has also told in a similar way.

I would like to say something about the small scale industries based on a report submitted by the SIDBI. I suppose the hon. Finance Minister had published that report. That report claims that SS! in our country is expected to grow by 8.5 per cent by 1999-2000, employment is expected to grow by 4.5 per cent by March, 2000 and it will be 18.30 millions within this stipulated period. I think this is very ambitious. But it may come true or may not become true because everybody knows about the recession which is going on in the Indian industry for the last two years. What is the position of unemployment in the country? There are nearly four crores of registered unemployed youth. Small scale industries and employment generation are closely linked. Everybody knows the present situation about employment market. What is going on in that market? Traditional PSUs are closing down day-by-day and large number of employees who are working in the PSUs are becoming unemployed. They, alongwith other unemployed people, are standing in queue in front of employment exchanges.

In this situation, the setting up of a new SSI, through the SIDBI, to provide some relief is very much required. I suppose the SIDBI will do this in a proper manner. It will take into account the grave situation of unemployment faced by the Indian youth. It will also take into account those who are becoming unemployed every day. We find only a long queue which is becoming bigger and bigger every day in front of the Employment Exchanges. The SIDBI should take the initiative to invest the SSI with power and it should promote the SSIs wherein the unemployed youth can take up some jobs throughout the country. The SIDBI should take the initiative through direct investment. It should also take the initiative through refinancing. So far as the SSIs are concerned, they are covering the sectors of textiles, food processing, printing, engineering and these types of SSIs are suffering from shortage of resources. In this situation, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to help them. The SIDBI should take into consideration certain things. It should promote this sector properly in a big way.

I would like to go through the performance that the SIDBI has performed during the last couple of years. So far as refinance is concerned, it is an important sector. The SIDBI refines banks, State Financial Corporations, SIDC and so on. I would like to raise this point because, I suppose, there is a lacuna. There is a difference between sanction and disbursement.

Now, I would like to mention here only two or three data so far as the State Financial Corporations are concerned. In 1996-97, sanction was Rs. 1310.03 crore and the disbursement was Rs. 883.69 crore. So far as 1997-98 is concerned, Rs. 1158.05 crore was the sanctioned amount and the disbursement was only Rs. 835.57 crore. The point is that the disbursement is on the lower side. Sanction is on the higher side. Of course, disbursement also increased but it is on the lower side. I would like to say here that suitable policies must be framed to meet the demands of the primary lending institutions. Refinance availed by the banks, SFCs and the SIDC is not up to the mark. So, the SIDBI should take care of it.

There is another point. It is about the development of the backward areas. SIDBI should do a lot to develop the backward areas throughout the country. I do not want to go into the details of what type of backward areas are in our country. I would like to say that the loan sanctions and disbursements should improve in order to help the backward areas. It is now declining so far as the percentage is concerned. In 1997-98, it was 33.8 per

[Shri Moinul Hassan]

cent of the total amount sanctioned by the SIDBI. In 1996-97, it was 37 per cent. In absolute terms, the amount has increased but percentage-wise it is declining. The Government should look into the matter properly.

Another important section of SIDBI is the resource support to the institution. I suppose the resource support institutions are engaged in promotion and development of small-scale industries in our country. What is the performance of SIDBI in this area? In 1996-97, the amount sanctioned was Rs. 1,406.06 crore and only Rs. 660.53 crore were disbursed. In 1997-98, the amount sanctioned was Rs. 1,447.70 crore and Rs. 677.70 crore were disbursed. It is marginally high. I request the hon. Minister of Finance to take care of this situation.

There is ample scope to do it in a big way for further development of small-scale industries. It is an important sector where SIDBI should provide resource support for the institutions, that is, those institutions which are engaged in promotion and development of the small-scale industries. That is the Project Finance Scheme. I have seen the Report. The Project Finance Scheme has declined. I do not know the reasons but it is declining. It was 28.8 per cent in 1997-98 and 13.8 per cent during 1996-97. Both under 'sanctioned' and 'disbursement' heads, it is declining.

I will not take much time of the House. But I would like to say that there is ample scope to strengthen the State Financial Corporations on behalf of the SIDBI. There is also an ample scope to strengthen SIDBI. Hon. Minister of Finance has already announced it in his speech also. So, I would like to conclude my speech by supporting this Bill.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Bhilwara): Sir, I rise to support the Bill. I think, it is a welcome Bill that SIDBI gets an entity of its own. It should have been done quite a few years ago. There are only two or three points that I want to put on record. Number one is that there are a lot of sick industries in the small-scale sector. It was required that some sort of an agency, that is, of the type of BIFR should be there to look after, revamp, reorganise and rehabilitate them. That was missing for a long time. I do not know if the hon. Minister will make SIDBI also responsible to be an agency to look after the sick small-scale industries.

The other thing is that a lot of small industries, which come up in the rural areas are by the side of the highways. It may be National Highways. It might also be big district roads. You know that environment problem comes in. The National Highways are already over-polluted with the industries coming up next to them. That is

another problem. You have been travelling abroad. You must have noticed that one does not see any industry on the 'freeways'. They are all put quite a few kilometres away. You go to Jaipur or you go from Baroda to Ahmedabad. The industries are on both sides of the highways. Why should a small industry be on the roadside of the National Highways polluting the already polluted National Highways and big roads.

I hope this would also be considered. I would request the hon. Minister to consider having two Members of Parliament as Directors of SIDBI also.

Thank you very much.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Hon. Speaker Sir, I submit my views on the Small Industries Development Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1999.

Sir, the enhancement of authorised capital of SIDBI from Rs. 250 crore to Rs. 1000 crore with an enabling provision for further increase to Rs 2,000 crore. In clause 45, there is a protection accorded under this Act.

"45. No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Small Industries Bank, Chairman or any Director or any officer or other employee of such Bank or any other person authorised by that Bank to discharge any functions under this Act for any loss or damage caused..."

How will we know whether he acted in good faith or bad faith. Rs. 2000 crore, without any accountability, if this House is voting to establish a new bank, it is quite unheard of. There should be a controlling provision to control the Chairman or Director.

The Finance Minister knows how the nationalised banks are in a mess. Are we able to recover the dues? Now, here the small industries obtain loans, start a small industry and they do not repay. They resort to State Financial Corporation Act. They file a petition. It is being dragged and they do not pay, normally..(Interruptions)

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : You have to think about their sickness.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Who is healthy? Normally, they go by sickness. After getting the money, they become sick. Before getting the money, they healthy. There are so many small industries which have received loans and have not repaid. So, if this amount of Rs. 2000 crore, even sums drawn from General Insurance Corporation of India and LIC, etc. that is intended for social projects for rural sector, is appropriated by the Small Industries

Development Bank of India without any penal provision, without any restraint or constraint, will the Finance Minister move this Bill? How is he going to help the development of small industries?

There are banks. Now, every bank is empty and he is going to start another bank. This is also going to be empty. So I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to reconsider this. I would like to know whether this bank is necessary at this juncture. Maybe for small industries it is drafted well because it is being drafted by the Law Department. But, will it achieve a purpose?..(Interruptions)

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Sir, he should not condemn it as a whole.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: The object sought to be achieved will not be achieved. So, I appeal the hon. Finance Minister, at least, to screen the borrowers. There should be a provision before this clause 45 and there should be a Screening Committee as to whom the loan should be given and the antecedents of the borrowers are to be verified. Now, he has said about 'good faith'. Here he says, 'whether the officials have acted in good faith?'

In clause 45 it is stated:

"...to discharge any functions under this Act for any loss or damage caused or likely to be caused by anything which is in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act or any other law or provision having the force of law."

Now, whether the borrower acted in good faith while applying for loan, in receiving the money or in repaying the money, there should be a clause. Let there be an amendment moved by the hon. Minister to correct it.

I support the idea but not the contents.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, though it is belated, it is one of the best things that the Finance Minister is doing in this Session. I congratulate him for having considered the development of the small scale industries in India.

Today, the Indian economy is mostly dependent on small scale industries and agriculture. Nobody can deny that. All the big industries have gone to the hands of the multinational companies. They are not in our hands. Whatever little number of big industries that we are having, most of them are in default. One big industry defaults Rs. 1,000 crore, and another big industry defaults Rs. 2,000 crore. We have to look into that aspect.

Compared to that, the risk factor in respect of small scale industries is very much limited. Even if somebody defaults, the loss to the bank is only a few crores of rupees. But when you reap good things, you will have good fruits out of the small scale industries. So, I suggest that the Minister can increase the share capital to Rs. 5,000 crore and not limit it to Rs. 2,000 crore by making a provision for going up to Rs. 5,000 crore. So, initially it can subscribe to Rs. 1,000 crore. Afterwards, the Minister need not come again for making it to Rs. 5,000 crore.

A few crores of small scale industries are there all over India. In every State, there are a few lakhs of small scale industries. Why are they becoming sick today? I can tell you that it is because they have not been provided in time either with the share capital or the working capital or the term loan.

I beg to differ with my previous speaker, Shri P.H. Pandiyan on one thing. There is a difference between the other banks and SIDBI. This is a development Bank, a share-capital issue bank. This is a bank which promotes the industry; whereas the other banks give only the working capital. If that working capital is not being properly utilised, then there is no further limit. Either they have to pay or close the industry. That is why, many of the small scale industries located in Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh or in other parts of the country are being closed down. So, the distinction between a development bank and a commercial bank has been drawn very carefully by the hon. Finance Minister here. So, the risk factor here is scattered. More beneficiaries are going to be benefited. The country is going to depend ultimately on the small scale industries only.

Technology-wise, ours is a developing country. India is not a developed country. A developing country has to depend on the small scale industries and not on the large industries. The large industries are only in the hands of the multinationals.

So, I support this Bill. I would like to tell the hon. Finance Minister one thing that in the last Budget he has promised to give some sops to the small scale industries which are located in the rural areas. I think, that is yet to come. Again, next Budget is coming. I am sure that the rural small scale industries are looking forward to the Finance Minister and hope that he would give some concessions in Central Excise and Sales Tax matters. Sales tax is a State subject. As far as the Central Excise is concerned, they are hoping that some sops would be provided to rural small scale industries. I am sure that the hon. Finance Minister will fulfil his promise along with the passing of this Bill.

With these few words, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister and I fully support this Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the all-round support that this Bill has received from this House.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you have to thank them.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, as was rightly mentioned by the hon. Members, the basic purpose of this Bill is to ensure that the small scale industries in this country prosper. SIDBI has a major refinance role. Therefore, we are increasing the capital base of SIDBI four-fold with a further provision that we can further have one hundred per cent increase from Rs. 1,000 crore to Rs. 2,000 crore, if that were to become necessary.

Now, a few specific points have been raised. This is found general acceptance from all sections of the House. The basic purpose of the Bill is not in question. One or two issues have been raised by hon. Members. One is in regard to sanctions and disbursements. I find from the figures that I have that in 1998-99, as far as sanctions are concerned, the growth was 18.6 per cent; and as far as disbursements are concerned, the growth was 19.9 per cent. These are quite impressive growths despite the fact that there were recessionary conditions and the economy was in a slow down phase in 1998-99, but small scale industries were doing well.

The other issue which has been raised is in regard to having some Members of Parliament on the Board of SIDBI. It is a suggestion for action. When we are constituting it, I would certainly like to keep this in mind. The Members of Parliament do make a very significant contribution to the functioning of any such agency especially a development agency like SIDBI. Sir, I would only like to say that ever since it was set up in 1990, SIDBI has done excellent work. All the indices of its performance show that it has not only come up, but it has come up very well. What is of particular interest is that out of the total refinance assistance, about 39 per cent has gone to projects in backward areas. The percentage of assistance which has gone to the tiny sector, by number of units, is about 89 per cent and by amount, it is 36 per cent. So, SIDBI has been taking special care of the backward areas and of the tiny units where we want to lay emphasis. I would like to assure the hon. House that the promise that I made in my Budget speech this year about excise concession to rural areas, being a commitment, we will certainly implement it. There is no doubt about that.

There is the problem of sickness in the small scale sector. It is a very major problem. The SIDBI has a number of schemes where we are improving their technology, where we are improving their marketing, improving their export performance and we are already trying to take out the level of sickness of the small scale units. But I do not know whether a body like BIFR for small scale industries will serve any purpose. In fact, the BIFR itself is under a re-think because the whole Sick Industries Act is under a re-think at the present moment.

The final point was in regard to Clause 45 which Shri Pandiyan has raised. I would only like to inform him that this is absolutely in accordance with the old provision. All that we are doing is replacing the words because we will have now a Chairman, as Managing director. So, there is nothing which I am trying to create afresh or anew. This is in line with the provision which exists in banks and financial institutions. This is to prevent unnecessary harassment of the officials in case they have acted in good faith. Good faith, as you know, is a question which can always be challenged in a court of law. So, it does not completely bar the jurisdiction of the courts of law. So, I will suggest that in view of the all round support that this Bill has found, this Bill may now be passed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: There is one small clarification by Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI (Nainital): While I compliment the hon. Minister for bringing forward this Bill, I think it should have been done earlier. But while I compliment him for bringing this Bill to de-link the Small Industries Development Bank from the IDBI, to give it a more authority and to have its own functioning, I would generally like to say that the major problem with the small industries is not just the question of financing or project financing or operating capital from State financial corporations. The major problem is sickness. I am informed authoritatively that more than seven lakh small scale industrial units are sick or very sick.

According to my information, lakhs of units have been closed down. Earlier, the Reserve Bank had a scheme; rather it was the responsibility of the commercial banks to not only look into the sickness of the small scale sector at the bank level but also the banks had to look into the sickness problem of each and every unit, as per the laid down procedure. But recently the banks are looking into and taking more care of the bigger units and the heavy industrial units. The focus on small-scale industries is not there. The earlier focus is no longer there. The lead bank scheme has more or less slowed down. The Banking Committees do not meet at the State

level. The Reserve Bank has to convene a meeting of the bankers to discuss all these problems of small-scale industries at the State level. The District Industries Centres are non-functional in many districts of the country. The question of meeting the problem of sickness is having a very alarming dimension in many parts of the country.

I think, it would not be too late if some sort of a project is formulated by which SIDBI interacts with the banks to come to the succour of the small-scale industries which are closing down or have been closed down. Therefore, it is mostly in the States that the Financial Corporations provide help in setting up new units or helping earlier units. I do not have here in the report any account of how the State Financial Corporations are functioning because there is no monitoring that way. SIDBI does monitor and help the State Financial Corporations. But have we gone into the structuring of the different State Financial Corporations? They had a very important meeting a few years ago in Kerala where they had given their suggestions to the Financial Corporations. The Chairmen of the Financial Corporations throughout the country met in Kerala and gave certain suggestions. I think, with the more autonomous SIDBI, operations of the State Financial Corporations will improve. But what is their report? What advice has the SIDBI given to the Financial Corporations?

I find that the sanctions to the State Financial Corporations are Rs. 908 crore and disbursement is only Rs. 340 crore. In 1997-98, for assistance for leasing of the State Financial Corporations, the sanction was Rs. 38 crore, but disbursement was zero. Then, again the disbursement to the small-scale industrial Corporations is satisfactory.

Regarding the gap between sanctions and disbursements, I think, the SIDBI will be well-advised to look into these things.

Sir, I will request you to give me some time later on to say all these things.

Then, what about job creation? Now, the Government set up a target that one crore jobs will be created every year.

How will these ten million jobs be created every year? What would be the role of the banks and specially of the small industries in this regard?

While the SIDBI made a good beginning by itself, it should be a part of the overall thrust of the Government and these new jobs are created through small industries. Already there is a large scale retrenchment after the

closing down of industries. Semi-skilled and unskilled people are moving around the country who are jobless. Therefore, we must project a plan for it and SIDBI's role should be very specifically mentioned. I would like to know about the steps that are being taken, well, in the field of development and small scale sectors. What are the State-wise figures of sick units and small scale industries round the country? What steps have been taken? Have we held any meeting of the Industries Ministers or that of the Small Scale Ministers or of the Chief Ministers in this regard by which we can come to the succour of the small scale industries which are getting sicker and sicker and which are closing down?

I was told that this Bill would be taken up tomorrow. As soon as I got a phone call I came here, a little late. I would have spoken at length. But now, because it is time only to seek clarification, I conclude.

Sir, I am very thankful to you for having allowed me this time to seek clarifications. I hope that the hon. Minister will suitably respond to my queries. He might like to give any supplementary information in this context.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari has raised some very important issues and I would certainly like to respond to them to the best of my ability. The problem of sickness is something which had been raised earlier and I have responded to that. But I will respond in some greater detail.

The total number of sick units in the small scale sector at the end of March, 1997 was 2,35,032. It came down marginally by March, 1998 to 2,21,536. Now I am not reporting this as a matter of great satisfaction. But these are statistics. Now the SIDBI has a special programme as directed by the Reserve Bank of India. Hon. Members will appreciate that one of the major reasons for sickness in the small scale sector has traditionally been lack of timely and adequate finance - especially working capital finance. SIDBI is giving project assistance and re-financing for project assistance. Working capital is the responsibility of the other lending institutions, especially the banks. Recognising this that this is the main reason for sickness, SIDBI has decided to create an exclusive re-finance scheme for rehabilitation of sick units under which assistance is provided to potentially viable SSI units, cottage and village industries and tiny industries with a proper rehabilitation package.

This is something which is already in operation and SIDBI is at it. I must confess that I am also concerned at this situation. Therefore, I have personally gone out, Mr. Speaker, Sir, and attended meetings of State-level

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

bankers' Committees in some of the States wherever I find time so that we could look at how the banks are financing the small scale and tiny units.

I am taking personal interest in that matter and I have gone to some of the more backward States to ensure this and in future, between my colleagues in the Ministry and I, we will multiply these visits so that we keep a check or some kind of surveillance and monitoring on the functioning of the banks also.

Now, the other issue which was raised by Shri Tiwari was in regard to the functioning of the State Finance Corporations. The State Finance Corporations, unfortunately, have fallen upon bad days in many States. Their net worth has been eroded. In many cases they are not in a position to re-finance and, therefore, this whole matter of the restructuring of the State Finance Corporations is also under consideration.

I hope that very soon, may be by the next Session of Parliament, we will be coming back to the House with a restructuring proposal of the State Finance Corporations.

But Sir, the House will appreciate that as far as the State Finance Corporations are concerned, we will have to take the State Governments with us. Whatever we wish to do, we must have the support of the State Governments. So, that is the direction in which we are working.

Now, Shri Tiwari sought another clarification and that was in respect of the job creation, the ten million jobs that we have promised to create in this country every year. I would like to say that this is not wrestling in the dark. We have a definite plan of action for creation of these job opportunities, and the small-scale sector, the village and rural industries, the tiny sector will play a very important role in the creation of these newer job opportunities. We already have, the SIDBI has a number of schemes to help our small-scale and tiny industries. They are of all kinds. I can take Project Finance Schemes, Venture Capital Schemes. In fact, Members will recall that recently, we have set up a Rs. 100 crore Venture Capital Fund, where SIDBI's contribution has also been made, for development of the information technology industry in this country. Venture capital is going to assume an increasingly important role in the development of industries, especially small-scale industries. We want to bring in a new generation of entrepreneurship in this country. So, it is very important that we create our venture capital funds.

Then, we have schemes for activities relating to marketing of SSI products, assistance for development of industrial infrastructure, equipment finance schemes, integrated infrastructure development schemes, scheme

of assistance for ISO 9000 certification, foreign currency term loans, schemes for pre-shipment and credit financing. Then, we have technology development, modernisation, technology upgradation fund scheme for domestic factoring, direct discounting of bills, scheme of bills. So, a number of schemes have been prepared by SIDBI to suit requirements in each and every sector. That is why, I ventured, Sir, to say that in the nine years of its existence, SIDBI has played a very important role. They have met the Eighth Plan target of financing of the small-scale sector and I am quite confident that they will be able to meet the Ninth Plan target of financing of the small scale sector also.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 25 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 25 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

The House now stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

19.39 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 23, 1999/
Pausa 2, 1921 (Saka)*

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