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Wednesday, May 14, 1997

Vaisakha 24, 1919 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Part-IV)
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XIV contains No. 1 to 12)

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CORRIGENDA TO LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Wednesday, May 14, 1997/Vaisakha 24, 1919 (Saka)

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210/3	SHRI SHOHANBEER SINGH	SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH
229/33	SHRI MUNNI LAL	SHRI MUNI LAL
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, May 14, 1997/Vaisakha 24, 1919 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[PROF. RITA VERMA *in the Chair*]

[English]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the demise of our esteemed friend Shri B. Bhagvati.

Shri B. Bhagvati was a member of Second, Third and Fourth Lok Sabha, representing Darrang and Tezpur Parliamentary constituencies of Assam during 1957-70. Earlier, he was a member of Assam Legislative Assembly for ten years. He served as Union Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications and Works and Urban Development from May, 1962 to March, 1967.

A veteran freedom fighter, he had actively participated in the Non-cooperation Movement in 1921 and Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930 and had suffered imprisonment on many occasions.

A widely travelled person, he was the workers' representative to Geneva on the Plantation Committee of the International Labour Organisation. A man of letters, Shri Bhagvati authored many books—'Gandhivad' and 'Bhartiya Sanskritik Dhara' are some of his important publications.

Shri Bhagvati passed away at Tezpur on 8th May, 1997 at the age of 90 years.

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 deceased.

11.02 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (DUMARIAGANJ):
Madam, Chairman....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour should not be treated as Zero Hour. You should get time in the Zero Hour.

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Rural Electrification

[Translation]

+
*541 DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :

SHRI N.J. RATHWA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in the country during the last three years and the funds incurred thereon. State-wise;

(b) whether it is proposed to include rural electrification as a minimum basic amenity under the common minimum programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The details of the villages electrified in all the States, as reported by the respective State Electricity Boards and the financial assistance provided by the REC to the State Electricity Boards, in the last 3 years is given in the Annexure enclosed

(b) and (c) Government accords priority to rural electrification in order to provide the energy infrastructure as a 'basic need for rural development'.

Annexure

(i) *State-wise villages electrified and Financial Assistance provided during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (Prov.)*

(i)	Sl. No.	State	No. of villages electrified during			Financial assistance provided to the SEBs including for village electrification by REC#		
			1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Prov.)	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(ii)								(Rs. in lakhs)
(h)	1.	Andhra Pradesh*				13221	10329	1787
	2.	Arunachal	310	121	91	2779	1555	1199
(i)	3.	Assam	170	222	126	3600	3000	13
	4.	Bihar	59	43	27	588	0	0
	5.	Delhi*				0	0	0
(v)	6.	Goa*				0	0	197
	7.	Gujarat*				4409	4640	4205
	8.	Haryana*				1598	1053	1076
(v)	9.	H.P.*				1307	1299	1470
	10.	J & K	50	43	13	926	1567	1800
VICE-F	11.	Karnataka*				5004	6871	8520
	12.	Kerala*				1597	4179	4825
	13.	M.P.	1019	503	400	16158	15055	13362
	14.	Maharashtra*				9299	9730	8599
	15.	Manipur	71	163	140	709	1348	1980
	16.	Meghalaya	0	0	60	0	386	0
	17.	Mizoram	65	45	9	819	741	337
DICU€	18.	Nagaland*				11	80	175
R	19.	Orissa	223	740	585 @	1700	1582	1200
	20.	Punjab*				2497	2153	3219
	21.	Rajasthan	699	750	670	7704	7065	9200
	22.	Sikkim*				30	0	0
	23.	Tamil Nadu*				7779	7243	7646
	24.	Tripura	150	62	16	648	565	633
	25.	U.P.	428	1305	1283	9253	1886	7142
	26.	West Bengal	310	89	49 @	2089	566	423
		Total	3554	4086	4369	93725	82893	79008

- Note 1: Asterisk represent the States which have achieved 100% electrification (excluding those villages which are technically not feasible for electrification).
- 2: Plan allocation and release of funds are programme-wise and not for each component such as village electrification and pumpset energisation. Hence the financial assistance indicated in columns 6, 7 and 8 is for all the programme including for village electrification (new and already electrified, wherever applicable).
- 3: Physical achievements during 1994-95 & 1995-96 include State Plan also. Achievements during 1996-97 are provisional.
- @ Progress upto February, 1997.
- # Does not include grant released under Kutir Jyoti Programme and a sum of Rs. 8243 lakhs provided under leasing and Wind Energy Generation etc.

[Translation]

DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI: Hon'ble our Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister the total number of villages in Uttar Pradesh at present which are yet to be electrified and the time by which they are likely to be electrified. At present the situation is that transformers are lying burnt in villages. There are the poles without wires. Equipments to install transformers are lying for years. They are not being maintained. The equipments of Power Station are lying for years in my constituency Sujanganj but the work is yet to be started. An announcement has been made to set up a power sub station at Narora under Meerapur Assembly constituency in Pratapgarh but the work could not be started so far. Whether in view of the above facts Government have conducted any survey in this regard ?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI : Madam, in Uttar Pradesh, the total number of provisionally electrified villages as on 31.3.96 is 86,639 villages. It comes to 77 per cent of the population. The total number of villages to be electrified in Budget up to 1997 is 1283. Against this, the total achievement covered is 78 per cent. The total achievement at the end of March, 1997 are 87,922 villages.

Regarding survey, the Central Government, especially the Regulatory Corporation is giving enormous support to all the proposals of the Electricity Boards. The REC would definitely support the proposals through funding.

[Translation]

DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI: Whether the honourable Minister would be please to tell the number of such villages which are still to be electrified and whether there is any possibility to electrify those villages ? By when those villages can be electrified ?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: As per the Census of 1981, out of 11.25 lakh villages, 8.66 lakh villages are electrified. Nearly 30 per cent are still to be electrified. Selection of villages and other things are left to the State Electricity Boards. After receiving proposals, the REC would fund the projects.

[Translation]

SHRI N.J. RATHWA: My question was as to how many villages have been electrified during the last three years but in reply, the number of villages of several states have not been mentioned. There are several states like Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka and Kerala for which funds have been allocated but the number of villages to be electrified in these states has not been mentioned. I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to whether the Government have formulated any special scheme to identify only such villages, particularly in tribal and backward areas, which have not been electrified so far and to electrify all other villages excluding those villages where Harijans and tribal people are inhabited ?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: Madam, as mentioned in the Annexure, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat and Haryana have 100 per cent electrified villages.

We are still surveying the total number of Dalit *Basti* Electrified villages. As on 31.3.96, Dalit *Basti* Electrified villages are nearly 55.2 per cent, that is, 2,87,766 villages. As on 30.9.96, the total number of electrified villages is 2,88,043 villages, that is, 55.2 per cent. The total number of electrified tribal villages is 1,11,886.

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY: In the statement given by the hon. Minister, the allocation for Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97 has come down to hardly Rs. 17 crore as against Rs. 132 crore in 1994-95 and Rs. 103 crore in 1995-96. Bihar which is supposed to be not 100 per cent covered State, the allocation in 1995-96 and in 1996-97 are practically nil. Is the Ministry doing any job in finding out the States where there is no electrification at all ? What exactly is the action being taken by the Ministry regarding those villages which are not technically feasible ?

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: The financial assistance provided to the various State Electricity Boards depends on their viability and their standings. But the REC is not deducting any fund whether it is Andhra Pradesh or Bihar or any other State. This subject comes under the Concurrent List and it is for both the Centre and the State to act.

The REC is supporting the State Governments regard-

ing provision of funds for rural electrification. The REC is providing 100 per cent funds but at the same time, we have also to recover the outstanding arrears from various State Governments. As on 31.3.97, nearly Rs. 8900 crore were the arrears. Whatever funds were given by the World Bank or any such institution, still we will have to approach the banks for more funds. Now, those institutions are asking us about the recovery of those arrears. The REC is not an executing agency. As far as execution is concerned, it is the responsibility of both the Central and the State Governments.

Recently, a lot of discussion had taken place. Even some questions were raised in the Standing Committee. There was also a question about its inclusion in the Common Minimum Programme of the United Front Government. Madam, I would request all the hon. Members of this august House, through you, to give their suggestions with respect to the changing of definition. Earlier there was a boundary about energisation of pumpsets or for electrifying the houses beyond which we could not go. Then, we also collected the information as to how to totally energise all the villages. We had counted the number of those villages, and electrified them. Each village is having seven to eight hamlets. Those hamlets are not covered. But, we are not taking into account those hamlets for electrification. So, there is a necessity of changing the definition.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: Honourable Madam Chairman, in our country the number of villages is more than four lakhs. Today, after 50 years of Independence when we are going to celebrate it I feel that by not providing electricity to the people living in the villages, they are being treated like second class citizens. Through you, I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to how much time it will take to electrify each and every village of the country and by when the programme of electrification will be completed? In my constituency, Junagarh, there are more than one thousand such villages which have not been electrified. It seems that the benefit of Independence of India has not reached them till today. Therefore, I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to what programme the Government have chalked out to give benefits of electrification to all people living in the villages and by when this programme would be completed?

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: Madam, according to 1991 census, 5,87,288 villages were to be electrified. As on 31.3.97, there were 5,50,300 villages to be electrified. So, it has come down to 87 per cent. As far as covering the whole country is concerned, as I submitted earlier, it is the responsibility of both the Central and the State Governments. The REC is only a financial body. The executing agencies are the Electricity Boards. Once the Electricity Boards are able to identify the locality or the area, they will have to utilise the funds provided by the

REC. The hon. Members may see that we are not deducting anything from the Plan allocation. In fact, it is growing steadily. In 1994-95, it was Rs. 704.85 crore. In 1996-97, it has gone up to Rs. 758 crore. So, the plan allocations for the Department of Power and the Ministry of Finance have also increased steadily. But the problem is of outstanding dues. As I have already told the outstanding arrears are to the tune of Rs. 8900 crore. Only because of this we are not able to electrify all the villages. If the Electricity Boards are able to pay their arrears, then the REC will be able to continuously support them. As per the survey, it was told that by the year 2000, all the villages will be electrified. I would like to say that practically it is not feasible. This much I can say.

SHRI N. DENNIS: Madam Chairperson, though considerable achievement has been made in respect of rural electrification, some far flung hilly and remote areas are not provided with electricity so far. May I know from the hon. Minister whether any special strategy would be made for providing electricity connections to these remote and far flung areas?

The Hon. Minister has stated that it is the responsibility of the State Governments to provide electricity connections in the villages. I would like to know if any direction has been given by the Central Government for a time bound programme for providing electricity connections. I would also like to know whether any report has been received from the State Governments on the basis of which the entire country would be provided electricity connections within a time limit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask questions directly so that some more Members could be accommodated.

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: In addition to our regular programmes like pump set energy, RE, etc. we are also providing funds through the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to take up small hydro projects, wind energy, etc. The REC is also providing funds to the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to electrify remote, hilly, tribal and dalit areas.

As the hon. Member has rightly said, even though we have achieved a lot in the past fifty years, it is not sufficient. So in this year, 1997-98 we are spending Rs. 20 crore through REC on non-conventional energy to take up projects like small hydro projects, wind energy and gas reserve projects.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: May I know from the hon. Minister as to how many villages, percentage wise, in the country are considered to be technically not feasible for expansion of rural electrification; and whether the Government is considering any proposal to redefine rural electrification to facilitate involvement of the Panchayati Raj system to expedite the progress of rural electrification in the backward areas?

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: Nearly 18,000 villages in the remote areas have been identified for this. There is also a proposal before the Ministry for a change of the definition of rural electrification.

As I have told this august House earlier that in the revenue boundary, whether it is for the pump set or for electrification of a village or a hamlet, it would be covered 100 per cent for electrification purposes. Now we want to change it and for that we are changing the concept from village revenue boundary to inhabitation. In consultation with the Central Electricity Authority, we are changing the definition.

Furthermore I would request all the hon. Members, if they wish to submit any suggestions regarding change of definition, they may kindly do so. Their suggestions would be welcomed.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Bhavnaji has already asked my question.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Every Member cannot ask a question in the Question Hour. Members are requested to send their questions to the honourable Minister in writing and get the replies.

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA: Madam Chairperson, I would like to ask from the honourable Minister as to whether it is correct that those villages which have been electrified, have intact not been electrified completely and a large part or several localities of those villages have not been electrified. What schemes the Government propose to launch to electrify the part or portions of those villages ?

Second thing is that in electrified villages transformers often become out of order and the State Governments take several months to get these transformers repaired.

Whether the Central Government has any scheme to help the State Governments so that they can keep spare transformers and in case of failure of a transformer in any village, spare transformer can be installed there. Supply of electricity should be maintained at least in those areas where it is being supplied at present. Therefore, through you, I would like to know as to how classification will be completed in partly electrified villages, and what arrangements do the Government want to make to repair those transformers which go out of order.

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: Madam, in addition to our regular programmes we are spending a sum of Rs. 20 crore yearly for the MLAs' programmes and non-conventional energy programmes. We are taking up programmes like small, hydro, wind energy, and gas based programmes. Further, we are having system improvement schemes through the REC. Through the system improvement schemes we are providing loans to State Electricity Boards for making transformers and other systems and also to improve the efficiency of load.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Madam Chairperson, the question was asked about all the states. There are seven Union Territories in India out of which information has been given in regard to two Union Territories only in reply to the question but no information has been given about five other Union Territories. Union Territory of Chandigarh has demanded funds from the Government in this regard. Punjab, Haryana High Court has directed the Chandigarh Administration to give power connections in those areas where these connections have not been given so far. Therefore through you, I would like to know as to why information in regard to remaining five Union Territories including Chandigarh, has not been given and if you have got the required information are you in a position to apprise this House of the actual position.

DR. S. VENUGOPALA CHARI: Madam, I will pass on this information to the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall move on to the next question—Q. No. 542.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Madam, before you move on to the next question, I would like to know as to why I am specifically targeted by the Secretariat by supplying blank pages as schedules in the List of Business to me. Madam, would you please ask the Secretariat to inquire into it ?.....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: You can raise this issue later on and not during the Question Hour.....(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Actually I wanted to raise it before the start of the Question Hour. Madam, I saw that you had started the Question Hour....(Interruptions) Would you please ask the Secretariat to inquire into it ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can raise it later on.

Now, we shall take up the next question.

Allocation to Mega Cities

*542 SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission on Urbanisation had recommended allocation of funds for mega cities for the purpose of infrastructure development in the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans;

(b) if so, the details of amount allocated to the mega cities;

(c) whether the Government propose to continue the mega city scheme in the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to include more cities in mega city scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, including the criteria laid down for the selection of cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amounts allotted to the mega cities under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities, formulated in pursuance of the recommendations of the National Commission on Urbanisation, are as follows:-

Mega City	Funds Released (1993-97)* (Rupees in crores)
Calcutta	67.86
Mumbai	67.36
Chennai	55.26
Hyderabad	53.49
Bangalore	45.83
Total:	289.80

* The funds for 1993-94 were released by the Planning Commission as Special Central Assistance and were treated as Central share for the Mega City Scheme. From 1994-95 onwards the funds were released by Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government has proposed to the Planning Commission to continue the Mega City Scheme in the 9th Plan.

(d) At present there is no proposal to include more cities under the Mega City Scheme.

(e) The criterion for inclusion of a city under the Mega City Scheme as per the Scheme Guidelines is that the population as per the 1991 Census is more than 4 million.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Madam Chairperson, the Central Government have issued guidelines in regard to implementation of centrally sponsored schemes in mega cities and provided funding pattern for them. As per this funding pattern, 25 per cent share is borne by the central Government, 25 per cent by the state Government and the remaining 50 per cent is borne by nodal implementing agency but the nodal agency has to face many problems in collecting this 50 per cent share. Central Government is responsible to make effective these centrally sponsored schemes. Therefore, through you I would like to know as to whether the Central Government are considering to enhance its share which is 25 percent at present ?

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, this scheme, as the hon. Member has observed, is a centrally sponsored scheme. When this scheme was formulated, it was formulated on the basis that 50 per cent would be borne by both the State Government and the Central Government on 50:50 basis; 25 per cent of the project cost would be provided by the Central Government, the Union Government, as a grant; 25 per cent would be borne by the State Government and remaining 50 per cent was to be raised either in the shape of a loan from the institutions or by developing the land or by having some other means for raising the funds internally by the State Government.

But the total work is entrusted to a nodal agency by the Central Government. As such, there is no proposal nor is it possible for the Central Government to raise its share from 25 per cent to any further.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Guidelines have been fixed for mega city scheme, which do not include schemes of Master Plan of Municipal Corporation taken. Through you, I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to whether the schemes of Municipalities can be included in Mega city scheme ?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, I do not know what exactly the hon. Member wants me to answer this question. As far as the Mega City Scheme is concerned, the Municipal Corporation is eligible to have its own plan. But there is a State level Sanctioning Committee. Any project that is conceived by the Municipal Corporation, can be passed through that State level Sanctioning Committee and that scheme can be approved in the Sanctioning Committee. As far as the number of schemes that are to be included under the Mega City Scheme within the purview of its level is concerned, the Central Government will not interfere.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Madam, this question of Mega Cities is drawing the attention of all the important metropolitan cities as listed in the answer. May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the city adjacent to the Mega Cities is treated as a combined city or not? I give a specific instance of the city of Calcutta. Both Calcutta and Howrah are treated as a combined city. Howrah is the constituency that I represent. I have been arguing right from Prime Minister, to the hon. Minister and to the Chief Minister that it should be treated as a twin city project both within the Mega City complex. The factual problem is that the Municipal Corporation has no infrastructure. When I started interacting with the municipal authorities, they admitted that they had no infrastructure to implement this Plan. They say, 'we have no competent technical staff and officials'. Money is allotted. Although the money that is being allotted is meagre, I am not arguing on that now. In what manner and in what capacity, is it going to be implemented ?

Before the Budget was placed, without consulting Surat, without consulting Kanpur, without consulting Ahmadabad, I proposed on their behalf because my group of team has been working in this urban conglomeration, keeping in view the horrible conditions of their civic life, the slum conditions and the drinking water, that these cities be taken special care of within the mega concept by the Prime Minister. But nothing has been done. I proposed Nagpur also. On the one hand the Government is making a principle that we should not make any more crowd to the main urban centre and on the other hand, the Government is telling that the Mega City complexes ensure immediate implementation of the programme. When we go to the State, we find that bureaucracy and technical infrastructure are nil. Does it need any effort? Now I am coming to the question of Calcutta and Howrah. I have drawn your attention. In those cities, there has been no water for the last 10 months and the women are in the streets for water. There is no slum improvement. The Mega City money is lying idle. The Howrah Municipal Commissioner told me that he had no infrastructure. The CMC says that he has not got the guidelines. The Minister says that he had sent the money. Who will do it? I do not understand. Please answer, therefore, the following questions; (a) Whether Howrah is clubbed with Calcutta as a twin-city project; (b) What specific mechanism has he evolved to provide the technical superintendence for implementing this project? What is going on?...(Interruptions)

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Calcutta and Howrah come under one Mega City Project. Both are under one Mega City Project.

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: The name of Howrah has not figured in it.

[English]

You have to say why Calcutta and Howrah have not been mentioned.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: I do not know the historical reason why it has been mentioned only as a Calcutta Mega City Project and why it has not been mentioned as Calcutta-Howrah Mega City Project. But as far as the Mega City Project is concerned... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can reply to the second part of the question.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, it is under the Calcutta Mega City Project. As I have been mentioning earlier the schemes which are to be taken up under the purview of that Mega City, will be decided by the State level Committee.

As far as Calcutta is concerned, the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority is the nodal agency which is finalising and implementing this project. In Calcutta, 56 projects have been approved which have been conceived

by this Committee...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Madam, I seek your protection because the hon. Minister has just now admitted that Howrah is included in Calcutta. No projects are given to Howrah; only to Calcutta they are being given. That is why, I am asking this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him reply.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: You live at Calcutta, so they are giving preference to Calcutta region.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Shri Pal, do not make a mistake. This is a serious question. If all the trains are stopped at Howrah, none of you people will be able to come to Delhi. Will that be all right?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister reply.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: The hon. Member has given me a letter. I have forwarded that letter to the State Government for considering this particular project. I am yet to receive the information from them. Even now regarding any deletions or additions in the approved projects, it is up to the State level sanctioning Committee. There will be a representative from my Ministry. There will be a representative on the Committee even from the Planning Commission. The Committee can take up either deletion or addition of these projects within the purview of the total budget that has been allotted for that.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Madam Chairperson, whether any funds have been made available for the project Mega city 'B' by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment of the Central Government? If so, how much amount has been given to Rajasthan during the last five years and the details of amount provided out of that city-wise separately? Please make it clear.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: This will not come under Mega city Project.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can write to him.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Yes.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Madam Chairperson, there is a criteria fixed for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can write to him and the Minister would send a reply.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I request the Members to maintain some order in the House?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: The scheme of Mega City which the Central Government is implementing is in

conformity with certain principles. The people migrate from villages to cities and from one State to another and it puts tremendous burden on the cities which receive such migrant population.

The city of Mumbai has now exceeded a population of more than twelve million. We are talking about Mega City status—the cities having only four million population. But thrice that number lives in the city of Mumbai. More than half of the population lives in slums and in almost sub-human conditions. The State Government is trying hard to bring up their standards of living. But with such pittance that the Central Government is providing, which is less than Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 per head, it is a cruel joke. It is adding insult to injury.

Is the Central Government thinking of putting additional amount into the city of Mumbai specifically because it claims to be the commercial capital of the country? Is the Government thinking of taking a share of the development of that city and not just an amount of Rs. 14 crore or Rs. 25 crore *ad hoc* which loses all its relevance? So, what is the Government's thinking in this matter? Is it in conformity with the principle that you have accorded the status of Mega City? Is the Government contemplating to take specific share in the development of the city and bringing up the lives of human beings who have migrated from all over the country? Is the Government thinking of putting up a cess on other States whose population we receive in our small Mumbai?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: The Mega City was conceived on a principle and whatever decisions were taken based on certain guidelines.

The Mega City projects have been taken up in the cities where the population is more than four million as per the 1991 census. Only such cities have been taken up. Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bangalore are the only five cities whose population is more than four million as per 1991 census. As such, based on the principle of population being more than four million, these five cities were taken up. With regard to the project and the proportion that is being borne by the Union Government, Mumbai has been approved with a plan of Rs. 800 crore and in this total cost of Rs. 800 crore, 25 per cent will be borne by the Central Government in the shape of grants. As such the Central Government will be providing Rs. 200 crore for that.

Similarly Calcutta is approved with a plan of Rs. 1,600 crore; Chennai with a plan of Rs. 914 crore; Hyderabad with a plan of Rs. 913 crore and Bangalore with a plan of Rs. 805 crore. These were the projects that were approved. The twenty-five per cent of the cost will be borne by the Union Government.

SHRI QAMARUL ISLAM: Madam, Bangalore is included in the megacity scheme. As far as the climate is concerned, the Bangalore climate is very good. When there was a thinking that we must have a session of Parliament in the South also, Bangalore city was selected for that

purpose. But now Bangalore is facing drinking water and also this Mega City problem. I would like to know as to how much money has been allotted for this. I request that the work should be taken up very expeditiously and that Mega City has to be developed and justice done as far as the allotment is concerned.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, the Eighth Plan outlay for Bangalore under this megacity scheme was Rs. 100 crore and the amount that is already released is about Rs. 45.83 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK: Madam, Chairperson, the honourable Minister has just told that a plan of Rs. 800 Crore for Mumbai and Rs. 1600 Crore that is double, for Calcutta have been approved. My colleague Shri Prabhu has told that the population of Mumbai is 1 Crore and 20 lakh but the population of Mumbai is more than that. There are four Municipal Corporations i.e. Mumbai, Thane, Kalyan and New Mumbai and eight Municipalities named Bhainder, Vasai, Nalasopara, Virar, Navachar, Ambarnath, Ullhas Nagar and Panwar! adjacent to Mumbai and thus the total population comes to 2 Crores. Now it is responsibility of Mumbai to provide all civic amenities to these 2 crore people. Therefore, I would like to know as to whether the planning of Mumbai Megacity would be done taking into account 2 Crore as population instead of 1 crore and 20 lakhs? Besides this, what is the reason behind allocating Rs. 800 crore to Mumbai in comparison to Calcutta? Why injustice is being done continuously against Mumbai?

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Madam, as I have mentioned earlier also, these schemes were approved as early as in 1993-94 and the schemes were in implementation during the Eighth Plan. This is the status at the end of the Eighth Plan. Most of the schemes have not been pushed through. Whatever schemes that have been started have not even been completed.

In fact, in my Ministry, we have written even to the Planning Commission to consider the continuation of this particular Mega City scheme even during the Ninth Plan also. It is still under discussion and it has not been finalised. In this revision and continuation, we have also been requesting them to take stock of the present position of these cities. I think something will come out on this particular thing by the time the Ninth Plan discussions are finalised.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Madam, Chairperson, I have not got reply to my question. I had asked as to whether the Government would consider about the population of 2 crore while planning in future and why injustice is being done against Mumbai? So what, if previous Government had made this scheme, the Government continue to exist.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: What I was telling is that

this scheme is supposed to be closed by the end of the Eighth Plan. Now, I have written to the Planning Commission that since the Scheme has not been finalised and completed, there is a necessity for continuation of this scheme during the Ninth Plan. While continuing this scheme, I have also been requesting them to consider all these factors.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question number 543.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: This particular question is pertaining to my city. There was no opportunity given to me to ask the question. It is most surprising.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can write to the Minister and get a reply from him.

Question number 543.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: As regards Howrah, a question was asked. That is all right. I have been raising my hand from the very beginning and this particular question is pertaining to our city. You have not allowed me. It is all right. But I would like to bring it on.....(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please write for Half-an-Hour discussion.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: The hon. Member can come to me so that we can discuss it. If there is any problem, we can sort it out....(Interruptions).

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: What is the definition of 'Mega City' ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Goel, this cannot go on like this.

Collaboration of India with Foreign Countries

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

(a) whether the Nepalese delegation to the Conference of the SAARC Council of Ministers held in December 1996, had presented a paper advocating collaboration between India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan for developing contiguous parts of the four countries in the areas of water, electricity, transport, trade, communications etc.;

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

(c) India's reaction to this concept and whether any initiative is proposed to be taken by India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The paper presented by the Government of Nepal

broadly included promotion of sub-regional economic cooperation by engaging Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and India through a series of comprehensive expert studies to help implement the concept of sub-regional cooperation in the core economic sectors. The proposal envisaged utilising economics of scale for mutual benefit through a three phase plan.

India welcomed this initiative of economic cooperation involving the four countries of South Asia and has participated in the Foreign Secretary-level meeting held at Kathmandu on April 2, 1997. It was agreed at the meeting that the objective of the "growth quadrangle" is to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development through identification and implementation of specific projects of cooperation in the core economic sectors of multi-modal transportation and communications, energy, trade and investment facilitation and promotion, tourism, natural resources and environment.

The Foreign Minister of the four countries met in New Delhi on April 8, 1997 and formally launched the sub-regional economic cooperation initiative. They reaffirmed their commitment to pursue sub-regional economic cooperation for accelerating economic growth, overcoming infrastructural constraints and making optimal use of sub-regional complementarities.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: The Minister has given in the reply that India welcomed this initiative of economic cooperation involving the four countries of South Asia and has participated in the Foreign Secretary-level meeting held at Kathmandu on April 2, 1997. It was agreed at the meeting that the objective of the growth quadrangle is to create an enabling environment for rapid economic development through identification and implementation of specific projects of cooperation in the core economic sectors of multi-modal transportation and communications, energy, trade and investment facilitation and promotion, tourism, natural resources and environment.

To this proposal, the Pakistan has not liked our improving relations with these countries and the Pakistan officials expressing unhappiness over the move have stated that a sub-regional group like this will undermine the SAARC. In reality, Pakistan is afraid that India's coming forward with these nations would be a setback for her.

My question to the hon. Minister is whether the objection of Pakistan would come in the way of implementation, or would slow down the process of cooperation, with Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh. What steps have been taken in furtherance of the proposal since December, 1996 when it was mooted ? What is the assistance or concession India proposes to give taking into account the special needs of the smaller States ?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, as regards the first question relating to objections by Pakistan, I may tell the hon. Member that it appears that he is not abreast of the happenings at Maldives. The objections initially raised by Pakistan no more hold good. At the discussions which

are going on in the SAARC Summit at Maldives, we have been successful in overcoming the objections. This group of four nations has decided now to go forward with whatever was planned earlier.

As regards the steps taken subsequent to the meetings, I may inform the hon. Member that meetings have taken place between the Foreign Ministers of these four countries first at Kathmandu and then at Delhi. The discussions will be further taken up. The entire working is divided into three steps. The first step will be conceiving the various ideas for the development of these four States. The second step would be designs, planning and all that. The third step will be the implementation of the scheme.

As India, among these four countries, happens to be the best endowed, naturally, we shall have to give more concessions to other States. But ultimately, this is a process of cooperation between these four regional nations within the SAARC. Whatever steps will be taken, in the various aspects of the sub-regional group, will be beneficial for all the States involved, that is, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.

Not only India will benefit out of this; Nepal will benefit, Bhutan will benefit and Bangladesh also will benefit.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Madam, what steps have been taken to allay the concerns and doubts in the minds of the businessmen from the neighbouring countries to offer unstinted cooperation without short term calculation of cost and benefits ?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, the very fact that trade and investment facilitation and promotion is a part of this sub-regional group objectives, I may assure the Member that whatever doubts the businessmen may have would not remain once the implementation starts. In fact, on various matters like tourism, natural resources and environment, multi-modal transportation and communication, energy etc., cooperation will take place.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Madam, the hon. Minister has not spelt out the details. My specific question was: what type of assistance and concessions are being offered ?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, these are still in the process of discussion and it will take some time.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Madam, we want that the aims of SAARC should be successfully achieved and they should be fruitful to all of us. For this purpose, reciprocal understanding should be built up and misunderstanding should be removed. There is a report in a section of the Press that Sri Lanka and Pakistan have already objected to the formation of the sub-regional groups inclusive of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and India. So, may I know from the hon. Minister as to what steps will the Government take to remove the doubts in the minds of Pakistan and Sri Lanka ?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, the objections by Sri Lanka and Pakistan are part of history now. Further

discussions have taken place and the Summit that is now on in Maldives has successfully overcome these objections raised by Pakistan and Sri Lanka at one time. Now, everybody has accepted that it is necessary that the sub-regional groups should come forward and they work within the framework of SAARC. Article 7 of SAARC Charter permits this type of sub-regional groupings. It is not only in the interest of these groups to come together and work together, but it is also expected that the working would be in the overall interest of SAARC.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Madam, I am repeating the same doubt. According to the ground rules of SAARC, matters concerning all the seven countries are taken up by SAARC. If it is bilateral, trilateral, quadrilateral etc. within the seven countries of SAARC, normally it is taken up under the aegis of the SAARC programmes. If there has been any change in the ground rules now, at which Summit was the change made ?

Personally I feel that this is going to present some difficulties down the road. So, would the hon. Minister kindly enlighten the House as to how, according to the ground rules, this has been done, either by amending the ground rules or making an exception ? On what basis was this decision taken ?

If four countries or three countries, by themselves, come together outside SAARC, that is all right. We had difficulties in matters concerning India and Pakistan. There was a time when we refused even to discuss these things at the time of the SAARC Summit or at the time of the SAARC Foreign Ministers' Meetings. We have been rather quite strict on this particular thing. Would the hon. Minister elucidate the point a little further ?

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, when this concept was evolved, no doubt, certain apprehensions were expressed by Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

It was felt that any sub-groupism within the SAARC countries may lead to some objections within the whole regime and perhaps it may lead to some sort of fragmentation. Those may be their ideas and concept. The article 7 of the SAARC Charter reads as under:

"The standing committee may set up action committees comprising member States concerned with implementation of projects involving more than two but not all member States."

So, India took benefit of this article of the Charter. We also took benefit of article 10 which spells out the principle of unanimity. So, this was taken under article 7 of the SAARC charter. The objections which were raised during various discussions at various levels and at various places melted. The talk which was initiated under the SAARC regime, was sought to be taken out of the SAARC regime and independently a process was sought to be implemented. Later on— and particularly now at the Summit that is going on it was decided that this subject of regional group which is called the growth quadrangle

of the four regional member countries of the SAARC would work within the framework of the SAARC. So, as I said, these objections no more exist today. I would also request the hon. Members of this House that we may await the arrival of our Prime Minister as he is likely to make a statement tomorrow explaining the discussion that has taken place in a better way.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Madam, that would be correct because it is not at all clear how a particular project could be taken as an exception or as emanating from the SAARC ground rules. We will have to be very clear about it because down the road, as I said, we might encounter difficulties. So, I would like the Prime Minister, after he returns, either to take the House into confidence or write to some of us—the Leaders of the Opposition. Since I am asking, he may also send a copy to me kindly. I would like to enlighten myself. I am not at all clear how this has been done.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP: Madam, the suggestion is well taken. We will implement the suggestion.

Rate of Growth in Employment

*544. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) Whether employment in the organised sector has been declining in the country;

(b) the extent to which the Government enterprises, both Union and State, contributed to this decline;

(c) Whether any steps are being contemplated to increase the rate of growth in employment in both organised and unorganised sectors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Estimates of employment in the organised sector (all public sector establishments and all non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) as per the information obtained under the Employment Market Information Programme of the Directorate General of Employment & Training as on 31st March 1992 to 1996 were as follows:-

Employment (Lakh)

As on 31st	Sector			Growth Rate
	Public	Private	Total	
March				
1992	192.10	78.46	270.56	1.2%
1993	193.26	78.51	271.77	0.5%
1994	194.45	79.30	273.75	0.7%
1995	194.66	80.59	275.25	0.54%
1996	194.29	85.12	279.41	1.51%

From the above it may be seen that growth of employment in the organised sector was not significant and the share of public sector (considering both Central and State) in the total organised sector employment was of the order of 70%.

Our of 194.29 lakhs employment in the public sector as on 31st March 1996 about 35.38 lakhs and 29.20 lakhs were in the Quasi Government Central and Quasi Government State respectively.

Recognising the high incidence of under-employment and increasing casualisation of labour, the approach to the Ninth Five Year Plan has stressed the need for enhancing employment opportunities for the poor. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment, and under-employment. Seven basic services have been identified for priority attention with an all out efforts for their complete coverage in a time bound manner. These are safe drinking water, availability of primary health service facilities, universalisation of primary education, provision of public housing assistance to all shelterless poor families, nutritional support to children, connectivity of all villages and habitations by roads and public distribution system targetted to the poor. Thrust given to the above seven basic services will also generate employment.

The existing programmes to upgrade the skills of artisans in rural areas and improving their capabilities with modern tool kits will be strengthened in the Ninth Plan. In every district, it is envisaged that the district Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) will be used for projects which encourage groups of small farmers, artisans, or landless labourers to organise for skill upgradation, processing, transport infrastructure or quality improvement, centred around large agro based projects or identified centres of regional, national and export demand.

In addition to above, Special Employment Programmes are in operation to provide employment to the weaker sections of the population in both rural and urban areas, which include Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozagar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme in rural areas and Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUEP) and Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBBP) in urban areas and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana specifically for the educated in both rural and urban areas. For the balance unemployment the Ninth Plan will also implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme.

The approach paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan, in its guidelines for selection of programmes, has inter-alia, stipulated that schemes which are non-displacing, empowering and labour intensive should have priority.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir,

whatever the information the Minister has given in his reply, it shows that during the last five years employment of ten lac more workers in the organised sector of the country has resulted in creation of total 8,85,000 new employments. It is a fact that some new employments have been created in place of some old employments. But more than 8,85,000 employments have been created out of which 6,66,000 have been created in private sector and 2,19,000 have been created in public sector. Now, I am troubled about the position of employment in the Public Sector as shown in budget presented recently by the Finance Minister, as per the list provided which contained full details I am puzzled about two figures.

The first one related to the Railways where there were 15,89,000 employees in 1996, and this number came down to 15,51,000 in 1998, i.e., in all there was a short fall of 37,000 employments. Whereas there were 5,16,810 police personnel as per police account of Home Department of Government of India in 1996. In 1998 their strength went up by 5,87,347 with an increase of 70,537 police personnel. I would like to know from the Minister in regard to the scheme evolved for employment, on one hand employment opportunities have been curtailed in productive sectors and to check unemployment a policy of giving employment in Police department is being adopted, but how long do you propose to follow this policy? What is the remedy measures you have in this regard?

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Madam, as far as the public sector is concerned, I do not have sector-wise statistics. But I can tell the hon. Member that employment generation in the organised sector was not substantial. I agree with the hon. Member on this point. Employment opportunities have not declined and, at the same time, they have risen in a satisfactory manner. This has resulted in the perception that employment opportunities are shrinking in the organised sector. What is happening is that the increase in the organised sector is not resulting in a proportional increase in the employment opportunities. After liberalisation, you will find from the statistics which I have given that employment opportunities are not shrinking.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am unable to understand the point of the Hon'ble Minister, on one hand he is saying that employment is increasing but on the other hand, nothing is reducing while liberalisation policy is going on then, under which policy the employment opportunity is not increasing or decreasing. How far you propose to plead in favour of multinational companies. Hon'ble Minister has not spelt out anything in his lengthy reply regarding creating of employment opportunities.

[English]

"Labour intensive in regions characterised by higher rates of Unemployment and under-employment".

[Translation]

A new employment policy is going to be formulated. Your entire economic policy depends on multinational companies and International powers. As you have been told in this regard. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister about a concrete point. The strength of Bidi workers is 60 lakh in India. The Govt. has made an attempt to close the Bidi industry by reducing excise on cigarette and imposing it on Bidi. I can give 25 examples of this kind. So, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister to pay attention to the areas where people are working under self employment scheme and what measures would be adopted to save such employment opportunities.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Madam, the strategy of the Government in all the Plans is to increase employment opportunities and to provide employment to all. So far as the tax structure and other things are concerned, the hon. Member should put a separate question to the hon. Minister of Finance.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: I think, what he was underlining is that globalisation, via the Minister of Finance, means jobless growth. The data provided here indicates that the growth rate in 1993 was 0.5 per cent; in 1994, it was 0.7 per cent, and in 1995, it was 0.4 per cent. It is coming down. My question is very simple. It was also mentioned in the last paragraph of the reply. "The approach paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan, in its guidelines for selection of programmes, has *interalia* stipulated that schemes which are non-displacing, empowering and labour intensive should have priority". I have one question and the Minister of Labour should take the help of the Minister of Finance, if necessary.

The first part of my question pertains to the Planning Commission, which has ceased to give the figure of unemployed for so many Plan periods. Would the Minister request the Planning Commission to supply those figures and reestablish those figures? The second part of my question is that the backlog is increasing because the rate of growth of employment is less than the rate of growth of labour. So, the backlog is always being added to. In which year, is the Minister of Labour expecting to turn this situation so that the backlog is reduced?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Minister to reply.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The third part of my question pertains to handlooms because the Minister has mentioned 'khadi' as labour intensive. Will he spend more on handlooms?

12.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time. The hon. Minister may give a quick reply.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The hon. Member has conveniently left to mention the growth rate for the year, 1996 which is 1.5 per cent.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: The GDP growth rate is lower and that growth rate is higher. That is the contradiction there.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: He has conveniently omitted to mention that. The estimated number of jobs to be created by 2002 AD by the end of Ninth Plan comes to 94 million and they will provide employment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may send the hon. Member a detailed written reply.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Inflation Rate

*545. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT:

Will the FINANCE Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of inflation has crossed double digit mark despite measures taken by the Government to control it;

(b) if so, the details of wholesale price index and consumer price index of the essential commodities during the last six months;

(c) the reasons for constant increase in both the price indices;

(d) the weekly rate of inflation on point to point basis during the above period;

(e) the effect of increase in inflation on the wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the price rise and to contain the rate of inflation ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHID-AMBARAM) : (a) The annual inflation rate based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) remained at single digit level throughout 1996-97 reaching a peak of 8 per cent in December, 1996. It has since declined to 6.35 per cent by the end of April 1997. However, the inflation rate based on Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) peaked at 11.1 per cent in January 1997, declining thereafter to 10 per cent in March 1997.

(b) The Wholesale Price Index and Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for essential commodities in the six month period October-March 1996-97 is listed below:

1996-97	Essential Commodities	
	Wholesale Price Index	Consumer Price Index
October	330.4	343
November	333.9	348
December	335.4	349
January	332.1	347
February	334.4	347
March	336.5	N.A.

(c) The increase in the WPI as also in the CPI-IW during 1996-97 was due to several factors such as, the long overdue adjustment in petroleum prices (by 18%), coal (by 22 per cent), electricity (by 10.6 per cent) besides the 16 per cent increase in issue price of sugar. A decline of over 3 million tonnes in Wheat production in 1995-96 and the consequent lower procurement of 4 million tonnes was responsible for the sharp rise in the market price of foodgrains, especially wheat whose price rose by over 33 per cent.

(d) The weekly rate of annual inflation based on WPI on point-to-point basis for the past six months is listed below:

Month	Week ending	Annual Inflation (%)	
	1	2	3
November 1996	02.11.96	6.72	
	09.11.96	6.47	
	16.11.96	6.44	
	23.11.96	6.76	
	30.11.96	6.67	
December	07.12.96	7.15	
	14.12.96	7.39	
	21.12.96	7.81	
	28.12.96	8.05	
January 1997	04.01.97	7.75	
	11.01.97	7.57	
	18.01.97	7.28	
	25.01.97	7.53	
February	01.02.97	8.03	
	08.02.97	7.83	
	15.02.97	7.85	
	22.02.97	7.77	
March	01.03.97	7.75	
	08.03.97	7.78P	
	15.03.97	7.65P	
	22.03.97	7.51P	
	29.03.97	7.35P	

1	2	3
April	05.04.97	6.99P
	12.04.97	6.64P
	19.04.97	6.54P
	26.04.97	6.35P

P= Provisional

(e) Nearly 40 per cent of the WPI based annual inflation rate at the end of March 1997 was contributed by the rise in the price of essential commodities. However, in the CPI-IW based inflation, the contribution was even higher (44 per cent) as on February 1997 because of higher weight of the food items in the CPI-IW.

(f) Apart from the demand side measures to contain monetary growth to 15-15.5% in 1997-98, as also limiting the fiscal deficit to 4.5% of GDP, the Government shall continue to undertake effective supply side measures such as improved delivery and targeting through public distribution system, augmenting of public stocks of foodgrains through imports if necessary, as also liberal trade policy for import of critical essential commodities such as edible oils, pulses and sugar. Reduction in Bank lending rates as also further reduction and rationalization in excise and custom duty rates is expected to improve further the competitiveness of the industry and thus check escalation in prices.

[English]

Tatkal Scheme

*546. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have assessed the success of modified "Tatkal" scheme;
- if so, the outcome thereof;
- the number of cooking gas connections so far released in each State under the said "Tatkal" gas connection scheme;
- the number of LPG agencies allotted under this scheme;
- the extent to which this scheme has affected the poor, waiting in the queue for long periods;
- whether it is proposed to review the implementation of the scheme; and
- if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The modified Tatkal scheme has been imple-

mented effective 20th February, 1997 and it has received overwhelming response from the customers in the country.

(c) The number of LPG connections released under the modified Tatkal Scheme throughout the country till 30.4.97 is 506164.

(d) All existing distributors have been authorised to release LPG connections under Tatkal Scheme.

(e) The waitlisted registrants will not be adversely affected by the Tatkal Scheme because at present only 10% of the annual enrolment plan has been reserved for release of LPG connections under Tatkal Scheme and balance 90% enrolment has been reserved for release of connections against waiting list, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas priorities, releases in Hill market and Taj Trapezium area etc. Moreover, the enrolment being made so far this year is almost double of previous year and more persons will get connections from the waiting list.

(f) The release of LPG connections under Tatkal Scheme is an ongoing activity; hence constant review is being made in the implementation of the scheme.

(g) Does not arise in view of (f) above.

Loan to Air Operators

*547. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government propose to review loan norms to provide funds to private air operators in the country;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the present position of the proposal;
- whether the Government also propose to review loan norms to provide funds to small and medium traders; and
- if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Airline Industry is like any other industry and credit is extended to it within the framework of guidelines as applicable to the Industrial Sector. As part of the Monetary and Credit Policy for the first half of 1997-98, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced on April 15, 1997, several measures in order to improve credit delivery system. Two important measures announced by RBI, having bearing on financing of private air operators, are :

(i) It would not be obligatory on the part of banks to form a consortium even if the credit limit per borrower exceeds Rs. 50 crore. The need based finance required by the borrowers may, therefore, be extended by banks either entirely on their own, subject to observance of exposure limits or in association with others banks. As an alternative to sole/multiple banking/consortium arrangement, banks are free to adopt syndication route, irrespec-

tive of quantum of credit involved, if the arrangement suits the borrower and the financing banks.

(ii) Banks have been given full operational freedom in assessing the working capital requirements of borrowers. Accordingly, banks are now free to evolve their own methods of assessing the working capital requirements of borrowers within the prudential guidelines and exposure norms, already prescribed. The loan policy in respect of each broad category of industry shall be laid down by every bank with the approval of its Board of Directors. All earlier instructions relating to maximum permissible bank finance have been withdrawn.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that there is no proposal at present to review the guidelines issued by it for financing small traders by commercial banks under priority sector lending. As regards medium traders, as part of monetary and credit policy measures announced by RBI on April 15, 1997, banks are free to evolve their own methods/norms for assessing the working capital requirement of medium traders, within the prudential guidelines and exposure norms.

[*Translation*]

Consumption of Petroleum Products

*548. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VARMA:

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and consumption of Petrol and petroleum products by each of the vital sectors in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the consumption has rapidly increased during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons for the increase;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to curtail

consumption of petrol and petroleum products in each of the vital sectors; and

(e) the success achieved in conservation of petrol and petroleum products in monetary terms during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) The sector-wise consumption of major petroleum products during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (April-January) is given in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c) The consumption of petroleum products increased during the above period. This is mainly due to increase in the economic activities of the country in various sectors including industry, transport, etc.

(d) Curbing the consumption of petroleum products would have an adverse impact on the growth of the economy of the Country.

The Government have initiated various steps to promote conservation of petroleum products in the transport, industrial, agricultural and domestic sectors. These include adoption of measures and practices which are conducive to increase fuel efficiency and training programme in the transport sector, modernisation of boilers, furnaces and other oil operated equipments with efficient ones and promotion of fuel efficient practices and equipment in the industrial sector; standardisation of fuel efficient irrigation pumpsets and rectification of existing pumpsets to make them more energy efficient in the agricultural sector and development as well as promotion of the use of fuel efficient equipment and appliances like kerosene and LPG stoves in the household sector.

(d) As a result of various measures taken for conservation of petroleum products, an estimated saving of Rs. 838 crores, Rs. 969 crores and Rs. 1102 crores was achieved during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively.

Statement

Demand/Consumption of Petrol and Petroleum Products

('000' Tonnes)

Year	Consumption	Total % Growth	Petrol	% Growth
1993-94	60812	-	3834	-
1994-95	65487	7.7	4141	8.0
1995-96	72569	10.8	4679	13.0
1996-97*	77219	6.4	4980	6.4

* : Provisional.

Note : It is presumed that the total petrol is being consumed by transport sector only.

Sector-wise Consumption of Major Petroleum Products

('000' Tonnes)

Sector	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97* (Apr.-Jan)	Growth Rate(%)	
					1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
L.P.GAS						
1. Domestic	2423	2762	3053	2678	14.0	10.5
2. Commercial/Industry	635	654	736	624	3.0	12.5
3. Others	55	18	60	50	-67.3	233.3
TOTAL: (1+2+3)	<u>3113</u>	<u>3434</u>	<u>3849</u>	<u>3352</u>	<u>10.3</u>	<u>12.1</u>
NAPHTHA						
1. Fertilizers	2172	2495	2669	1953	14.9	7.0
2. Petrochemicals	1013	831	959	967	-18.0	15.4
3. Others	6	74	41	30	1133.3	-44.6
TOTAL: (1+2+3)	<u>3191</u>	<u>3400</u>	<u>3669</u>	<u>2950</u>	<u>6.5</u>	<u>7.9</u>
H.S.D.O.						
1. Transport	23059	24742	28034	24348	7.3	13.3
2. Plantation/Food	494	621	789	446	25.7	27.1
3. Power Generation (Utilities)	115	229	167	157	99.1	-27.1
4. Industry	1512	1783	2386	2087	17.9	33.8
5. Misc. Services	698	886	878	719	26.9	-0.9
TOTAL: (1+2+3+4+5)	<u>25878</u>	<u>28261</u>	<u>32254</u>	<u>27757</u>	<u>9.2</u>	<u>14.1</u>
L.D.O. (REGULAR)						
1. Transport	82	83	272	191	1.2	227.7
2. Plantation/Food	36	35	41	28	-2.8	17.1
3. Power Generation (Utilities)	182	165	166	148	-9.3	0.6
4. Industry	625	641	700	513	2.6	9.2
5. Misc. Services	437	441	128	93	0.9	-71.0
TOTAL: (1+2+3+4+5)	<u>1362</u>	<u>1365</u>	<u>1307</u>	<u>973</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>-4.2</u>
F.O. (REGULAR)						
1. Transport	405	440	321	236	8.6	-27.0
2. Plantation/Food	186	188	214	199	1.1	13.8
3. Power Generation (Utilities)	490	580	720	618	18.4	24.1
4. Industry	3603	3944	4836	3693	9.5	22.6
5. Misc. Services	342	685	405	322	100.3	-40.9
TOTAL: (1+2+3+4+5):	<u>5026</u>	<u>5837</u>	<u>6496</u>	<u>5068</u>	<u>16.1</u>	<u>11.3</u>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
LSHS/HHS.						
1. Transport	12	2	3	3	-83.3	50.0
2. Plantation/Food	40	27	32	20	-32.5	18.5
3. Power Generation (Utilities)	1676	1624	1747	1340	-3.1	7.6
4. Industry	2366	2258	2246	1962	-4.6	-0.5
5. Misc. Services	72	141	161	138	95.8	14.2
TOTAL: (1+2+3+4+5)	4166	4052	4189	3463	-2.7	3.4

* Provisional

*[English]***Brain Drain**

*549. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA:

SHRI L. RAMANA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a marked increase in the flight of middle-level and experienced personnel from Indian Space Research Organisation to foreign countries and private organisations;

(b) if so, the number of such personnel who resigned during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to check this brain drain and the position of filling up posts becoming thus available so that the programme and activities of Indian Space Research Organisation do not suffer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Scientists/Engineers leaving Indian Space Research Organisation is not a totally new phenomenon as there have been resignations in the past also. However, in the recent past, there has been an increase in the number of persons leaving the organisation. Personal reasons have been cited by the persons, while leaving the organisation.

(b) The number of Scientists/Engineers who have resigned during the last 3 years is given below:

1994	—	59
1995	—	114
1996	—	142

(c) Increased housing facilities, further opportunities for academic and related activities including further studies, enhancement of interface between Scientists and industry are among the steps proposed to check the brain drain. The posts vacated by them are being filled based on the assessment of programmatic requirements.

Auction of Papers of Mahatma Gandhi

*550. SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the question raised in the British House of Commons sometimes in November, 1995 by the convener of Indo-British Parliamentary Forum, as reported in Hindu dated 9.11.96, to ban the auction of papers of Mahatma Gandhi by Phillips auctioneers and to return them to the 'Navjeevan Trust' set up by Mahatma Gandhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to retrieve these valuable papers for return to the Navjeevan Trust ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Foreign Debt**

*551. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign debt on the country as on March 31, 1997, Country-wise and agency-wise;

(b) the per capita foreign debt of the country as on March 31, 1997;

(c) the amount of interest paid during each of the last three years upto March 31, 1997;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to reduce the burden of foreign debt of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI. P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) As per the latest available estimate, the foreign debt outstanding on March 31, 1996 was US \$ 92.2 billion. The share of multilateral (including IMF) agencies and bilateral (from bilateral Governments and Governmental agencies including debt denominated in rupees) agencies accounted for US \$ 30.9 billion and US \$ 26.9 billion of the total respectively. Other sources (such as commercial, export credits and NRI deposits including short term) accounted for the balance US \$ 34.4 billion.

The total foreign debt cannot be quantified by country of origin since there are components, e.g. multilateral, which by definition are not bilateral. In addition, bond holdings have an investor profile spread across countries. They also change hands when traded at exchanges.

(b) As per the available estimates, the per capita foreign debt in 1995-96 was US \$ 100.7.

(c) The interest payment during the last three years upto March 31, 1997 is as under:

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97*
	(US Dollar millions)		
Interest Payments	4099	4315	4719

*Provisional Estimates

(d) and (e) The Government has been following a prudent debt management strategy, the main features of which include sustaining a high growth rate of exports, encouraging non-debt creating capital inflows and keeping the maturity structure as well as the total amount of external debt within prudent limits. As a result, debt to GDP ratio declined from the high of 41.0 per cent in 1991-92 to 28.7 per cent in 1995-96.

Scheme for Labourers

*552 SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been evolved to look after the problems of the migrant labour working in different States/UTs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether large number of poor workers from Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and other parts of the country are working as labourers in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, whether any study has been conducted about their problems;

(e) if so, the number of such labourers in 1996 and at present;

(f) whether any system has been evolved at the union level to provide Ration to these labourers under the PDS; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) A statement is attached.

(e) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Government have enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1979 which aims at protecting the interests of such migrant workmen as have been recruited through or by a contractor in a State to work in an establishment in another State. The Act inter-alia provides for registration of employer and licensing of contractor, issue of pass books to workmen, payment of wages at the same rate payable to the local labourers, payment of displacement allowance, journey allowance, suitable residential accommodation, medical facilities, protective clothing and intimation of fatal accidents etc.

(c) Jammu & Kashmir reported 9949 migrant labourers mostly from the States of Orissa, Bihar and Rajasthan in April, 1994.

(d) The National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) (1987-91) appointed a Study Group on migrant labour in order to understand the nature, magnitude and intensity of the problems of the inter-state migrant workmen, their socio-economic condition and the factors responsible for migration and to enquire into the implementation of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979.

Contract Labour

*553 SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:

DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court delivered a judgement regarding contract labour during September 1995;

(b) if so, the important points dealt with in the judgement;

(c) whether the Government have made any study in regard to major facilities like medical, casual leave, canteen, insurance and provision of compensation etc. in case of death of contract labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) A judgement of the Supreme Court on Contract Labour in the case of Gujarat electricity Board Thermal Power Station—Uka—Gujarat Vs. Hind Mazdoor Sabha & Others dated 9th May 95 has been published in the *All India Reporter* in the month of September 95. The important points dealt with in the judgement are as under:-

1. Section 10 of the Act does not provide for determination of the status of the workmen of the erstwhile contractor once a notification prohibiting employment of contract labour is issued under that Section by the appropriate Government.

2. In the event of abolition of contract the workmen are in a worse situation since they can neither be employed by the contractor nor is there any obligation on the principal employer to engage them in his establishment.

3. Although the object of the legislation is benevolent, it has not provided any relief for the concerned workmen after the contract is abolished.

4. The rationale of the legislation in not providing for automatic absorption of the existing contract labour in the principal establishment on abolition of contract labour is not clear.

5. The industrial adjudicator, however, may not be inhibited by such lacunae or omissions in law.

6. The industrial adjudicator has the jurisdiction to change the contractual relationship and made new contracts between the employer and the employees under the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947.

7. In all cases where contract labour is abolished the industrial adjudicator, depending upon the facts of the case, will be the authority to direct the principal employer to absorb such of the workmen of the erstwhile contractor and on such terms he may determine on the basis of the relevant material before him.

The Supreme Court of India inter-alia also recommended that:-

(a) all undertakings which are employing the contract labour system in any process, operation or work which satisfies the factors mentioned in clauses (a) to (d) of Section 10 (2) of the Act, should on their own, discontinue the contract labour and absorb as many of the labour as is feasible as their direct employees;

(b) both the Central and the State Governments should appoint Committees to investigate the establishments in which the contract labour is engaged and where on the basis of the criteria laid down in clauses (a) to (d) of Section 10 (2) of the Act, the contract labour system can be abolished and direct employment can be given to the contract labour. The appropriate Government on its own should take initiative to abolish the labour contracts in the establishments concerned by following the procedure laid down under the Act.

(c) the Central Government should amend the Act by incorporating a suitable provision to refer to the industrial adjudicator the question of the direct employment of the workers of the ex-contractor in the principal establishment, when the appropriate Government abolishes the contract labour.

(c) and (d) The Labour Bureau, under the Ministry of

Labour, from time to time conducts surveys on contract labour in different areas of work. So far 39 such surveys have been conducted, 38 of which have been published in the form of reports. These surveys which began in 1956-57 with one on Contract Labour in Iron Ore Mines. These surveys inter-alia cover the following aspect affecting Contract Labour:-

1. Hours of Work.
2. Rest Intervals.
3. Night Shifts Working.
4. Leave and Holidays with Pay.
5. Housing Accommodation.
6. Compensation for Accident.
7. Maternity Benefits.
8. Provident Fund.
9. Gratuity and Pension Scheme.
10. Trade Unionism and Grievance Handling Machinery.
11. Conservancy.
12. Washing Facility.
13. First Aid Box.

These survey reports are informative and useful for Government in policy making and legislation in the area of contract labour.

Price of Petroleum Products

*554. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI SURESH PRABHU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the price of petrol and petroleum products;

(b) if so, by when and the situation leading to the revision of price;

(c) whether the Government have studied the adverse impact of the increase in petroleum prices on the economy; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to avoid the frequent increase in the petroleum prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (d) The prices of petroleum products are administered by the Government through the Oil Pool Account mechanism. The oil pool accounts are supposed to be self balancing. It was estimated that the cumulative outstandings of the oil companies would be Rs. 5700 crores by 31.3.96. However, the pool account got adversely affected in Oct. 96 due to steep increase in the prices of the crude oil

and petroleum products in the international market, Rupee-Dollar exchange rate variation, increase in the Rail freight and changes in the Customs and Excise duty announced in the Finance Bill for 1996-97. The cumulative outstandings of the oil companies from pool account are estimated to be Rs. 15,500 crores as on 31.3.97 and projected to be Rs. 24,500 crores by 31.3.98 if remedial measures are not taken.

The mounting outstanding have resulted in oil companies experiencing severe cash crunch necessitating them to resort to huge borrowings which are estimated to be Rs. 23,000 crores by 31.3.97.

The position of the oil pool account is being monitored on a continuous basis and Government is exploring various options to contain the deficit in the oil pool account.

Petroleum Products

*555. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Oil India Limited propose to launch a major programme to step up deep water exploration to discover new hydrocarbons reserves to off-set the adverse impact on oil production due to declining production from existing oil and gas fields;

(b) if so, whether a two day International Conference on deep water exploration technology was held in March, 1997;

(c) the main recommendation made at the conference;

(d) whether any areas have been identified;

(e) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be undertaken in these areas;

(f) the initial total expenditure likely to be involved on these projects;

(g) the areas likely to be covered during 1997; and

(h) the number of foreign and Indian companies likely to be involved in this task ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) Yes, Sir. ONGC has taken up a programme for deep-water exploration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Conference took stock of the various technological options now available for substantially reducing the cost of deep water exploration.

(d), (e) and (g) Two locations in the Kerala-Konkan offshore and one location each in Cauvery and Krishna-

Godavari offshore have been identified. Drilling is likely to commence in Kerala-Konkan offshore in December, 1997.

(f) The estimated expenditure in 1997-98 in drilling and upgradation of the drillship is Rs. 82 Crs.

(h) ONGC may hire the services of internationally reputed deep-water drilling companies.

Shortfall in Revenue Collection

*556 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortfall in the revenue collection in respect of Excise & Customs during last year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is an increase in the smuggling activities;

(c) whether malpractices in transfer/postings of senior/top level officers in the Excise & Customs are mainly responsible for this State of affairs;

(d) whether performance-based posting policy will be enforced to reduce favouritism; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) So far as revenue collection is concerned, according to provisional figures both Central Excise Revenue and Customs Revenue collected during 1996-97 have been higher than that in 1995-96. However, there is some shortfall in respect of Customs duties in comparison to the revised Budget Estimates that was fixed for 1996-97.

(b) There is no report to suggest that there is any increase in smuggling activities.

(c) to (e) The postings/transfers of senior/top level officers in the Department both in Excise and Customs side are made having due regard to the prescribed policy guidelines for postings/transfers of officers at various levels and after taking into account the administrative exigencies as well as suitability of officers for certain specific assignments.

Target Group of RRBs

*557. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks, were set up primarily to cater the target groups in rural areas;

(b) whether the Government have now diverted from its original stand and has directed the Regional Rural Banks to finance 60 percent of their total lending to non-target groups; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) were set up with the following broad objectives :-

- (i) To take banking services to the door steps of rural masses particularly in hitherto unbanked far flung rural areas.
- (ii) to make available institutional credit to the weaker sections of the society;
- (iii) To mobilise rural savings and channelise them for supporting productive activities in rural areas;
- (iv) to create a supplementary channel for flow of credit from the central money market to the rural areas;
- (v) to generate employment opportunities in rural areas; and
- (vi) to bring down the cost of purveying credit in rural areas.

Sustained viability of their operations is necessary if the RRBs are to meet these objectives. In the context of the need for ensuring viability of RRBs and ensuring the flow of adequate and sustainable credit to the rural sector, Government/Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken a number of steps to improve viability of the operations of RRBs which, inter-alia, include deregulation of interest rates, application of prudential accounting norms in a phased manner, preparation of bank specific development action plans, widening the range of services and to finance non-target groups to the extent of 60% of their fresh lendings with their service area.

Further, RBI have recently stipulated that, beginning from 1st April, 1997, the advances of RRBs to priority sector borrowers should constitute 40% of their outstanding advances, as in the case of commercial banks. Within the over-all target of 40%, the advances granted to weaker sections of the society should constitute 25% of the priority sector advances (10% of total outstanding advances). RBI have reported that this will further make the lending operations of RRBs vibrant in addition to ensuring uniformity in approach on lending alongwith commercial banks. These policy changes seek to provide a level playing field to RRBs to enable them to perform their functions in a viable and sustainable manner.

Ways and Means Advances

*558 SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL:

DR. C. SILVERA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering drastic restructuring/changes in the present system of ways and means advances (WMA) drawn by the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals under consideration suggested by RBI in this regard;

(c) the details of decisions taken/proposed by the Government in the matter; and

(d) the details of other steps proposed to put a cap on Government's debt ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) State Govts. are allowed to borrow within the limits given in the Annual Plans through the instruments of market borrowings and negotiated loans. They also have to seek Govt. of India's approval under Article 293 for incurring any debt. Govt. of India endeavours to contain the level of debt by lowering the fiscal deficit through efforts to raise non debt receipts and control of expenditure.

Hydroelectric Power Projects

*559. SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of hydro-electric power projects in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there are some hindrances in the execution of some of the power projects;

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

(d) the steps being taken to remove the hindrances; and

(e) the present position of the execution of Nathpa-Jhakri and Chamera-II Power Projects in Himachal Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) There are, at present, 74 hydro-electric power projects (above 3 MW) under execution in the country. Project-wise details and the reasons for delay in the execution of the projects are given in the enclosed statement.

Amongst the factors which have adversely affected the execution of hydel projects are fund constraints, environmental are rehabilitation aspects, law and order problems, geological problems, etc.

(d) Following steps have been taken to remove the hindrances in execution of some of the hydro projects:

The Net Budgetary Support (NBS) for hydel projects being executed by the Central Sector Corporations has been substantially increased from Rs. 533 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 866 crores in 1997-98. In addition, Rs. 617 crores have been assured and will be provided in the Budget of 1997-98 for Central sector hydel projects namely, Tehri, Dulhasti, Uri, Rangit and Kopili. The Government also announced in January 1995 a package of incentives for hydro projects to be commissioned on or after 1.1.1997 to encourage greater private sector participation in hydel projects.

The Ministry of Power had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M.K. Sambamurti on 26th

August, 1996 to suggest development of hydro projects including involvement of the Private Sector. The Committee submitted its report on 27th March, 1997. The recommendations made by the Committee would be incorporated while formulating a National Policy on hydel development.

(e) The Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project (6x250 = 1500 MW) in Himachal Pradesh is under execution. The

civil works of the project are in progress and orders for most of equipment have since been placed. As per present indications, the project is scheduled to be commissioned in March, 2002.

Chamera Stage-II project in Himachal Pradesh is entrusted to National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) for execution. The Project is being processed for investment approval.

Statement

As On 15.04.97

Sanctioned Hydro Electric Schemes (Capacity yet to be added)

SUMMARY

Region	Central Sector (No. of Project)	State Sector (No. of Project)	Private Sector (No. of Project)	Total (No. of Project)
Northern	3170 (4)	1930 (10)	1273 (6)	6373 (20)
Western	NIL	4455 (11)	490 (2)	4945 (13)
Southern	NIL	2475 (20)	8 (1)	2483 (21)
Eastern	770 (2)	1835.50 (11)	NIL	2605.50 (13)
North-Eastern	480 (2)	159 (5)	NIL	639 (7)
Total	4420 (8)	10854.50 (57)	1771 (9)	17045.50 (74)

Note : 1. The figures in the brackets above are number of hydro projects under execution.
2. The figures above the brackets indicate the project size in Mega Watts (MW).

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ State/Inst. Cap. (MW) Date of Sanction	Comm. Sch. Original/Latest	Reasons for Delay
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A. CENTRAL			
1.	Nathpa Jhakri (NJPC) H.P./6 x 250 05.04.89	1995-97 <hr/> 2001-02	Delay in award of civil works. Poor performance of contractors.
2.	Dulhasti (NHPC) J&K/3 x 130 12.7.89 (Bilateral)	1994-95 <hr/> 2000-01	Geological problems in HRT Law and order problem leading to contractual problems.
3.	Tehri St. I (THDC) U.P./4 x 250 02.06.72 (For 4 x 150 MW) PIB-23.01.92	1981-82 <hr/> 2000-01	Fund constraints, Award of major works, Rehabilitation of oustees, Uttarakhand Agitation.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4.	Dhaultiganga-I (NHPC) 08.04.91	1998-99 2004-05	Fund constraints.
5.	Koel Karo (NHPC) Bih./4 x 172.5+1 x 20 14.11.91	1999-2000 2004-05	Land acquisition & Rehabilitation, Paucity of fund.
6.	Rangit-III (NHPC) Sik./3 x 20 18.04.90	1994-95 1998-99	Slow progress of civil works due to dispute with contractor on the revision of rates.
7.	Ranganadi (NEEPCO) Ar. P/3 x 135 11.08.86 4/87 (CCEA)	1994-95 1998-99	Delay in procurement of tunnelling equipment. Delay in award of major works of PH and dam. Fund Constraints.
8.	Doyang (NEEPCO) Nag./3 x 25 12. 07. 89	1994-95 1997-98	Law & Order problem, Change in capacity and other parameters, Delay in land acq., Fund Constraints. Contract failures, Delay in finalisation of dam contract.
B. STATE SECTOR NORTHERN REGION			
9.	Ghanvi H.P./3 x 7.5 15.12.87	1994-95 1999-2000	Env. & Forest Cl. already obtained Project expected to start shortly.
10.	Larji H.P./3 x 42 30.03.87	1990-92 10th Pl.	Tieing up of funds from external/domestic agencies Funds constraints.
11. (a)	Upper Sindh-II J&K/ 2 x 35 22.11.83	1988-89 1998-99	Law and order problem. Dispute with M/s TSL and fixation of new agency for fabrication of penstocks.
11. (b)	Upper Sindh Extn. J&K/ 1 x 35 20.06.89	1993-94 1998-99	Law and order problem.
12.	Kishanganga J&K/3 x 110	2006-07 2006-07	
13.	Sewa ST. III J&K/3 x 3	1997-98 1997-98	
14.	Chenani St. III J&K/3 x 2.5	1997-98 1997-98	
15.	Ranjit Sagar Pun./4 x 150 26.05.86	1991-93 1998-99	Land acquisition. Forest clearance. Floods in Sept, 88 Slow progress of dam fill placement due to delay in erection of belt conveyer system
16.	Sobla U.P./ 2 x 3 03.10.88	1993-94 1997-98	Delay due to natural calamities in Jan. 93 and again in Aug. 94

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
17.	Lakhwar Vvasi U.P./3 x 100+2 x 60 Jan. 1976	1989-90 Beyond 9th Plan	Progress slow due to fund constraints.
18.	Maneri Phali-II U.P./4 x 76 27.1.81	1989-90 2001-02	Funds constraints.
19.	Kadana PSS Extn. Guj./2 x 60 26.6.72	1985-86 1995-98	Unit erection.
20.	Sardar Sarovar Guj./M.P./Mah. (6 x 200 + 5 x 50) (Joint project of Guj./ M.P./Mah. in ratio of 16:57:27) 05.10.88	1994-96 1998- 2002	Construction on main dam for raising of height upto 110m Treatment of fissure in PH cavern. R&R problem. Non- availability World Bank & OECF Assistance.
21.	Bansagar Tons PH II & III (M.P.) 2 x 15 + 2 x 20 30.06.84	1989-91 2000-01	R & R problem of outsees of Bansagar dam. Fund constraints.
22.	Bansagar Tons PH IV M.P./ 2 x 10 31.07.92	1996-97 2001-02	R&R problem of oustees of Bansagar dam. Finalisation of executing agency.
23.	Indira Sagar (Narmada Sagar) M.P./8 x 125 06.09.89	1997-2000 2000-06 (2 units in 9th Plan)	R&R problem Project finance.
24.	Indira Sarovar (Bodhghat) M.P./ 4 x 125	1989-91 2006-07	MOEF clearance.
25.	Rajghat U.P./M.P./3 x 15 (Joint project of U.P./ M.P. in ratio of 50:50) 01.08.91	1995-96 1998-99	Cash flow problem (Non payment of share by UPSEB)
26.	Warna Mah./2 x 8 14.07.86	1989-90 1997-98	Delay in PH civil works & erection of units.
27.	Kovna St. IV Mah./4 x 250 04.08.89	1995-96 1998-99	Delay in ordering TG sets & PH civil works.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
28.	Dudhganga Mah./2 x 12 26.4.88	1990-92 1997-99	Delay in PH civil works & erection of units.
29.	Ghatghar PSS Mah./ 2 x 125 11.08.92	9th Plan 2001-03	Low priority by State Govt.
SOUTHERN REGION			
30.	Srisailam LBPH A.P./6 x 150 1.09.86	1993-95 1999-2002	Delay in award of civil works Delay in civil works of HRT & TRT on a/c of revision of rates by contractor. Strike by contractor from Feb, 95 to Aug, 95.
31.	Singur A.P./2 x 7.5 15.05.93	1993-94 1997-98	Delay in award of civil works. Cash Flow problems
32.	A.P. Power House at Balimela A.P./2 x 30 25.02.77	1982-83 2001-02	Delay in excavation of PH due to non-issue of license for blasting operation by Orissa Govt.
33.	Dandeli Ktk./2 x 30 14.06.80	1987-88 Beyond 9th Plan	Forest Clearance.
34.	Kalinadi St. II Ktk./3 x 40 + 3 x 50 14.05.80	1987-88 1997-98	Delay in finalisation of WB loan agreement. Cancellation of WB loan. Delay in erection of units. Delay in diversion of forest land for rehabilitation purposes. Cash flow problem. Slow progress of PH, dam civil works.
35.	Brindavan Ktk./2 x 6 10.04.90	1993-94 1999-2000	Delay in land acquisition. Delay in commencement of works.
36.	Bhadra RBC (Adl. Ktk./1 x 6 unit) 10.04.90	1993-94 1998-99	Delay in start of works due to non completion of the repair works of breached canal.
37.	Sharavathi T.R. Ktk./ 4 x 60 06.05.87	1993-94 1998-2001	Cancellation of WB loan. Suspension of works due to non issue of MOEF clearance.
38.	Bedthi) Gangavali) Ktk./2 x 105 02.04.79	1985-86 Beyond 9th Plan	MOEF clearance.
39.	Lower Periyar Ker./3 x 60 03.02.83	1990-91 1996-98	Slow progress of civil works. Stoppage of works since May/ June, 91 till Oct..93. Termination of NPCC Contracts.
40.	Malankara (Muvathupuzha) Ker./3 x 3.5 Aug, 1986 (for 2 x 3.5 MW)	1990-91 1999- 2000	Delay in civil works. Revision in capacity.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
41.	Kakkad Ker./2 x 25 10.09.76	1980-81 <hr/> 1997-98	Delay in commencement of civil works. Frequent labour strikes. Fire accident in 10/92. Flooding of PH due to rains in Oct., & Nov., 92 Strike by power I.C. Tunnel contractor from 9/95 to 7/96.
42.	Poringalkuthu LB Ext. Ker./1 x 16 09.05.89	1994-95 <hr/> 1997-98	Delay in PH civil works and erection of TG equipment.
43.	Kuttivadi Extn. Ker/1 x 50 20.12.91	1996-97 <hr/> 2001-02	Delay by KSEB in taking decision for execution of project.
44.	Puyankutty Ker./2 x 120 21.08.86	8th Plan <hr/> Beyond 9th plan	Forest clearance
45.	Lower Bhawani Dam T.N./2 x 4 RBC 15.04.88	1991-92 <hr/> 1997-98	Delay in award of PH civil works & TG sets.
46.	Sathanur Dam T.N./ 1 x 7.5 15.04.88	1991-92 <hr/> 1997-98	Delay in award of PH civil works & TG sets.
47.	Parson's Valley (Kundah-V Extn.) T.N./1 x 30	9th Plan <hr/> 1999-2000	Delay in award of civil works. Delay in issue of Forest clearance
48.	Pykara Ultimate St. T.N./3 x 50 01.08.88	1994-95 <hr/> 1999-2001	Delay in award of works of TRT and access tunnel.
49.	Kollimalai TN/1 x 20 04.09.95	2000-2001 <hr/> 2000-2001	Infrastructure works are in progress.
EASTERN REGION			
50.	Eastern Gandak Bih./3 x 5 09.06.83	1987-88 <hr/> (U-I II comm) 1997-98 (Unit-3)	Paucity of fund. Slow pace of civil works. Contractor dispute.
51.	Chandil Bih./2 x 4 14.04.87	1990-91 <hr/> 1998-99	Fund constraints. Slow pace of PH Civil works. Award of erection.
52.	North Koel Bih./2 x 12 10.03.84	1987-88 <hr/> 1998-99	Delay in civil works of TRT and power house. Poor cash flow.
53.	Upper Indravati Ori/ 4 x 150 03.05.72	1988-88 <hr/> 1998-2000	Non-performance of civil contracts. Cancellation of World Bank loan. Damage to works due to floods in 7/91. Delayed award of balance works of Muran dam & HRT

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
54.	Potteru Ori./1 × 3 + 1 × 3 30.07.84	1989-90 ----- 1997-98	Delay in land acquisition. Forest clearance Contractual problem in PH works. Damage of control panel. Slow progress by contractor.
55.	Balimela Extn. Ori./2 × 75 18.03.92	1995-97 ----- 1999-2000	Cancellation of World Bank Loan. Slow progress of works.
56.	Bargarh Canal Ori./3 × 3 19.01.93	9th Plan ----- 1999-2000	Finalisation of executing agency.
57.	Rathongohu Sik./3 × 10 Jan., 1993	9th Plan ----- 2001-02	E&F clearance.
58.	Teesta Falls I-IV W.B./3 × 3 × 7.5 Sept., 1985	1989-90 ----- 1997-99	Delay in civil works. Agitation by local people.
59.	Rammam St. I W.B./ 3 × 12 17.03.93	9th Plan ----- 10th Plan	Works not yet started.
60.	Purulia PSS W.B./4 × 225 09.02.94	9th Plan ----- 10th Plan	Loan agreement with OECF signed after one year of sanction.

NORTH-EASTERN REGION

61.	Nuranang Ar. P./3 × 2 19.08.91	1994-95 ----- 1997-98	Delay in award of works. Slow progress of civil works.
62.	Karbi Langpi (Lower Borpani) Asm./2 × 50 24.09.79	1985-86 ----- 1999- 2000	Frequent change of contractor for dam works. Delay in completion of dam.
63.	Dhansiri Asm./5 × 3 × 1.33 06.02. 85	1988-89 ----- 1998-99	Law and order problem. Fund constraints.
64.	Likim-Ro Nag./3 × 8 18.10.89	1993-94 ----- 1999-2000	Delay in award of civil works. Slow progress of civil works. Fund constraints.
65.	Serlul-B Miz./2 × 4.5 03.10.91	1995-96 ----- 2001-02	Delay due to non-finalisation of contract for project works.

C. PRIVATE SECTOR

66.	Baspa St. II H.P./3 × 100 19.04.94 (CEA Cl.)	9th Plan ----- 2001-02	PPA with State Govt. not reached. Work has therefore stopped.
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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
67.	UHI-III H.P./4 x 17.5 21.06.89	1994-95 ————— 2001-02	Project works not started earlier due to fund constraints. Posed for private participation.
68.	Shahpurkandi Pun./2 x 40 + 2 x 40 + 1 x 8 05.07.93	9th Plan ————— 2001-02	Funds constraints.
69.	Jakham Raj./ 2 x 2.5 01.10.84	1988-89 ————— 2001-02	Forest clearance received on 07.11.94 Project works expected to start in 1996-97.
70.	Vishnu Prayag U.P./ 4 x 100 10.07.78	1984-85 ————— Beyond 9th Plan	Delay in finalisation of executing agency E&F clearance. Revision of installed capacity.
71.	Grinagar U.P./5 x 66 18.04.86	1991-92 ————— Beyond 9th Plan	Fund constraints due to cancellation of WB loan. Land acquisition problem.
72.	Anakkayam Ker./2 x 4 26.02.91	1994-95 ————— 1999-2000	Delay by KSEB in taking decision for execution of project Delay in start of work.
73.	Maheshwar* M.P./10 x 40 12.11.93 (CEA Cl.)	9th Plan ————— 2001-04 (4 units in 9th Plan)	Finalisation of executing agency.
74.	Bhivpuri PSS * Mah./1 x 90 13.05.91 (CEA Cl.)	9th Plan ————— 2001-02	Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal Award between Maharashtra, A.P. and Karnataka.

* Projects cleared by CEA for execution in Pvt. Sector.

Local Area Bank

*560. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the opening of local area banks is likely to destabilise the cooperative agricultural credit structure and rural banks in the cooperative and commercial sector; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to review its decision ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Government are of the view that the Local Area Banks in the private sector have been set up to bridge the credit gap in rural and semi-urban areas, in addition to mobilising deposits. They will complement the efforts of cooperatives and other rural credit agencies in improving

the rural credit delivery structure.

(b) Does not arise.

Corruption Cases

6010. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the names and designations of gazetted/Non-gazetted Engineers/Officials of CPWD facing corruption charges, till date, in Delhi and other parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): The names and designation of Gazetted/Non-gazetted Engineers/Officials of CPWD facing corruption charges till date in Delhi and other parts of the country are given in the attached statement.

Statement

S.No.	Name S/Shri	Designation	Gazetted	Present Posting
1	2	3	4	5
1.	V.P. Gupta	Chief Architect	Gazetted	Delhi
2.	A.K. Pathak	Senior Architect	-do-	-do-
3.	Ashok Agrawal	S.E.	-do-	Rajasthan
4.	J.M. Swarup	-do-	-do-	Chandigarh
5.	P.K. Gupta	-do-	-do-	Delhi
6.	M.K. Bajaj	Ex. engineer (Civil)	-do-	-do-
7.	Ravi Mathur	-do-	-do-	-do-
8.	Kalash Nair	-do-	-do-	-do-
9.	Vasuder	-do-	-do-	-do-
10.	R.S. Singh	-do-	-do-	U.P.
11.	H.S. Sandhu	Ex. Engineer (Elect)	-do-	Delhi
12.	Kedar Ram	-do-	-do-	-do-
13.	M.K. Varma	-do-	-do-	Tamilnadu
14.	V.K. Jambholkar	-do-	-do-	West Bengal
15.	S. Pattanayak	-do-	-do-	Delhi
16.	T.P. Menon	-do-	-do-	Tamilnadu
17.	A.K. Das	Asstt. Engr. (Civil)	-do-	West Bengal
18.	B. Subramanian	-do-	-do-	Andhra Pd.
19.	M.J. Khabbar	-do-	-do-	Rajasthan
20.	P.K. Sarin	-do-	-do-	Delhi
21.	Ram Parkash	-do-	-do-	-do-
22.	S.P. Goyal	-do-	-do-	U.P.
23.	Shankar Singh	-do-	-do-	Delhi
24.	Than Singh	-do-	-do-	-do-
25.	Yamin Beg	-do-	-do-	U.P.
26.	Phool Chand	-do-	-do-	Delhi
27.	B.S. Pannu	Asstt. Engr. (Elect)	-do-	Haryana
28.	M.M. Bhalla	-do-	-do-	Delhi
29.	V.B. Verma	-do-	-do-	-do-
30.	V.P. Jain	-do-	-do-	-do-
31.	U.P. Ramaiah	-do-	-do-	Tamilnadu
32.	Ranjeet Singh	Jr. Engineer (C)	Non-Gazetted	Delhi
33.	A.K. Singh	-do-	-do-	-do-
34.	P.K. Talwar	Jr. Engineer (E)	-do-	-do-
35.	Ashim Kumar	-do-	-do-	-do-
36.	J.P. Sharma	Draughts Man Gr. II	-do-	-do-
37.	Brahm Manjhi	LDC	-do-	-do-
38.	D.K. Agarwal	Jr. Engineer (C)	-do-	Rajasthan
39.	J.K. Meena	-do-	-do-	-do-
40.	C. Pathak	LDC	-do-	U.P.
41.	T. Devnathan	Jr. Engineer	Non-Gazetted	Pondicherry
42.	V. Kandaswamy	Work Asstt.	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
43.	Jawala Das	UDC	-do-	Punjab
44.	Jagdish Lal	-do-	-do-	SE (Eng.)
45.	Maha Singh	-do-	-do-	Haryana
46.	A.K. Roy	JE (Civil)	Non-Gazetted	West Bengal
47.	K. Majumdar	JE (Civil)	-do-	-do-
48.	S.R. Mirdha	LDC	-do-	-do-
49.	Koteswara Rao	Head Clerk	Non-Gazetted	Andhra Pd.

Encroachment

6011. SHRI RAMSAGAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gram Sabha land which was got vacated from grabbers has again been grabbed by them particularly in villages Mundka, Roshanpur, Satbari, Lampur, Bawana and Nabi Sarai;

(b) if so, the details of the land so grabbed again; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in the matter to get back the land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Additional

District Magistrate-cum-Director (Panchayat), Govt. of NCT of Delhi has reported that in some cases the Gaon Sabha land has been encroached upon after it was handed over to the other Departments.

(b) Details are given in the attached statement.

(c) The following actions are reported to have been taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi:-

(i) The gaon sabha is contesting cases pending in different courts.

(ii) Fencing of gaon sabha land has been/is being done.

(iii) Legal proceedings under Section 86-A of DLR Act are initiated and thereafter demolition proceedings undetaken and FIRs are also lodged with the Police wherever considered desirable.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Village	Khasra No.	Remarks
1.	Mundka	373	The land has been handed over to Flood Department for fencing.
2.	Bawana	304	The land has been handed over to Rural Department for construction of multi-purpose community centre.
3.	Lampur	85/2	Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that two cases are pending in the Court of Civil Judge. The cases are now fixed for hearing on 15.5.1997.
4.	Roshanpura	2/2 & 2/3	Fencing orders have been issued.
5.	Satbari	822	Gaon Sabha Land partly encroached by the adjoining land holders in respect of which litigation case is pending.
6.	Neb-Sarai	532	Part of the land has been fenced and the remaining portion is under encroachment for which a case is pending in the Court of SDM, Hauz Khas.

Safety of Nuclear Establishment

6012. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Dr. A. Gopalkrishnan, former Chairperson of the Atomic Energy

Regulatory Board gave interviews to certain newspapers wherein he questioned the safety aspects of India's nuclear establishments;

(b) if so, whether the position pointed out is true; and

(c) if, so, the precautions taken/proposed to be taken to ensure complete safety of nuclear establishments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A section of the press had published certain statements, including those on safety issues pertaining to nuclear installations, attributed to the former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

Regarding the issues raised in the press statements, the former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, himself had stated that the AERB evaluation had not revealed any dangerous deficiency existing in any of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) installations, warranting any restrictive action on its continued operation.

(c) Administrative and technical machinery at different levels is in place to monitor and enforce safety stipulations in DAE installations.

The machinery encompasses a three-level structure comprising (a) Unit Safety Committee at each installation; (b) Safety Review Committee for Operating Plants; and (c) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board.

Family Pension

6013. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spouses/children of the deceased employees are paid family pension and salary when they are employed in deceased employees quota; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to stop the pension when they are employed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Encroachment of Government Land

6014. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ No. 5331 dated September, 11, 1996 regarding encroachment on Government land and state:

(a) whether the position regarding provision of electricity/water connection by NDMC has been ascertained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not providing electricity and water connections to the persons who have purchased plots from the allottees of the plots under 20 Point Programme in Delhi;

(d) whether water and electricity connections have been provided to the people who purchased plots from the Jhuggi-Jhonpri dwellers who were allotted plots in Delhi;

(e) the action taken to get the Government land in Anant Ram Dairy vacated from the encroachers; and

(f) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Covering of Verandah

6015. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3948 on December 18, 1996 regarding complaints and state:

(a) the total funds allocated and spent during the last three years for covering the verandah, year-wise;

(b) whether sub-standard construction materials and financial irregularities have come to light between contractor and engineers in this regard;

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

(d) whether a number of verandahs were covered in Laxmi Bai Nagar without the requisite 10% payment during 1996;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government propose to extend the non-payment scheme to this year also; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Funds are allocated for all minor works including covering of verandah. Total funds allocated for minor works during last three years and amount spent on covering of verandah is given below:-

Year	Funds allotted under Minor Works (Rs. in Lakhs)	Amount spent on covering of Verandah (Rs. in Lakhs)
1993-94	63.05	13.710
1994-95	87.65	21.945
1995-96	106.36	18.012

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) There is no such proposal.
- (g) Does not arise.

**Statutory Dues to the Closed
M/s Sylvania Laxman Ltd.**

6016. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that M/s Sylvania Laxman Ltd. Moti Nagar, New Delhi is lying closed since April, 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the employees of this Company have not been paid any salary since April, 1996;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have directed the management to pay the dues (salary, gratuity etc.) of the employees immediately and mitigate their hardships;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: (a) to (g) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that M/s. Sylvania & Laxman Ltd., Moti Nagar, New Delhi informed in June, 1996 of the shifting of one of its sections to Noida on the ground of disconnection of power and non-availability of raw materials. The workmen were also directed to report for duty at Noida.

It has also been reported that on receiving a complaint from Sylvania & Laxman Karamchari Sangh on 10.6.96 against the management of the Company for non payment of wages for the months of April and May, 1996, the Labour Department of the National Capital Territory of Delhi initiated conciliation proceedings and a settlement was arrived between the management and the workmen on 2.7.96 wherein the management agreed to pay wages for the months of April and May, 1996 by 8.7.96 and 15.7.96 respectively. The management of the company has stated the shortage of funds as the reason for non-payment of wages.

The workmen have not been paid wages since April, 1996. The Government of N.C.T. of Delhi had issued a recovery certificate under Sec. 33-C(1) of the I.D. Act, 1947 on 18.7.96 for Rs. 65,24,868.50/- to recover the salary of the employees for the months of April and May, 1996 but this was challenged by the management in Civil Writ Petition in High Court of Delhi. Another recovery certificate under Section 25-0(6) read with Section 33(c) (1) of the Act has been issued on 17.4.97 for Rs. 218,74,421.70/- towards the salary from June to November, 1996.

HUDCO Assistance

6017. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has decided to provide Rs. 522 crore assistance to Andhra Pradesh during the current financial years;

(b) if so, the total amount provided to the State Government during 1996-97;

(c) the total amount spent from the assistance provided to the State during 1996-97;

(d) the projects undertaken by the State Government to utilise this fund;

(e) whether any concrete programme of action has been prepared by the State Government in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Based on area and population state-wise allocation of loan is made by HUDCO only for housing schemes. No state-wise advance allocation is made for urban development/infrastructure schemes. The quantum of assistance for such schemes will depend on the demands from the States. During the current financial year HUDCO has communicated an allocation of Rs. 40.78 crores for Andhra Pradesh representing 50% of the annual allocation. Final allocation for the whole year may, however, vary depending on demand and performance of States.

(b) During 1996-97, HUDCO has sanctioned a total loan amount of Rs. 202 crores to the State of Andhra Pradesh for Housing Schemes and disbursed an amount of Rs. 155.45 crores. In addition HUDCO has sanctioned a total loan amount of Rs. 290.39 crores to Andhra Pradesh for 29 urban infrastructure schemes and the amount released to the State was Rs. 31.53 crores.

(c) The utilisation reports from implementing agencies are not available with HUDCO.

(d) to (f) The details of housing and urban infrastructure projects sanctioned by HUDCO to the State of Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97 are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Arsenic and Fluoride Contamination

6018. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the West Bengal Government has submitted a Rs. 4.58 crores research and development project on arsenic and fluoride contamination to the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereto particularly when 70 blocks have been found to have arsenic content above the permissible limit of 0.05 milligram per litre while the scourage of silicosis has also aroused an alarm ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per information received from Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, several research and development projects have been sanctioned under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Mission by the Government. These are as follows:-

I. R&D Projects (concluded):

(i) Sub-Mission Project on Arsenic Pollution in Ground Water in West Bengal at a project cost of Rs. 10.82 lakhs by School of Tropical. Medicines and AIH & PH in January, 1988.

(ii) Study of arsenic contamination in six districts of West Bengal at a project cost of Rs. 4.125 lakhs in March, 1994. The first phase of study has been completed by Jadavpur University, Calcutta.

(iii) R&D Project on Epidemiological study for assessing toxicity in chronic arsenic affected areas at a project cost of Rs. 4.93 lakhs approved in December, 1994. The study has been concluded by Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education & Research, Calcutta.

II. R&D Projects (ongoing):

(i) R&D Projects on control of arsenic and other chemical pollutants approved at a project cost of Rs. 2.74 lakhs. The study has been entrusted to Presidency College, Calcutta.

(ii) Development of low cost filtering medium for removal of arsenic from ground water approved by Govt. of India in 1995-96 at a project cost of Rs. 3.304 lakhs. The study has been entrusted to National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur.

(iii) Geology and geochemistry of arsenic occurrences in ground water of six districts in West Bengal approved by Government of India in March, 1996 at the project cost of Rs. 4.78 lakhs. The study has been entrusted to the Centre for Study of Man and Environment, Calcutta.

Agriculture Development Finance Companies

6019. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State level agriculture development finance companies are likely to be set up in Assam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural

Development (NABARD), all State Governments have been requested by them to indicate their willingness to have agriculture Development Finance Companies (ADFCs) set up in their respective States having due regard to, inter-alia, available business potential in the States. However, Government of Assam has so far not responded to NABARD in the matter.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

NABARD

6020. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in any State by the National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank for setting up of agriculture based industries;

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

(c) the amount likely to be mobilised by the National Agriculture Rural Development Bank for these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has conducted one potential survey on agro-processing sector in Gujarat covering six districts of the State as well as a product study on packaging material based on agro-waste in six States.

The final reports on the survey in Gujarat contain, inter-alia, project profiles for 38 activities which have potential in the districts covered. The findings are being widely publicised among banks and concerned agencies. While the State Government is required to take necessary steps to provide infrastructure and other facilities for the identified potential in the report, the banks have been advised to incorporate the potential identified in their service area plans and make adequate provisions for assisting the entrepreneurs with loans.

The product study on packaging material based on agro-waste covered the States of Kerala, Assam, Maharashtra, Karnataka, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. The study focusses on development of packaging material using locally available resources in rural areas, especially biomass and agricultural wastes, and establishment of production units in the decentralised sector. The study also identified potential for viable projects such as particle board and JRP sheets from jute sticks and craft paper and COPB boxes from cotton stalks. They would need to provide adequate credit support where necessary with refinance support from NABARD and the concerned State Governments will have to ensure infrastructural and other linkages support.

(c) NABARD has reported that no specific amount is proposed to be mobilised for the above purpose. For the identified potential in the above studies, the banks will have to provide credit support after satisfying themselves with technical feasibility and financial viability of the specific projects submitted to them. NABARD had, however, allo-

cated Rs. 3317 lakh for 1996-97 in 13 States for agro-processing business.

Child Labour engaged in Tea Garden

6021. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether huge number of child labourers are engaged in the tea garden of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that the child labourers are not engaged in such gardens ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Tea Board, the estimated average daily number of child labourer employed in tea plantation industry of Assam during 1994 was around 18,000 constituting 3.18% of the total Labour employed in Assam tea plantation industry. The number of child labourers, however, have been coming down steeply in recent times and according to tea industry, there may be no significant employment of child labour in tea plantation industry from 1995 onwards. The Consultative Committee of Plantation Association have advised its constituent members not to employ any person below 14 years of age in plantation industry.

Draft facilities in RRBs

6022. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN:

DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Regional Rural Banks are allowed to introduce bank drafts;
- (b) if so, in which year this facility was introduced; and
- (c) which are the Regional Rural Banks assisted by sponsor banks to introduce such facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have been allowed to issue bank drafts since the year 1980.

(c) National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that as per information available with them, there are 56 RRBs sponsored by 19 banks, who have so far introduced this facility. State-wise details of such RRBs alongwith names of sponsor banks is given in the attached Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) alongwith names of respective sponsor banks who are operating draft facility as on 31.3.1996.

Name of RRB	Sponsor Bank
1	2
ANDHRA PRADESH	
1. Rayalaseema Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank
2. Sri Visakha Grameena Bank	State Bank of India
3. Sree Anantha Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank
4. Shri Venkateshwara Grameena Bank	Indian Bank
5. Sri Saraswathi Grameena Bank	State Bank of Hyderabad
6. Golconda Grameena Bank	State Bank of Hyderabad
7. Kanakdurga Grameena Bank	Indian Bank
BIHAR	
8. Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India
9. Monghyr Kshetriya Gramin Bank	UCO Bank
10. Santhal Parganas Gramin Bank	State Bank of India
GUJARAT	
11. Banaskantha-Mehsana Gramin Bank	Dena Bank
HARYANA	
12. Hissar-Sirsa Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Punjab National Bank

1	2
HIMACHAL PRADESH	
13. Parvatiya Gramin Bank	State Bank of India
JAMMU & KASHMIR	
14. Jammu Rural Bank	Jammu & Kashmir Ltd.
KARNATAKA	
15. Tungabhadra Grameena Bank	Canara Bank
16. Malaprabha Grameena Bank	Syndicate bank
17. Krishna Grameena Bank	State Bank of India
18. Kolar Grameena Bank	Canara Bank
19. Chickmagalur-Kodagu Grameena Bank	Corporation Bank
20. Sahyadri Grameena Bank	Canara Bank
21. Varada Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank
22. Visveshwaraya Grameena Bank	Vijaya Bank
KERALA	
23. South Malabar Grameena Bank	Canara Bank
24. North Malabar Grameena Bank	Syndicate Bank
MADHYA PRADESH	
25. Rewa-Sidhi Gramin Bank	Union Bank of India
26. Jahabua-Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda
27. Chambal Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India
MAHARASHTRA	
28. Marathwada Gramin Bank	Bank of Maharashtra
29. Aurangabad-Jalna Gramin Bank	Bank of Maharashtra
30. Chandrapur-Gadchiroli Gramin Bank	Bank of India
31. Akola Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India
32. Solapur Gramin Bank	Bank of India
33. Thane Gramin Bank	Bank of Maharashtra
ORISSA	
34. Puri Gramya Bank	Indian Overseas Bank
35. Bolangir Anchalik Gramya Bank	State Bank of India
36. Cuttack Gramya Bank	UCO Bank
37. Koraput Panchabati Gramya Bank	State Bank of India
38. Kalahandi Anchalik Gramya Bank	State Bank of India
PUNJAB	
39. Faridkot-Bhatinda Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Punjab & Sindh Bank
RAJASTHAN	
40. Aravalli Kshetriya Gramin bank	Bank of Baroda
41. Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Central Bank of India
42. Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank	UCO Bank
43. Bundi-Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda
44. Bhilwara-Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin Bank	Bank of Baroda

1

2

TAMILNADU

45. Pandyan Grameena Bank

Indian Overseas Bank

UTTAR PRADESH

46. Prathama Bank

Syndicate Bank

47. Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank

Bank of Baroda

48. Farrukhabad Gramin Bank

Bank of India

49. Sravasti Gramin Bank

Allahabad Bank

50. Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank

Bank of Baroda

51. Aligarh Grameen Bank

Canara Bank

52. Tulsi Gramin bank

Allahabad Bank

53. Etah Gramin Bank

Canara Bank

54. Sarayu Gramin Bank

Allahabad Bank

55. Jamuna Gramin Bank

Canara Bank

WEST BENGAL

56. Howrah Gramin Bank

UCO Bank

Strengthening of Emigration Act

6023. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to give more teeth to our Emigration Act to rein in unscrupulous manpower exporters who buccaneer in promising lucrative jobs abroad and vanish without a trace once they pocket their client dues:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

6024. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has developed desalination technology to provide safe potable drinking water in brackish water areas.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of pilot projects undertaken in this regard especially in Orissa; and

(d) the time by which this technology would be made commercial ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is based on the Reverse Osmosis process by which

the underground brackish water is pumped into a membrane element. The water coming out of the membrane has reduced salt content and is also free from micro-organisms, thus becoming safe potable water.

(c) Pilot projects based on this technology were undertaken in some villages of Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat for providing safe drinking water from the available brackish water sources. No project based on this technology was undertaken in Orissa.

(d) The above mentioned technology of brackish water desalination is available for commercial use.

World Bank Loan to Andhra Pradesh

6025. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank had discussions on a proposed fiscal adjustment loan to Andhra Pradesh for the next year;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has agreed to provide guarantee in regard to the World Bank loan to the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) and (c) The Borrower for such loans would be Government of India. The proposed loan will be passed on to the Government of Andhra Pradesh on standard terms and conditions. Hence, the question of providing guarantee in regard to the proposed loan does not arise.

*[Translation]***Self Employment Programme**

6026. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether self employment programme for urban youths has been implemented in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the city-wise details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. This Ministry is implementing two Centrally sponsored Urban Poverty Eradication Programme namely Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) which contain a self employment component.

NRY launched in October, 1989 with the objective of providing self-employment and Wage-employment opportunities to the urban poor living below poverty line. Yojana is being implemented throughout the country including Gujarat.

PMIUPEP launched in November, 95 has self employment through setting up of micro enterprises as one of the many components. This programme is applicable to all urban Agglomerations having population ranging between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census.

(b) and (c) PMIUPEP: List of 27 urban agglomerations covered in Gujarat is given in the attached statement.

NRY: All other urban towns not covered under PMIUPEP are covered under the NRY.

Statement

List of 27 Urban Agglomerations covered in Gujarat under the PMIUPEP

1. Patan	2. Dohad
3. Jetpur	4. Kalol
5. Palanpur	6. Khambhal
7. Gondal	8. Dhoraji
9. Ankleswar	10. Amreli
11. Savarkundla	12. Botad
13. Mahuva	14. Deesa
15. Visnagar	16. Dhrangadhra
17. Dholka	18. Upleta
19. Sidhpur	20. Himatnagar
21. Anjar	22. Bilimora
23. Unjha	24. Kadi
25. Virangal	26. Dabhoi
27. Keshod	

*[English]***Rural Electrification**

6027. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are envisaging to widen the ambit of Rural Electrification in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision taken by the Government to include rural electrification under Minimum Common Programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the existing definition of village electrification, a village is deemed to be electrified if electricity is used within the revenue boundary of the village for any purpose whatsoever. It is proposed to widen the ambit of this definition so as to include the inhabited locality of the village.

(c) Rural Electrification is not a part of the Common Minimum Programme. However, Government accords priority to rural electrification in order to provide the energy infrastructure as a basic need for rural development.

State Electricity Boards

6028. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Electrical Industries particularly those which are supplying equipments to the power utilities and State Electricity Boards for power generation, transmission and distribution programme, are facing severe financial crunch due to heavy outstanding amount of more than Rs. 2,000 crore with State Electricity Boards;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Crude Oil Production

6029. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank is providing assistance in crude oil production; and
- (b) if so, since when and the amount so far received and utilised alongwith schemes for improving the crude oil production in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank has provided loan assistance of around US \$ 1937 million for the various exploration and developmental projects of ONGC and OIL such as, Bombay High Offshore Development Project and Gas Flaring Reduction Project. The first loan agreement was signed in the year 1977 and an amount of approximately US \$ 1906 million has already been utilised by the two companies.

U.S. Pressures on India's Nuclear Policy

6030. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US continues to increase bilateral and international pressures on India to sign the NPT, CTBT and Fissile Material Cut off Treaty (FMCT);

(b) the details of the steps taken by the US to put such pressures on India; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) The NPT and the recently concluded CTBT are important issues on the United States non-proliferation agenda. Similarly, the US attaches high priority to the early commencement of negotiations for a Fissile Materials Cut Off Treaty (FMCT). India and the US have not discussed these issues at the bilateral level for sometime. India's stand on these issues is principled and consistent. It is also well known and has been articulated in multilateral fora.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Chargesheeting of DDA Officials

6031. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of employees (Class III, Group C) with their names and designations who have deserted DDA and went abroad without intimation/taking prior permission/leave during the period 1979-86;

(b) The details of employees who had been chargesheeted and departmental enquiry under the relevant Conduct Rules was intimated against them; and

(c) the details of such persons who have been found guilty and their services terminated by DDA ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) DDA has reported that it does not have any system of keeping records of employees going abroad without intimating and deserting services. However, cases of unauthorised absence are dealt with under the Conduct Rules. Prolonged absence without permission leads to termination of services. During the period of 1981-86 services of two officials were terminated and penalty of reduction in rank/stoppage of increment(s) were imposed on three officials for unauthorised absence from duty.

[Translation]

Urban Employment Schemes

6032. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes being implemented by the Government for providing employment to unemployed in the urban areas;

(b) the year-wise assistance provided under these schemes to Rajasthan and other States during the last five years; and

(c) The outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) This Ministry is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Urban Poverty Eradication Programmes namely Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) with an employment generation component. NRY was launched in October, 1989 with the objective of providing self employment and wage employment opportunities to the urban poor living below poverty line and is being implemented throughout the country including Rajasthan.

PMIUPEP launched in November, 1995 has self employment through setting up of micro enterprises as one of the many components. This programme is applicable to all urban Agglomerations having population ranging between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census.

(b) Under NRY, the details of Central assistance given under SUME (subsidy) during the last five years are given in attached statement-I.

Statement-II showing year-wise funds released under PMIUPEP is attached.

(c) NRY: The details of beneficiaries assisted to set-up micro units during the last five years are given in statement-III.

PMIUPEP: Statement IV showing achievement is attached.

Statement-I

NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA

Central Funds Provided Under Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (sub.) from the year 1992-93 to 1996-97

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	Name of State/UT	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155.60	268.00	173.90	197.25	197.25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Assam	28.60	11.37	23.00	23.00	23.00
4.	Bihar	60.45	-	77.15	167.10	167.10
5.	Goa	-	-	1.25	2.00	-
6.	Gujarat	33.35	46.22	42.55	79.15	-
7.	Haryana	21.20	35.55	29.00	26.15	21.80
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.00	5.00	6.00	12.00	12.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14.00	14.00	7.00	14.00	14.00
10.	Karnataka	116.20	80.67	74.20	77.98	-
11.	Kerala	59.50	72.40	81.83	53.65	53.65
12.	Madhya Pradesh	140.90	243.04	193.90	171.54	143.00
13.	Maharashtra	190.60	199.47	92.80	247.25	218.45
14.	Manipur	6.00	6.80	9.83	9.59	8.00
15.	Meghalaya	3.90	-	-	5.00	5.00
16.	Mizoram	3.00	1.50	3.69	3.60	3.00
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Orissa	39.90	68.60	44.50	50.40	-
19.	Punjab	40.70	70.35	56.16	19.90	19.90
20.	Rajasthan	35.45	98.45	90.60	88.00	88.00
21.	Sikkim	6.20	4.13	4.91	4.80	4.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	171.20	308.96	210.50	206.95	178.15
23.	Tripura	4.10	3.67	3.69	3.00	3.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	346.10	596.58	475.91	410.93	347.90
25.	West Bengal	152.70	89.70	83.65	196.90	-
26.	A & N Islands	-	1.85	4.12	3.35	3.35
27.	Chandigarh	-	-	2.55	-	-
28.	D & N Havelli	-	0.85	0.85	1.65	-
29.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	3.35	-
30.	Delhi	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.40	-
31.	Pondicherry	2.00	-	2.00	2.00	-
Total		1657.05	2241.56	1809.94	2105.89	1510.55

Statement-II**PRIME MINISTER'S INTEGRATED URBAN POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME (PMIUPEP)***Funds Released under Pmiupep for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97*

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the State	Central Share Released (1995-96)	Central Share Released (1996-97)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	980.58	866.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68.11	95.8045
3.	Assam	265.94	314.7863
4.	Bihar	819.37	443.0348
5.	Goa	90.00	58.5615
6.	Gujarat	583.59	315.5450
7.	Haryana	183.03	103.6784
8.	Himachal Pradesh	87.57	82.6388
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	136.22	121.5492
10.	Karnataka	634.59	343.1226
11.	Kerala	263.20	176.24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	772.87	437.7788
13.	Maharashtra	948.60	512.9095
14.	Manipur	48.65	68.4318
15.	Meghalaya	38.92	42.6336
16.	Mizoram	19.46	27.7938
17.	Nagaland	108.65	123.1772
18.	Orissa	269.17	145.5448
19.	Punjab	306.30	270.55
20.	Rajasthan	506.27	447.18
21.	Sikkim	38.92	36.7290
22.	Tamil Nadu	1046.37	647.00
23.	Tripura	19.45	25.37280
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1584.74	884.3184
25.	West Bengal	679.43	390.4892
26.	A & N Islands	50.00	30.00
27.	Pondicherry	30.00	30.00
Total		10580.00	7060.00

Statement-III**NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA***No. of beneficiaries assisted under SUME during the year 1992-93 to 1996-97*

S.No.	Name of State/UT	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25523	18175	15510	5701	18315
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	40	-	813
3.	Assam	1822	1299	13572	-	0
4.	Bihar	3732	1987	-	14026	428
5.	Goa	-	440	-	10	0
6.	Gujarat	4765	2630	1663	1777	1512
7.	Haryana	7435	800	2060	1725	1644
8.	Himachal Pradesh	190	-	-	1334	108
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1695	91	-	1489	2386
10.	Karnataka	14789	3345	14048	-	4358
11.	Kerala	4790	5202	3279	1282	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	43787	32072	-	16019	16581
13.	Maharashtra	18839	11917	7435	10649	13441
14.	Manipur	395	2745	1651	-	0
15.	Meghalaya	119	274	-	146	1415
16.	Mizoram	-	-	700	40	(-) 90
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	0
18.	Orissa	4946	1214	-	6223	3408
19.	Punjab	3985	3931	2670	2133	3931
20.	Rajasthan	4594	11749	9621	9415	12140
21.	Sikkim	182	16	-	310	406
22.	Tamil Nadu	19182	24418	12665	9857	26618
23.	Tripura	330	137	(-) 33	22	119
24.	Uttar Pradesh	59101	24813	35852	24893	24833
25.	West Bengal	15169	4368	3042	17567	(-) 5278
26.	A & N Islands	-	177	1	102	328
27.	Chandigarh	178	-	21	135	64
28.	D & N Haveli	43	53	11	37	40
29.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-	213	245
30.	Delhi	1038	295	79	-	518
31.	Pondicherry	246	160	705	211	616
Total		236855	152308	124595	125308	128899

Statement-IV

(1995-96 to 1999-2000).

*Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)***ACHIEVEMENTS:****TARGET :**

The physical achievements as reported by the States are as under:-

5 million urban poor have been targetted to benefit under the programme during the 5 years Programme period

(a) House-to-house survey completed in 240 towns.

(b) Town-wise project reports have been prepared for 229 towns.

(c) Under the self-employment component, 31,286 applications have been forwarded to banks, out of which 4726 cases have been approved.

(d) Under the Shelter Upgradation Component, 14504 applications have been forwarded to banks/HUDCO, out of which 7796 cases have been approved by HUDCO.

(e) 8382 Neighbourhood Groups, 1280 Neighbourhood Development Committees and 81 Community Development Societies have been formed.

(f) 921 Thrift and Credit Societies and 151 Community Kendras have been formed

Amount Deposited in Banks in M.P.

6033. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount deposited by the people in banks of Madhya Pradesh and the extent of amount invested during the last three years and the percentage thereof;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the amount at required percentage in the State and the steps taken to increase the percentage;

(c) the per capita amount distributed in Madhya Pradesh and other States during the above period and the reasons for advancing less amount of loans;

(d) whether Government are aware of the backwardness of the State due to shortage of banks in remote areas of Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to bring improvement in the above situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the aggregate outstanding deposits and gross bank credit of all scheduled commercial banks and the percentage of Credit Deposit Ratio thereof in Madhya Pradesh as on the last Friday of March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996 is given below:-

(Rs. lakhs)			
Year ended	Deposits	Credit	Credit Deposit Ratio (per cent)
March			
1994	10964.41	6142.29	56.0
1995	13324.38	7105.41	53.3
1996	15651.13	8934.28	57.1

Average per capita amount of gross bank credit in Madhya Pradesh and rest of India as on last Friday of

March 1994, March 1995 and March 1996 as reported by RBI is given below:-

	(Amount in Rs.)		
	Per capita amount of Gross Bank Credit for the year ended March		
	1994	1995	1996
Madhya Pradesh	868	985	1215
Rest of India	2097	2553	2965

The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) in a particular State or region depends not only on the efforts made by the banks but also on various other factors such as credit absorption capacity, infrastructural support and the overall policy framework in the region. RBI have advised the banks that they should achieve a CDR of 60 per cent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately on an all-India basis. Banks have also been advised that while it is not necessary that this ratio should be achieved separately branch-wise, district-wise or region-wise, the banks should nevertheless ensure that wide disparity in the ratios between different States/Regions is avoided in order to minimise imbalances in credit deployment.

[English]

Interest Rates on Deposits

6034. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have changed the norms for paying interest rates on deposits withdrawn before maturity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that several private sector banks have been violating the bank guidelines while making payment of interest rates on term deposits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken against such banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have advised commercial banks (including Regional Rural Banks) that effective 1st April, 1997 on a premature withdrawal of a Domestic/Non-resident (External) term deposit, the interest should be paid at the rate applicable to the period for which the deposit remained with the bank or at the contracted rate, whichever is lower, less one per cent penalty for premature withdrawal. Earlier, on premature withdrawal of such deposits, the interest was payable at the rate applicable to the period for which the deposit

remained with the bank less one per cent penalty for premature withdrawal.

(c) and (d) According to the instructions issued by RBI, individual banks have to adopt uniform rates at all their branches and for all customers. However, RBI had found that two private sector banks, amongst others, had offered interest on domestic term deposits of similar maturities to public institutions and other customers in violation of its directives on interest rates on deposits. RBI have issued letters of displeasure to these two banks during January/November, 1996.

Hanumantha Rao Committee

6035. SHRI K.P. NAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the rehabilitation and resettlement policy in regard to Tehri Dam Project and its environmental impact as declared by the Hanumantha Rao Committee.

(b) whether a national policy is being prepared for the rehabilitation of the oustees of dam projects in the country; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The Hanumantha Rao Committee set up on 17th September, 1996, to examine rehabilitation and environmental aspects of the Tehri Hydroelectric Project was to submit its report within three months. The term of the Committee was extended to 15th May, 1997. The Committee has now sought further extension of time till 15 June, 1997 to submit its report. The Government has agreed to extend the time till 15 June, 1997 for submission of the report by the Committee.

(b) and (c) The nodal department namely, the Department of Rural Development in Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment has since taken steps to prepare a draft national Policy and guidelines on rehabilitation and resettlement of persons/families adversely affected as a consequence of compulsory acquisition of land for development projects.

Rehabilitation

6036. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee for formulating national policy and guidelines regarding rehabilitation of the persons/families displaced due to acquisition of land for the development project;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of recommendations made;

(d) whether the Government propose to accord priority to engage the displaced farmer families at the time of their rehabilitation; and

(e) whether the Government propose of invite suggestions from the State Governments while declaring the guidelines and national policy in this regard ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The report submitted by the Committee is under the consideration of the Committee of Secretaries.

Infrastructure Schemes

6037. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Housing and Urban Development Corporation has sanctioned five urban infrastructure schemes with a loan commitment of Rs. 95 crores to Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) whether total infrastructural schemes sanctioned to the State this year are of Rs. 263 crores;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any time bound programme has been prepared for the implementation of the schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As on 31.3.97 HUDCO has sanctioned 55 Urban Infrastructure Schemes in Andhra Pradesh but not five schemes.

(b) Scheme-wise details of the schemes approved are provided in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) No Urban Infrastructure scheme in Andhra Pradesh has been sanctioned so far during the current financial year 1997-98.

(e) Yes Sir, the schemes sanctioned by HUDCO are to be completed as per loan drawal programme submitted by the agency. Release of subsequent loan instalments depend upon actual utilisation of the earlier instalment and on actual progress of work.

Statement*No. of Urban Infrastructure Scheme Sanctioned by HUDCO in Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97*

Sl. No.	Sanction Scheme Name	Project Cost	Loan amount
1	2	3	4
1.	Commercial Complex at Tirupati	318.72	194.40
2.	Water Supply Scheme at Korutla	130.27	91.19
3.	Water Supply Scheme at Jangaon	149.85	104.34
4.	Water Supply Scheme at Vikarabad	139.37	97.56
5.	Water Supply Scheme at Siddipet	2509.87	1756.91
6.	Water Supply Scheme at Srikalahasti	985.48	689.84
7.	Water Supply Scheme at Viznagram	2440.34	1708.24
8.	Water Supply Scheme at Ponnur	1154.50	808.15
9.	Water Supply Scheme at Mahbubnagar	4449.44	3114.61
10.	Water Supply Scheme at Chittoor	4656.07	3259.25
11.	Water Supply Scheme at Wanaparthy	1067.61	747.33
12.	Water Supply Scheme at Kavali	1209.72	846.80
13.	Water Supply Scheme at Yemmiganur	1352.82	946.97
14.	Water Supply Scheme at Gadwal	335.80	235.06
15.	Water Supply Scheme at Madnapalle	426.03	298.22
16.	Water Supply Scheme at Punganur	323.69	226.58
17.	Water Supply Scheme at Amalpuram	488.69	342.08
18.	Water Supply Scheme at Bheemunipat	266.80	186.71
19.	Water Supply Scheme at Samalkot	391.48	274.04
20.	Water Supply Scheme at Kandukur	597.08	417.96
21.	Water Supply Scheme at Sadasivpet	407.15	285.00
22.	Improvement of Road/Drain-Kuppam Town	389.26	266.48
23.	Rehab. Centre/School at Adivivaram	3435.14	2404.68
24.	Infrastructure Dev. Vijayawada	4710.97	3286.61
25.	Bio-Conversion of Waste into Organic Manure-Vijayawada	145.00	98.00
26.	Water Supply Scheme at Ramagundam	994.00	676.28
27.	Solid Waste Management For Hyderabad And Secunderabad	1487.46	1041.22
28.	Water Supply Scheme at Kurnool.	3017.89	2120.37
29.	Rehab. Centre/School for Social Offendar at Moulali-Secunderabad	3341.68	2514.02
30.	Infrastructure Scheme for Truck Terminal & Whole Sale Market at Hyderabad.	116.00	116.00
31.	Construction of Primary Health Centre at Mandal Head Quarter In Hyderabad	206.00	102.77
32.	R&D/E&T Complex at Hyderabad	1695.00	1271.85
33.	Hyderabad Water Supply & Sewerage Improvement Scheme	1725.00	1050.00
34.	Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme Phase II Sub Ph. I at Vishakhapatnam	1668.19	994.87
35.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Nellore.	222.89	124.07
36.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Vizianagaram	191.12	132.62
37.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Mancherial	184.45	106.78
38.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Machilipatinam	113.94	78.77

1	2	3	4
39.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Tirupati	161.45	112.00
40.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Kurnool	200.93	122.44
41.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Cuddapah.	174.56	121.13
42.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Nizamabad	191.26	132.72
43.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Khammam	146.89	101.94
44.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Chirala	94.70	63.90
45.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Nuzvid	49.64	34.84
46.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Palwancha	36.02	24.91
47.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Chittoor	106.15	64.66
48.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Vijaywada	502.15	286.00
49.	Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme for Patamatalanka and Krishnalanka of Vijayawada City	1470.02	998.00
50.	Const. of 27 PHCs at Mandal Hq. in Vishakhapatnam Division	324.78	240.77
51.	Const. of 27 PHCs at Mandal Hq. in Hyderabad Division	310.51	230.20
52.	Construction of 29 PHCs at Mandal Hq. in Cuddapah Division	341.44	253.12
53.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Nandiyal	1535.00	684.00
54.	Water Supply & Sewerage Improvement Scheme at Hyderabad City	5968.75	2500.00
55.	Water Supply Improvement at Hyderabad City.	7496.23	4340.00
Total		41321.38	29038.82

Travelling by Indian Traders and Pilgrims

6038. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the travel made by the Indian traders and pilgrims to Tibet area of China and religious places in Pakistan during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) the per passenger amount spent by the Government of India during the said period;

(c) the increase registered in the number of such passengers during the said period; and

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to increase the incentives and facilities for these passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (d) The details of the travel made by Indian traders and pilgrims to Tibet area of China and religious places in Pakistan during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 is as under:

	1994	1995	1996
Travel by Indian traders to Tibet	451	466	496*
Kailash Mansarovar Yatris	370	350	435
Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas to Pakistan	5380	5210	5085
			(*estimated)

2. Government does not bear any expenditure on traders travelling to Tibet area of China.

3. In the case of Kailash Mansarovar Yatris, Government provides facilities which include medical assistance, security and escort cover through ITBP and UP State Police, communication links between Delhi and places en route on the Indian side and with China. In 1996, Government also decided to peg the amount payable to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) by pilgrims at the rate of Rs. 5000/- per pilgrim. The total cost charged by KMVN was Rs. 8250/- per pilgrim. Thus, the Government bore an expenditure of Rs. 3250/- per pilgrim.

4. In case of Sikh/Sehejdhari and Hindu Jathas

from India to Pakistan, Government extends all required assistance: obtains approval of the Government of Pakistan for the visit of each Jatha; coordinates with various State Governments/Ministries/Authorities and forwards the lists of intending pilgrims to the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi for visas; arranges with the Ministry of Railways special train services for the pilgrims both for onward/return journey; expedites release of foreign exchange from Reserve Bank of India as a special case in view of the fact that permission for Jathas is given at short notice and visas are stamped on the pilgrims' passports just one or two days prior to the departure of the Jathas; attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India in Islamabad to render assistance to the visiting pilgrims, etc.

5. Government intends to continue providing facilities mentioned above to these passengers.

Setting up of Nuclear Power Station

6039. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- whether the Government propose to set up any Nuclear Power Station in West Bengal;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to availability of coal resources in the Eastern Region of which West Bengal is a part, the priority for setting up of nuclear power station in West Bengal is relatively low as compared to the regions away from the coal belt.

Rural Credit Structure

6040. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- the number of officials of the Reserve Bank of India sent abroad by the Government to study the rural credit structure of financial assistance by World Bank to regional rural banks; and
- details of the report/recommendations made by each such team sent abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A senior official from Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was one of the members of a delegation from Government which visited Washington during November, 1996 for discussions with the World Bank Group on Rural Finance Reform in India. A key objective of the visit was to hold discussions on possible World Bank support for a comprehensive rural finance reform programme. The discussions with the World Bank Group were exploratory in nature and covered various aspects of the rural finance reform process.

P.F. Fund

6041. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- the number of defaulters who have not deposited the amount of Employees Provident Fund during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- the details of the defaulters and amount outstanding against each of them; and
- the action taken against the defaulters, for realisation of the dues ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The available information is given in the attached statement.

(b) The total amount of EPF dues outstanding against the EPF defaulters during the last three years was as under:

Year	Amount of Default (Rs. in crore)
1993-94	357.04
1994-95	347.33
1995-96	421.40

As the number of defaulters is quite large it is somewhat difficult to furnish their individual details.

(c) Necessary legal and penal action as provided U/s 7A, 8B, 14 and 14B of the EPF and MP Act and where necessary also U/s 406/409 of the IPC is taken to recover the dues outstanding against the defaulters.

Statement

Name of the Region	Number of Defaulting Establishments		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Andhra Pradesh	971	647	743
Bihar	1139	1304	1349
Delhi	456	536	500
Gujarat	282	274	209
Haryana	360	464	525
Karnataka	409	413	424
Kerala	503	388	464
Madhya Pradesh	693	667	505
Maharashtra	876	768	893
North Eastern Region	145	144	124
Orissa	390	343	275
Punjab	1329	1389	1139
Rajasthan	490	546	577
Tamil Nadu	1316	1525	1281
Uttar Pradesh	1230	1352	1458
West Bengal	1232	1216	1216
	11821	11976	11682

Balmer Lawrie

6042. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 13 joint venture units of Balmer Lawrie are running under heavy loss due to mis-management;
- (b) whether the Finance Director alongwith two General Managers, resigned on account of such anomalies which may draw punishment;
- (c) whether the Government propose to conduct any enquiry against this huge finance losses and take appropriate action against them were responsible; and
- (d) if not, why ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir. Only three Joint Ventures, Cochin Refineries-Balmer Lawrie Ltd., Balmer Lawrie-Van Leer Ltd., Balmer Lawrie-Freight Containers Madras are running on losses. All the Joint Ventures are Board managed companies with professional fulltime Directors on their Boards and the equity holding of Balmer Lawrie in these Joint Ventures varies between 25% to 50%.

(b) The Director (Finance) has resigned for better career prospects and no General Manager has resigned recently. The question of punishment does not arise, as these Joint Ventures are managed by independent Board.

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

Loan to Kerala by Asian Development Bank

6043. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated for the development of projects and canals in Kerala with the help of Asian Development Bank;
- (b) the details of these projects;
- (c) whether some works have been undertaken with the help of Asian Development Bank during 1996-97 in Kerala;
- (d) if so, the amount spent thereon; and
- (e) the time by which the remaining work is likely to be completed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (e) Government of Kerala has not been implementing any Asian Development Bank assisted Projects/canals.

However, Kerala is one of the beneficiary States under ADB loan for the "Second Road Project" of US\$ 250.00 million. The loan Agreement provides US\$ 23.48 million for the work of four-laning of 47 km. of Alwaye-Vytilla and Aroor-Sherthalai and strengthening of Vytilla-Aroor Section of NH 47 in Kerala. The work under this sub-project

commenced in March 1994 and its target date of completion is March 1999. The expenditure incurred under this sub-project during 1996-97 was Rs. 32.47 crores out of the total expenditure of Rs. 67.12 crores incurred so far.

Private Sector in Housing Schemes

6044. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to allow participation of private sector in housing schemes for providing houses to all in Bihar; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The National Housing Policy envisages encouragement to private developers and the organised sector to invest in various forms of housing and land development by access to finance speedier approval of schemes and other forms of support, removal of constraints to assembling and development of land. The policy also lays down that the private developers will devote a significant portion of the investment in housing for lower and middle income groups at affordable prices and conform to non-exploitative practices.

The extent to which and the manner in which private sector is to be involved in the housing development programmes is to be decided by the respective State Governments, in this case by the Government of Bihar, as Housing is the State subject.

Coaching for All India Services

6045. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons belonging to the States of Arunachal, Manipur and Meghalaya have been recruited as IAS, IFS and IPS during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the procedure adopted to categorise the successful entrants into these services as Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste or General;
- (c) whether the States of Arunachal, Manipur and Meghalaya have set up coaching institutions to prepare the candidates for entry into the All India Services; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) A statement indicating the requisite information is attached.

- (b) The candidates are categorised as Scheduled

Castes/Scheduled Tribes on the basis of the lists of SCs/STs notified under the Constitution (SC) Order, 1950 and Constitution (ST) Order, 1950 and other relevant orders and certified as such by the competent authority. Candidates belonging to communities which are notified as other backward classes by the Ministry of Welfare Resolution are

treated as Other Backward Classes candidates. Those candidates who do not fall under any of the categories mentioned above are treated as General candidates.

(c) and (d) The requisite information is not Centrally monitored.

Statement

The Number of persons belonging to the States of Arunachal, Manipur and Meghalaya recruited as IAS, IFS and IPS during the last three years

Yrs	(Direct Recruits)			(Promotee Officers)		
	1994	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
Arunachal Pradesh						
IAS	0	0	0	2	3	-
IFS	0	0	0	0	0	0
IPS	0	0	0	0	0	1
Meghalaya:						
IAS	0	0	1	1	1	3
IFS	0	0	0	0	0	0
IPS	1	0	0	2	0	2
Manipur						
IAS	0	1	0	4	1	2
IFS	2	1	2	1	0	0
IPS	1	0	1	0	1	1

Hostages in Kashmir

6046. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:

SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some concrete efforts have been made by the Government regarding the release of 19 month old captivity of four Western Hostages in Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) Government has been reviewing and monitoring the situation pertaining to the abduction and hostage taking of 4 foreign tourists in Jammu & Kashmir on a continuous basis, and all possible efforts are being made to locate their whereabouts. The State Government has constituted a Special Investigation Team for giving impetus to the investigation and inquiries in the case, as also to try and get information regarding their status and whereabouts. The State Government has also announced a scheme of rewards to persons giving specific information in this regard, and wide publicity has been given to this through press and media. A nodal officer has also been designated at the Central level to collect and review on a continuing basis, any information having relevance to the situation of the

hostages issue that may be received from any source, and regular interaction and follow up is also being maintained with the State Government in the matter.

The Government has also maintained close and continuous interaction with representatives of the countries whose nationals have been taken hostage, by way of sharing of information and exchange of ideas aimed at achieving the common objective of tracing and locating the hostages at the earliest. Action on all these fronts continues to be intensively pursued.

Light Rail Transit System in Hyderabad

6047. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the Light Rail Transit System of Hyderabad stands at present;

(b) the amount released so far for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union and State Government so far for its completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) For implementing Light Rail Transit System in Hyderabad,

Urban Mass Transit Company (UMTC) Ltd., a joint venture Company of Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL&FS—a financial institution—was set up in April, 1993 with initial equity participation of Rs. 15 lakhs by each of the participants. Another sum of Rs. 7 crores was released by the Government of India as advance towards the equity in 1994 subject to the condition that matching amounts should be released by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL&FS. The matter is pending with the Government of Andhra Pradesh and IL & FS. Further the Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that it is proposed to execute the Project of Government themselves rather than through UMTC. Government of India have however requested the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh to reconfirm their stand by 31.5.97.

Complaint Against Custom Officials

6048. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints made especially by foreign diplomats against the custom officials deputed on national/international airports during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the Government are aware that foreign citizens/diplomats are harassed by these officials;

(c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent such complaints in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) : In November 1995 this Ministry had received a letter from Chief of Protocol, Ministry of External Affairs that some foreign missions had reported non-cooperative behaviour of Custom Officers posted at Indira Gandhi International Airport. The main complaint was that the diplomats who were holding Photo Identity Cards issued by Airports Authorities were not allowed to enter into Customs Area meant for arrival of passengers, the other types of complaint from foreign citizens in International Airports are—delay in clearance of baggage, prevention from carrying foreign currency, long questioning in the airport etc. Each of these cases are investigated thoroughly and remedial action, including transfer of the officials, are promptly taken.

Technology Collaboration Insurance Sector

6049. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has asked the Indian banks to explore the possibility of venturing into Indian insurance sector in technical collaboration with foreign entities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Pattern Scheme

6050. SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDA had made commitments to some of the registrants of New Pattern Scheme 1979 in 1991 that it shall take allotment of flats to them before they retire from service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the DDA has fulfilled its commitment and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government had received any applications from such persons to whom commitments were made duly recommended by some of the M.Ps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the actions taken by the Government in the matter ?

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

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The DDA has reported that from time to time, the registrants of NPRS-1979 who retired/are retiring are given priority allotments, as per the policy of the Authority. For priority allotments retired/retiring registrants of NPRS-1979 are required to submit their application within the stipulated period when the same are invited. No such allotment is made on the recommendations of individuals/MPs, if the application is not received within the stipulated period.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Land

6051. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted land to Japan to set up Japanese Industrial Village in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefit likely to be accrued to that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

*[English]***Irregularities in ICCR**

6052. SHRI A. SAMPATH :

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICCR has engaged two consultants in its office in total disregard of recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Engagement of Consultants and in violation of instructions of Department of Personnel and Training in this regard;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions, period of engagements, their salaries and other facts and figures related with their engagements may be placed on the Table of the House; and

(c) if it is found that their engagements as consultants have been made in violation of Government of India's instructions in this regard what action is proposed to be taken against the defaulting officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) The stock taking and physical verification of the books in the ICCR library had not been undertaken for some time. This programme was initiated last year and a retired Librarian, Shri T.C. Tuteja was appointed for this purpose on an honorarium of Rs. 4000/- per month. The appointment was made initially for a period of three months which was subsequently extended with the approval of the competent authorities and shall continue till such time as the stock taking, physical verification and data loading of the library is completed.

Shri Surender Mathur was appointed as Adviser Cultural Programmes at an honorarium of Rs. 3000/- per month to meet expenses on transportation and incidentals on 29th September, 1995 for a period of one year with the approval of President, ICCR and the Governing Body. His term was further extended with the approval of the competent authorities for another period of one year at an honorarium of Rs. 5000/- per month.

(c) The appointments have been made consistent with the ICCR Constitution and with the approval of the competent authorities.

Credit Deposit Rate N.E.

6053. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details credit of deposit rate of banks in each of North-Eastern States;

(b) the details of the constraints impeding the flow of credit to the North-Eastern States; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove these constraints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of all Scheduled Commercial Banks as on the last Friday of March 1996 (latest available) in each of the North Eastern States is given below:-

	C:D Ratio (%)
Arunachal Pradesh	10.4
Assam	39.3
Manipur	53.7
Meghalaya	14.4
Mizoram	16.2
Nagaland	27.4
Tripura	42.1

The Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) in a particular state or region depends not only on the efforts made by the banks but various other factors including the credit absorption capacity, infrastructural support and overall policy framework in the State. The RBI had set up Task Forces to ascertain the reasons for low CDR in certain States. In respect of States/Union Territories where CDR was low and at the same time, specific Task Forces were not constituted the convenor banks of State Level Bankers' Committee were advised to convene special meetings to discuss and take appropriate steps improve the position. RBI have also reported that as per decision taken in the Regional Consultative Committee for the North-Eastern Region held on 4.1.96 at Shillong to, inter-alia, review the credit flow in the seven States of this region, appropriate follow up action has been initiated.

Allotment of D.D.A. Flats

6054. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1843 dated March 5, 1997 regarding "allotment of DDA flats" and state:

(a) the number of DDA flats allotted out of turn (OTA) in the last five years, yearwise, giving the names of the allottees, specific reasons for making O.T.A., areas where allotted, mode of payment, recommended by whom, etc.;

(b) the number of DDA flats constructed in each of these years and the number of flats allotted therein;

(c) whether the allottee of NPS 1979 is not allowed the choice of locality; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to give preference to the choice area and floor to the registrant and let him wait till he/she gets the choice area and floor and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that following allotments have been made on Out of Turn basis during the last five years. Year-wise details are as under:-

1992	55
1993	127
1994	54
1995	19
1996	01

List containing the names of out of turn allotments made and the grounds for such allotments will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Out of turn allotments are made as per the approved policy and guidelines of the Govt. of India on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee of Govt. of India. All O.T. Allotments are made on cash-down basis unless there is a specific decision taken by the Empowered Committee for allotment on hire purchase basis.

(b) The number of flats constructed and allotted during the last five years are as under:-

Year	Constructed	Allotted
1992-93	7,876	10,218
1993-94	7,661	18,702
1994-95	6,844	10,365
1995-96	2,298	5,933
1996-97	7,743	21,493

The allotment figures shown above contains allotment of surrendered/cancelled flats already allotted. In fact the allotment of flats is a continuous process.

Sometimes it is not possible to allot as many flats as are constructed in the same year because of a number of factors including non-availability of provisions like electricity and water.

(c) No choice of locality has been provided in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

(d) There is no proposal to give preference of choice of area of floor in the Scheme of N.P.R.S.-1979.

SAARC Nations

6055. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objectives of establishing the SAARC and to what extent these objectives have been achieved, so far;

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend the scope of SAARC for establishing a common market and common currency among the SAARC Nations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) SAARC was established in 1985 with its prime objectives as the promotion of the welfare of the people of South Asia and the improvement of their quality of life, and acceleration of economic growth, social progress, and cultural development in the Region. In pursuance of these objectives, inter-Governmental negotiations under the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) have seen accelerated progress and Member States have collectively decided to strive towards a South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), preferably by the year 2000 but before 2005 AD in any case. Other areas of economic cooperation include promotion of investment, customs harmonisation, arbitration and standardisation. Technical cooperation in 11 agreed fields of common interest to SAARC Member States is pursued under the integrated programme of action. A mechanism has been set up for eradication of poverty in the region and particular emphasis has been placed on the welfare of women and children, youth, environmental issues and people to people contacts.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No such proposals have been brought for consideration before the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation (CEC), which oversees Economic Cooperation issue of SAARC and makes its recommendations to the Council of Ministers.

[Translation]

ESI Hospital in M.P.

6056. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the construction cost, amount spent and present status of construction of hospital being constructed for Labour Welfare under ESI (State Employees Health Insurance Scheme) at Nagda in Ujjain district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2,78,99,401.00 for construction of a 50 bedded ESI Hospital at Nagda (M.P.). A sum of Rs. 261.00 Lakh has already been released for the Project. The building of the Hospital is structurally complete and it is likely to be commissioned during the current year.

[English]

Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority

6057. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up Unified Metropolitan

Transport Authority for various metropolitan cities to bring about an appropriate planning and coordination among the various modes of urban transport;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the State Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which such an authority is proposed to be set up and the location of its proposed Headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) A draft Legislation for setting up an Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority is under preparation by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (MOUAE). Various aspects of urban transportation problems in the cities of varying sizes are being examined.

(b) The question of seeking response from the State Governments would arise only after the proposal is prepared by the MOUAE.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the time by which such an authority can be set up or the location of its Headquarters.

Recoveries

6058. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have to recover certain amount from former Ministers, MPs and Ex-MPs, etc. on account of various charges like rent of houses allotted to them, including electricity, water, transport charges, etc.;

(b) if so, the names of such persons and the details of such recoveries made till December 31, 1996;

(c) the steps taken to effect such recoveries from them and the time by which such recoveries are likely to be made in toto; and

(d) the details of the amount spent by the Government for providing these facilities, head-wise and member-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The recoveries are being pursued vigorously. In cases where the payment has not been received despite issue of reminders and notices, recovery proceedings under the P.P. (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants), Act, 1971 as amended from time to time have been initiated. Since the action for recovery of Government dues has to be taken within the parameters prescribed under the said Act, no time frame for such recoveries can be given.

(d) The amount spent on providing various facilities to former Ministers, MPs, Ex-MPs, etc. is mostly on lump-sum basis. Therefore it is not possible to quantify such amounts head-wise and member-wise.

Subletting of Accommodation

6059. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Estates has not taken any concrete steps to implement the Supreme Court Directions to get those Government accommodation vacated in Delhi which have been illegally subletted, particularly in Vasant Vihar and Andrews ganj;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the spurt in such sublettings in respect of special pools; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard to get such houses vacated immediately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) In pursuance of the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Writ Petition No. 585/94-Shiv Sagar Tiwari Vs. Union of India and Others, door to door survey of Government houses under the administrative control of Directorate of Estates was undertaken and on the basis of preliminary inspection, allottees of 4488 Government houses including those falling in Vasant Vihar and Andrews Ganj areas have been served show cause notices, where prima facie subletting was suspected, in the year 1996. As on 27.9.96 about 1085 cancellations have been made after allowing the allottees a personal hearing in response to show-cause notices served on them and 634 houses vacated/evicted after following the due process of Law. The number of allottees served with show-cause notices in Vasant Vihar and Andrews Ganj areas is 70 and 11 respectively.

(b) Cases of suspected subletting coming to the notice of the Directorate of Estates in respect of quarters belonging to pools other than those under the Dte. of Estates including the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha Pools, are brought to the notice of the concerned organisation alongwith a copy of Inspection Report for further action by them.

(c) Procedure under the Allotment Rules/Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, as amended from time to time is required to be complied with before an accommodation is got vacated from an allottee for breach of any conditions of Allotment Rules. This is being resorted to whenever called for.

Memorandum

6060. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of Delhi Flower Cutters, Growers and Suppliers Welfare Society had submitted a

memorandum to the Hon'ble Prime Minister on July 10, 1996;

- (b) if so, the details of their demands; and
- (c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Barat Ghar

6061. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government employees of several Government colonies particularly Sector 4, R.K. Puram, New Delhi are facing difficulties in the absence of Barat Ghars;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are contemplating to construct a Barat Ghar in Sector 4, R.K. Puram, New Delhi;
- (d) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to identify the site for the purpose;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the time by which the Barat Ghar in this colony is likely to be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) The Barat Ghars are provided by Department of Personnel & Training. It has been decided by Department of Personnel & Training that future construction of Samaj Sadan/Barat Ghar would not be taken up by them. The sites earmarked for Samaj Sadans/Barat Ghars will be used as open spaces for the facility of children and residents.

Encroachment in Market Place

6062. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have taken any steps to modernise Sarojini Nagar and Shankar Market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is also aware that Verandah have been covered by shopkeepers there; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to remove such encroachments in these two markets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NDMC has taken several steps to modernise Sarojini Nagar Market as well as Shankar Market by providing basic amenities/facilities such as toilet blocks, parking etc. to the customers visiting the said markets.

(c) Yes, Sir. Some of the shopkeepers, stall holders have covered the verandah in these markets.

(d) Whenever such breaches come to our notice, action is taken against the lessee for removal of encroachment under the provisions contained in the lease deed/licence deed.

Vacant Post of SCs/STs/OBCs in RBI

6063. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of vacancies in Group D posts in the reserved categories of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs have been lying vacant in the Reserve Bank of India in its Delhi Office since long;
- (b) whether the candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchanges have been awaiting in queue for their interview/selection;
- (c) whether as per the laid down policy, all such reserved vacancies are to be filled up within the stipulated time; and
- (d) if so, the action being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that there are some vacancies including those reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs in class IV (Group 'D' Posts) lying vacant in its New Delhi Office. Action was initiated by the bank during 1996 to fill up these posts. However, the process of preparation of waiting list was interrupted because of a recent judgement of Honorable Supreme Court making it compulsory for the requisitioning authority to advertise the vacancies alongwith notifying them to the employment exchange. As this decision was applicable on all authorities, the matter was examined from the legal angle by RBI, who have informed that they have since advised their New Delhi Office to resume the process of recruitment.

Serving of Notices

6064. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of notices served by the Litigation Department of Directorate of Estates to the residents of Sector-VII, R.K. Puram;
- (b) the details thereof, quarter-wise, pool-wise and the reasons thereof;
- (c) whether before serving the notices, it has ensured the names of the occupants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) Eighteen (18) notices, as per the statement attached have been served by the Litigation Section on the residents of Govt. houses in Sector VII, R.K. Puram under Dte. of Estates.

Such notices are served after verification of name and address etc. from the respective Allotment Sections.

Statement

S.No.	S/Shri	Premises No.		Reasons for Cancellation
1.	Kishan Chand	S-VII/822,	R.K. Puram	Retaining two Quarters.
2.	Hazari Lai	S-VII/650,	-do-	Subletting
3.	Charan Singh	S-VII/570,	-do-	-do-
4.	Jai Narain	S-VII/582,	-do-	-do-
5.	Dev Das	S-VII/578,	-do-	-do-
6.	Meena Lal	S-VII/883,	-do-	-do-
7.	Tara Chand	S-VII/928,	-do-	-do-
8.	Smt. Angoori Devi	S-VII/862,	-do-	-do-
9.	Smt. Phalguni Devi	S-VII/670,	-do-	-do-
10.	R.N. Roy	S-VII/50,	-do-	Retirement
11.	S.L. Tiwari	S-VII/254,	-do-	-do-
12.	Peera Singh	S-VII/387,	-do-	-do-
13.	S.K. Bajaj	S-VII/288,	-do-	Subletting
14.	Shyam Singh	S-VII/500,	-do-	-do-
15.	Family of Late Sh. Satya Singh	S-VII/360,	-do-	Death
16.	B.S. Rawat	S-VII/1196,	-do-	Retirement
17.	Niranjan Ghosh	S-VII/983,	-do-	Subletting
18.	O.M. Prabhawati	S-VII/453,	-do-	Subletting

Note:- All of these quarters are General Pool quarters.

Indian Festival in Russia

6065. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether without permission of Chairman and without inviting tenders, Indian Council for Cultural Relations spent Rs. 30 lakhs on the purchase of international air tickets through M/s. Inter Line Travels Ltd. for Indian festival in Russia; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government against the guilty officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) The programme to hold the "Days of Indian Culture in Russia" was approved by the President of the ICCR as well as the Governing Body/General Assembly and was included in ICCR's Plan of Action for 1996-97.

The Council has its own panel of Travel Agents and the work is required to be done from any of these firms. The travel arrangements for the "Days of Indian Culture

in Russia" were given to M/s Interline who are empanelled with the Council and had quoted the lowest rates.

The budget allocated for the international travel for the "Days of Indian Culture in Russia" was Rs. 48,51,000/- and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 30,17,174/- which was well within the approved budget estimates.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-US Talks

6066. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US has invited him for visit and having discussions with the US counterpart;

(b) if so, whether the visit was cancelled due to uncertainty in the Government;

(c) if so, whether any further date has been fixed for the visit; and

(d) If so, what is the date and time fixed for the next visit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (d) A visit by the External Affairs Minister was being planned for some time in April, 1997. The precise dates were to be determined by consultations. It was decided to postpone the visit for a more convenient time for both sides.

[*Translation*]

Water Supply in Maharashtra

6067. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of drinking water in Maharashtra;

(b) the total shortage in its supply;

(c) the steps taken to improve the situation;

(d) whether the World Bank has provided any special project loan for improving the water supply position; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Since drinking water supply is a State subject, necessary steps are required to be taken by the concerned State Governments and implementing agencies to provide safe and adequate water supply. The total requirement and shortage of drinking water in each State is not being monitored by this Ministry.

(d) and (e) The World Bank has provided loan assistance for improving the water supply position in Maharashtra. A list of such projects assisted by the World Bank is given in the attached statement.

Statement

List of water supply and sanitation projects assisted by the World Bank in Maharashtra

S.No.	Project	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Assistance (US\$ million)	Year of completion
1	2	3	4	5
1.	I Bombay WS & S	185.00	55.00	1981
2.	Maharashtra WS & S	86.00	48.00	1985

1	2	3	4	5
3.	II Bombay WS & S	640.00	136.00	1988
4.	III Bombay WS & S	915.00	145.00	1996
5.	Maharashtra Rural WS&S	319.58	109.90	31.12.97

[*English*]

Fiscal Deficit

6068. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the fiscal deficit as percentage of GDP on 1st July and January during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to control the same and with what success;

(c) whether the rate of growth of industry and revenue collections shown a downward trend; and

(d) if so, the comparative figures for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Comparison of fiscal deficit of GDP is done on annual basis. The details for the last three years are as under:-

Year	Fiscal Deficit (Rs. crore)	% of Fiscal Deficit to GDP
1994-95	57703	6.1
1995-96	60243	5.5
1996-97 (RE)	63131	5.0

The fiscal deficit in 1997-98 (BE) has been kept at Rs. 65454 crore which is 4.5% of the GDP. Government would endeavour to contain the fiscal deficit by controlling expenditure and increasing non-debt receipts.

(c) and (d) The details are as under:-

	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Tax Revenue (net to Centre) (Rs. crore)	67454	81939	*97212
Rate of growth in index of industrial production(%)	9.4	11.6	**7.5

* Revised estimates

** Quick estimates for the period April, 1996 to January, 1997.

Infrastructure Development

6069. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the West Bengal Government have drawn up any plan for the development of infrastructure in the state with the World Banks assistance:

(b) if so, whether the link Roads are likely to be constructed in all villages within three years in West Bengal under the proposed plan; and

(c) the present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Government of India have received a proposal from Government of West Bengal for improvement of State Highways and Major District Roads in the state. The same has been posed to the World Bank. It is at preliminary stages of preparation.

Allocation of Naphtha

6070. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Naphtha demanded by the Kerala Government for generating power in the State and quantum allocated during 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

(b) the quantum of Naphtha demanded by the different States and supplied to them during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) During 1996-97, the Government of Kerala had recommended allocation of 505000 tonnes per annum of Naphtha for the 500 MW Kannur Power Project Ltd. However, the allocation could not be made during 1996-97 as policy for allocation was being formulated.

Under the new liquid fuel policy for power projects, the Government have allocated 660 MW of power capacity based on liquid fuel to the State of Kerala. On the recommendations of the State Government and the Ministry of Power, a total quantity of 908.75 TMTPA of naphtha was allocated for three power projects in Kerala with a total capacity of 727 MW and the orders were issued on 09-05-1997.

(b) Naphtha is not allocated State-wise. It is allocated to different parties in different sectors of the industry like power, petro-chemical, fertilizer, steel, etc. on the recommendation of the administrative Ministries/Departments.

Liquid Fuel

6071. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to issue fresh

guidelines or to change the present policy for the use of liquid fuel by the power sector:

(b) if so, the details thereof, vis-a-vis the earlier policy; and

(c) the time by which the new policy is likely to be made effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Fitting of Iron Doors

6072. DR. BALIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether iron doors on the back side have been installed in almost all the ground floor accommodation in Sector VII, R.K. Puram;

(b) if so, the reasons for not installing such a door in Quarter No. 995 in Sector VII, R.K. Puram inspite of repeated complaints; and

(c) the action taken against the concerned JE/AE who had visited the above house several times ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Iron doors have been provided in all quarters in Sector VII, R.K. Puram excepting about 70 quarters. Installation of Steel doors in remaining quarters of Sector VII including quarter No. 995 R.K. Puram could not be included in last year's programme due to non availability of funds and condition of existing doors.

(c) Since concerned JE/AE was not at fault, no action was taken against them.

Mine Accidents

6073. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the Government for safety of workers in gold mines of the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to curb the increasing mine accidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to modernise gold mines in the country alongwith the details of such mines, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952, and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The safety laws

are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. The Directorate General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the managements for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance with the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default.

Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as:

- (i) Conference on safety in mines,
- (ii) Self-regulation by management,
- (iii) Workers' participation in safety management,
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels,
- (v) Training of work persons,
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and Safety Campaigns,
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

(b) to (d) As compared to the previous decade, the number of fatal and serious accidents as well as resultant casualties/injuries in respect of gold mines have declined during the current decade.

(e) Special efforts viz. air conditioning and use of spot coolers in the mines of Kolar Gold Fields have been undertaken to improve the working condition of the workers in these mines. Also extensive scientific studies have been undertaken to minimise the rock bursts in these mines.

Smuggling of Silk

6074. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA:

SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the smuggling of raw silk from some neighbouring countries;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have received some representation from the silk producers of the country in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the domestic silk producers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Available reports indicate illegal import of raw silk into India from Nepal, Bangladesh borders.

The Government of India have already drawn the

attention of Bangladesh Government to the matter with a request to take urgent measures to check smuggling of raw silk to India and matter is also being taken up with Nepal Government. Alert instructions have been issued to the field formations to ensure suitable deterrence to attempts of smuggling including smuggling of raw silk.

Investigation against AEPC by DGI

6075. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 has directed the Director General of Investigation to start preliminary investigation into the complaints against Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi relating to allocation of quota;

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

(c) the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) On the basis of a complaint made by All India Garment Exporters Common Cause Guild and Globe Overseas Trading Corporation, the MRTPC Commission has directed the Director General of Investigation and Registration to carry out a preliminary investigation into the allegations against M/s. Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) and file the Preliminary Investigation Report thereof within 60 days.

The complainants have alleged in their complaint that the respondent council, M/s. AEPC has furnished wrong data while making its recommendations to the Government regarding quantities to be released under the First-cum-First Served (FCFS) System on 28.10.1996 and has thereby manipulated the conditions of distribution of quota. The matter is now listed before the Commission on 10.7.1997 for consideration of the Preliminary Investigation Report.

Exim Bank

6076. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of number of branches of Exim Banks presently functioning in each State;

(b) the number of SC/ST and Minorities staff working category-wise; and

(c) the details of the backlog amongst these categories as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) has reported that it has six Regional Representative Offices located in New Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

(b) Exim Bank has reported that out of the existing total staff strength of 150, the number of scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and minorities staff is 21, 10 and 34 respectively.

(c) As per the information provided by Exim Bank, the backlog as on date in scheduled caste category is six and in scheduled tribe category is three. Against this backlog, four scheduled caste candidates and two scheduled tribe candidates have been selected for appointment by the bank. There is, however, no reservation for minorities category and therefore, the question of backlog in this category does not arise.

M.R.T.S.

6077. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Delays raise MRTS cost by Rs. 1,000 crores' appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated November 22, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Any delay in implementation of the MRTS could lead to escalation of project cost. However, the project implementation has started only very recently.

(b) and (c) The MMRTS project is scheduled to be completed by 2005 A.D. All efforts are being made to adhere to the time frame fixed for implementation of the Project. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd., a joint venture of Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi, has been set up for implementation of the Project.

The Loan Agreement for the project has been signed by the Government of India with OECF (Japan) in February, 1997. Besides this, the land acquisition process has also been started by the Government of Delhi. The appointment of General Consultant for the Project has been taken up by DMRC Ltd.

Development of Municipalities

6078. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have identified municipalities in different States for the urban poverty alleviation programmes for providing civic amenities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) This department is implementing the following three schemes for urban poverty alleviation in the country:-

(1) **Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)**: This scheme applies to all class II urban agglomerations in the country with a population between 50,000 to 1,00,000 as per the 1991 census as also to special category Urban agglomerations in the North-Eastern States, Hill States, and Garhwal and Kumaon region of Uttar Pradesh. The total number of Urban agglomerations covered under this scheme throughout the country is 424.

(2) **Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY)**: This scheme applies to all urban towns in the country not covered under PMIUPEP.

(3) **Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP)**: This scheme applies to towns selected by the State Governments and approved by the Union Government for this purpose. The scheme currently applies to 353 towns throughout the country.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Schemes

6079. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where drinking water schemes with Indo-German Cooperation are in progress in Rajasthan and the names of the places where potable water have been made available;

(b) the amount sanctioned for these schemes and the total estimated expenditure to be incurred, scheme-wise; and

(c) the latest position of these schemes and by when these are proposed to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Government of Rajasthan has reported that an Integrated Water Supply, Sanitation and Community Participation project is under implementation with Indo-German Cooperation in 325 villages and 2 towns of Churu and Hanumangarh districts.

(b) The total estimated cost of the project is Rs. 253.01 crores, which includes German assistance of DM 135 million. The break-up of the total estimated expenditure to be incurred on the project is as follows:

1. Technical	-	Rs. 214. 71 crores
2. Non-technical	-	Rs. 19.00 crores
3. Consultancy	-	Rs. 19.30 crores
Total	-	Rs. 253.01 crores

(c) Detailed engineering has been completed and work is in progress for production and laying of pipes, construction of treatment plants, reservoirs, etc. The project is expected to be completed by 30.12.2000.

Co-operative Banks

6080. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI CHHATARSINGH DABAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special assistance to the cooperative banks functioning in rural areas to enable these banks to come out of financial crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether there is any proposal to constitute a Central Fund for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Presumably, the Hon'ble Members are referring to schemes to strengthen the capital base of co-operative banks. It may be stated that unlike public sector commercial banks and regional rural banks where the Central Government directly contributes to the share capital, shareholding of State Co-operative Banks and District Co-operative Banks is contributed by their members and the State Government. To some extent, NATIONAL Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) provides long-term loans to State Governments to enable them to contribute to the share capital of co-operative credit institutions.

On the initiatives of NABARD, State Co-operative Banks and District Central Co-operative Banks in all States have drawn up Development Action Plans (DAPs) for improving their functioning and attaining sustainable viability and based on such plans, NABARD has already entered into Memoranda of Understanding with the State Governments as well as the State/District level co-operative banks for ensuring implementation of the said DAPs.

[*English*]

Residuary Non-Banking Companies

6081. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has recently issued directions to all residuary Non-banking companies that they should discount only bonafide trade bills; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons

thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised all Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Miscellaneous Non-Banking Companies (MNBCs) and Residuary Non-Banking Companies (RNBCs) to discount only bonafide trade bills. RBI have further cautioned the Companies that any money received by way of rediscounting of bills which are not supported by genuine trade transactions will be treated as regulated deposits.

According to RBI it had come to their notice that certain non-banking financial companies received moneys by way of rediscounted of bills of exchange with other corporate bodies, societies, trusts, educational institutions, individuals etc. and in many cases those bills did not arise out of genuine business transactions and were merely in the nature of accommodation bills. The purported rediscounting of such bills was a deposit-taking activity disguised in the form of rediscounting of bills and was resorted to with a view to circumventing RBI's directions on matters relating to deposit taking activities.

Shortage of Drinking Water

6082. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide drinking water to drought affected areas of western Orissa;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Union Government for the purpose, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any action plan for the permanent solution of water scarcity in the region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time limit fixed and for the implementation of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment has stated that supply of safe drinking water facilities in the not covered and partially covered habitations including those in the drought affected areas is undertaken under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, Minimum Needs Programme, Basic Minimum Services and DPAP Calamity Relief Fund, etc. The allocation under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme for 1997-98 is Rs. 41.73 crores out of which Rs. 12.51 crores has already been released. The district-wise releases are decided by the State Government. It has been further informed that the State Government of Orissa has an action plan to cover all not covered/partially covered habitations to provide sustainable sources by using resources available under various programmes. All the not covered habitation are proposed

to be covered by 1997-98 and partially covered habitation by 2000 A.D.

In so far as Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment is concerned, a centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme applicable to towns having population less than 20,000 (as per 1991 Census) is being

implemented. Under the programme, so far 8 drinking water supply schemes at an estimated cost of Rs. 11.58 crores have been approved and the Central share of Rs. 2.89 crores has been released to the State Government for implementation of the programme. The details are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Schemes sanctioned under the AUWSP in Orissa

PROJECTS SANCTIONED

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Town	District	Sanctioned date	Project cost	Central share
1.	Balimela	Koraput	March, 94	83.65	41.83
2.	Pipili	Puri	March, 94	83.65	41.83
3.	Kasinagara	Ganjam	March, 94	37.23	18.62
4.	Chandawali	Bhadrak	Oct., 95	90.73	45.39
5.	Panposh	Sundergarh	Oct., 95	93.78	46.89
6.	Kamakhyanagar	Dhenkanal	Nov., 95	236.73	118.37
7.	Malkangiri	Malkangiri	Jan., 97	219.00	109.50
8.	Polsara	Ganjam	March, 97	313.80	156.90
Total				1158.62	579.31

World Bank

6083. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT: Will the Minister of State for FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has launched/proposed to launch any scheme under World Bank Project to stop leakage of water, illegal connection of electric and water and tampering with water/electricity metres and theft thereof;

(b) if so, the total amount promised to be provided by the World Bank for this purpose;

(c) the details of the projects likely to be taken up during 1997-98;

(d) whether the World Bank has asked the State Government to furnish details of programmes undertaken so far; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Computer Software Technology

6084. SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to adopt and introduce Computer Software Technology in various other fields also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the technology package is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Computer Software Technology is increasingly being adopted and introduced in various fields like Government Administration, Commerce, Industry, Education, Health, Agriculture, Space, Defence. The following areas have been identified for increasing computer penetration in the country during IXth Plan:-

(i) Localisation of Software for Indian languages;

(ii) creation and maintenance of Data Warehouses/ Data bases; and

(iii) augmentation of Computer Networking Infrastructure.

(c) Implementation of Computer Software Technology in various fields is a continuing process.

NABARD Targets in 1996-97

6085. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the performance of NABARD in terms of target set under various schemes during 1996-97;

(b) how does the performance compare with the corresponding earlier period;

(c) the details of action plan formulated by NABARD under Minimum Common Programme for 1997-98, State-wise, particularly for Maharashtra;

(d) the details of plans finalised by NABARD to mobilise adequate resources required to finance rural development projects; and

(e) the major projects financed by NABARD during the last three years and present status thereof alongwith the details of projects recently cleared/under active consideration/pending ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) Information is being obtained and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Bank Robberies

6086. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for implementing U.S. system in India to stop bank robberies and apprehend the robbers is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the main features thereof and whether the permission of Reserve Bank has been obtained in this regard;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on it; and

(d) the time by which the above system is likely to be implemented in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have no such proposal under their consideration.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Brutal Killings in J&K

6087. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA :

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several members of a minority community were killed by terrorists in a village Sangrampur in Badgaon District of the Central Kashmir in March, 1997;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Kashmiri Pandits have been the target of terrorists during the last three years;

(d) if so, the number of Kashmiri Pandits killed by terrorists since 1990 till date;

(e) the steps being taken by the Government for the safety of Kashmiri Pandits in Jammu and Kashmir;

(f) the number of persons who have migrated on account of terrorists violence from Jammu and Kashmir since 1990 till date;

(g) whether migrants would be sent to which valley as announced by the State Government; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) During the night intervening March 21/22, 1997. some unknown militants entered village Sangrampur, Beerwah in district Budgam, and called out the male members of Kashmiri Pandit community. The militants reportedly ordered 8 Kashmiri Pandits to stand in a queue and subsequently fired at them from a close range, as a result of which 7 persons died on the spot and one person got injured.

(c) and (d) According to available information, out of the 4352 persons, including security force personnel, killed in terrorist activities in J&K during the 3 years period 1994 to 1996, 304 belonged to Hindu community, including Kashmiri Pandits. During the period since 1990 till 31.3.97, 706 persons belonging to Hindu community, including Kashmiri Pandits, have lost their lives in terrorist violence in the State.

(e) Security arrangements in vulnerable areas have been strengthened apart from other confidence building measures. Police and Security force pickets have been

established at various places which have pockets of minority community population, the State Police and other security forces have been asked to conduct patrolling in and around such areas. The law enforcement agencies and representatives of the district Administration have also been visiting such villages and interacting with the members of the minority community with the aim of confidence building and resolving their difficulties.

(f) According to available information 48131 families have migrated from the Kashmir Valley to Jammu and other parts of the country.

(g) and (h) The matter of return and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri Pandits to their homes is an important priority of the State Government. The State Government is preparing an action plan for their return, which may take some time to get final shape since the issue has to be tackled on politico-economic basis.

[Translation]

Employment Opportunities

6088. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any programme has been prepared by the Government in regard to providing employment opportunities through National Contractor Development Fund Programmes;

(b) if so, the number of employments created in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(c) the target fixed in this regard during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. This Ministry is implementing two Centrally sponsored Urban Poverty Eradication Programmes namely Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP). In both the schemes, no such programme has been prepared by the Government in regard to providing employment opportunities through National Contractor Development Fund Programme.

[English]

Irregularities in Purchase by ICCR

6089. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR :

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :

SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether ICCR spent Rs. 13.00 lakh for purchasing and installation of a Gen. Set without calling for any tender/quotation as is mandatory under GFR and without

DGS&D rate contract; and

(b) if so, the action to be taken by the Government against the defaulting officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) In 1994, ICCR purchased a 285 KV Generator Set meant for large buildings in view of frequent power breakdowns and the need for uninterrupted power supply particularly during performances in the Azad Bhawan auditorium. Sealed quotations were invited for supplying the Generator Set and the contract was awarded to the Company whose bid was the lowest.

(b) The question does not arise.

[Translation]

Allotment of Land

6090. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority provides land to social organisations at concessional rates;

(b) if so, whether any provision in this regard has been made for Rohini and Pappan Kalan projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The DDA has reported that provision of public and semi-public facilities has been made in Rohini and Dwarka (Pappan Kalan) projects as per the norms given in Master Plan of Delhi-2001.

(d) In view of the above, the question does not arise.

[English]

Government Borrowings

6091. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to impose any limits on the Government's borrowings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The feasibility of putting a ceiling on borrowings by Government of India is under consideration. The Reserve Bank of India has also suggested setting up of a legislative ceiling on public debt in its Annual Report 1995-96. The Bank has been requested to prepare a discussion paper

on the issue.

Shortage of Power in Delhi

6092. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:

DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV:

SHRI. K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute crisis of power in several States including Delhi;

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

(c) the steps taken during the last three years or proposed to be taken in future to tackle the power crisis in Delhi;

(d) the reasons due to which the Union Government are unable to tackle power crisis in Delhi;

(e) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to root out these reasons;

(f) the present position of the private power projects implemented by the MNCs;

(g) whether any action plan has been prepared for the smooth and adequate power supply; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) State-wise power supply position in the country during 1996-97 is given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) The main reason for shortage of power in Northern Region including Delhi is very little addition in

generating capacity while the demand has been increasing at 7% to 8% per annum. Low PLF of thermal power stations of Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) and inadequate availability of gas are the other reasons for shortage of power in Delhi. Grid disturbances in the Northern Region in December, 1996 and January, 1997 and shutdown of gas platform by ONGC during January, 1997 further affected the power supply position in Delhi during the months of December, 1996 and January, 1997. Steps taken to improve the power situation in Delhi include priority in according allocation from Central generating stations in the Northern Region; expediting commissioning of 400 KV ring around Delhi; strengthening of 220 KV network in Delhi; installation of capacitors to improve voltage profile and modalities are also being worked out for transfer of surplus power of Eastern Region (about 100 MW) to Northern Region. Power supply position in Delhi is also being monitored by a Task Force.

The following measures have also been taken to augment the power supply position in Delhi in the summer months :

(i) Additional allocation from the unallocated quota of Central Government in Central generating stations in Northern Region.

(ii) Arrangement has been made for supply of power from one of the 210 MW unit at Ropar thermal power station of PSEB to Delhi till Punjab is surplus in power.

(iii) Additional allocation of 15% power from Narora APS.

(f) As on date Ministry of Power is monitoring 54 proposals involving foreign investment; 16 of these proposals have been accorded techno-economic clearance of CEA and 38 have been accorded 'in-principle' clearance of CEA.

(g) and (h) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in the country include maximising generation from existing capacity, expediting commissioning of new generating capacity, reduction in T&D losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures, arranging of power from neighbouring States/Systems and encouraging private sector participation in power generation.

Statement

Statewise power supply position in the country during the year 1996-97

(All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/System	Requi- rement	April '96-March '97		Percentage
		Avalla- bility	Short- tage	
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION :				
Chandigarh	887	885	2	0.2
Delhi	14060	13694	366	2.6

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	13895	13078	817	5.9
Himachal Pradesh	2325	2303	22	0.9
Jammu & Kashmir	4833	3961	872	18.0
Punjab	21770	21414	356	1.6
Rajasthan	20080	18595	1485	7.4
Uttar Pradesh	41365	35600	5765	13.9
N.R.	119215	109530	9685	8.1
WESTERN REGION :				
Gujarat	38225	35111	3114	8.1
Madhya Pradesh	33045	29096	3949	12.0
Maharashtra	60181	56824	3357	5.6
Goa	1273	1273	0	0.0
W.R.	132724	122304	10420	7.9
SOUTHERN REGION :				
Andhra Pradesh	40240	31359	8881	22.1
Karnataka	24940	18172	6768	27.1
Kerala	11415	8820	2595	22.7
Tamil Nadu	36080	31118	4962	13.8
S.R.	112675	89469	23206	20.6
EASTERN REGION				
Bihar	9825	6981	2644	27.5
DVC	8315	8064	251	3.0
Orissa	10605	10282	323	3.0
West Bengal	15475	15026	449	2.9
E.R.	44020	40353	3667	8.3
NORTH-EASTERN REGION :				
Arunchal Pr.	162.9	83.9	79.0	48.5
Assam	3004.8	2697.5	307.3	10.2
Manipur	416.9	372.4	44.5	10.7
Meghalaya	412.3	412.3	0.0	0.0
Mizoram	189.0	152.8	36.2	19.2
Nagaland	187.3	157.2	30.1	16.1
Tripura	482.8	367.9	114.9	23.8
N.E.R.	4856.0	4244.0	612.0	12.6
All India	413490	365900	47590	11.5

Dismal Working Condition

6093. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of news item in 'Times of India' sometime back about dismal working

conditions of the Ministry of External Affairs;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a lot of displeasure and distress felt among subordinate staff due to treatment and attitude of controlling officers; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take to

remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) As the date of the news item under reference has not been indicated, it is not possible to precisely comment on the contents thereof. However, as regards redressal of grievances of the staff members, the Ministry of External Affairs has a well established grievance redressal machinery and follows an open access approach with a view to promptly addressing any such complaints.

Non-Utilisation of Funds

6094. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of non-utilised funds of various Ministries during 1996-97; and

(b) how does this unutilization of funds during 1996-97 compare with lapse of funds during 1993-94; 1994-95; and 1995-96 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The annual accounts of the Union Government for 1996-97 have not yet been finalised. However, a statement showing savings of various Ministries/Departments during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 (as per Appropriation Accounts for relevant years) is attached.

Statement

Sl. No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Savings (Rs. in crores)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ministry of Agriculture	443.99	285.06	386.52
2.	Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers	108.09	190.54	43.40
3.	Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism	12.31	13.11	36.40
4.	Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	8.99	10.76	13.11
5.	Ministry of Coal	148.33	258.97	183.49
6.	Ministry of Commerce and Supplies	45.20	86.03	98.56
7.	Ministry of Environment and Forests	18.74	30.61	62.21
8.	Ministry of External Affairs	39.20	@	75.25
9.	Ministry of Finance	16059.68	40911.06	52158.89
10.	Ministry of Food	61.94	123.65	229.75
11.	Ministry of Food Processing	13.80	15.68	4.71
12.	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	147.94	256.60	230.48
13.	Ministry of Home Affairs	303.77	175.31	88.41
14.	Ministry of Human Resource Development	120.82	50.69	423.34
15.	Ministry of Industry	677.27	810.64	618.58
16.	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	130.58	14.06	31.27
17.	Ministry of Labour	5.20	116.34	49.22
18.	Ministry of Law and Justice and Company Affairs	35.87	3.58	32.64
19.	Ministry of Mines	17.93	24.65	9.35
20.	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	3.82	21.98	56.00
21.	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	0.01	0.19	0.01
22.	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	1.20	0.37	1.46
23.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	80.10	157.57	0.07
24.	Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation	37.66	49.30	61.42
25.	Ministry of Power	108.83	374.36	477.99
26.	Ministry of Rural Development	172.79	1.93	304.64
27.	Ministry of Science and Technology	19.45	19.51	37.78
28.	Ministry of Steel	25.48	11.49	52.65

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Ministry of Surface Transport	198.87	154.27	272.51
30.	Ministry of Textiles	220.13	261.64	122.25
31.	Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment	118.97	140.07	135.59
32.	Ministry of Water Resources	40.11	52.85	53.26
33.	Ministry of Welfare	46.53	31.97	33.81
34.	Department of Atomic Energy	172.79	270.76	127.74
35.	Department of Electronics	33.77	33.38	38.76
36.	Department of Ocean Development	7.98	6.19	7.70
37.	Department of Space	48.39	15.92	26.22
38.	Parliament (Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha)	0.77	4.34	5.55
39.	President	0.28	0.35	0.03
40.	Vice-President	0.00	0.01	0.08
41.	Union Public Service Commission	0.02	0.01	1.37
42.	Union Territories without Legislatures	1009.63	14.78	73.80
43.	Department of Posts	@	@	@
44.	Department of Telecommunications	781.65	1004.71	423.70
45.	Ministry of Defence	209.25	558.36	395.02
46.	Ministry of Railways	1484.78	1004.71	423.70
Total		23222.91	47568.36	57908.69

Notes:

- The above figures of savings are with relevance to the original and Supplementary grants/ appropriations. The savings reflected in the appropriation accounts are not worked out with reference to the final expenditure estimates. These do not also reflect recoveries adjusted in accounts in reduction of expenditure or receipts which are netted for the purpose of exhibition in the expenditure budget.
- In cases marked @ the expenditure exceeded the sanctioned grant.

Facilities to Beedi Workers

6095. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no scheme of insurance, Provident Fund and pension etc. for beedi workers in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) There are several schemes like the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, Employees Pension Scheme and Group Insurance Scheme which are applicable to the Beedi workers in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

Allocation of Liquid Fuel

6096. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have curtailed the increased allocation of liquid fuel for power projects in

Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for curtailment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) In order to meet the demand for electricity, it has been estimated that for IX Plan period (1997-2002), the country would require an incremental capacity of about 57000 MW and the requirement during the Xth Plan (2002 - 2007) is estimated to be 65000 MW. In order to meet the shortages, many State Governments have been requesting the Government of India to permit setting up of liquid fuel based power plants in the private sector as these plants have the advantage of shorter gestation period. The Government have formulated the Liquid Fuel Policy for the purpose and have decided to allow development of 12000 MW of power generation capacity based on liquid fuels in the Country. State-wise allocation of this capacity has been made by the Ministry of Power on the basis of additional requirements and energy and peaking shortages of States.

The power capacities based on liquid fuel, allocated to the States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are 1160 MW and 1500 MW respectively. Allocation of liquid fuel

is made to the power projects in the States on recommendation of the Ministry of Power limited to the power capacity allocated to the respective States. States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have recommended projects far in excess of allocated capacities. Ministry of Power has been requested to reprioritise and rationalise the recommendations so as to keep the allocations within the sanctioned capacity.

Indo-Canadian Joint Commission

6097. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-Canadian Joint Commission is proposed to be set up to establish better economic co-operation between both the countries;

(b) if so, the areas of co-operation identified so far; and

(c) the steps taken in the above matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) During the recent visit of Canadian Foreign Minister, Lloyd Axworthy to India it was decided to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee headed by the External Affairs Ministers of the two countries. The committee will work towards intensifying co-operation in the economic as well as commercial and political fields. There is, at present, no proposal to set-up a separate Indo-Canadian Joint Economic Commission.

(b) Identification of the exact areas for co-operation will form part of agenda of the first meeting of the Committee the dates for which are yet to be finalised.

(c) The two Governments are in touch with each other to finalise details of the first meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee.

Introduction of Ring Railway in Bangalore

6098. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a long pending demand from the State of Karnataka for introduction of Ring Railway In Bangalore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka have proposed introduction of Light Rail Transit System, in Bangalore. The State Government have requested Government of India for equity participation to the tune of Rs. 500 crores for this Project. However, the Government of Karnataka is still in the process of preparation of Detailed Project Report and Economic and Financial Analysis for the Project. The State Government has been requested to expedite the comple-

tion of these Reports to enable the Government of India to take appropriate action with regard to the participation in the equity of the above Project.

Indo-Oman Agreement

6099. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sultan Kaboos-bin-said of Oman visited India recently;

(b) the details of the agreement signed between the two countries during the visit;

(c) whether any agreement was also signed on Investment/protection and avoidance of direct taxation; and

(d) if so, the details and main purpose of this agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following agreements were signed between the two countries during the visit.

(i) Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement.

(ii) Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

(iii) Memorandum of Agreement for Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Oman and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(iv) The Executive programme of the Cultural and Educational Agreement between India and Oman for 1997 and 1998.

(v) Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Civil Aviation matters.

(vi) Joint Venture Agreement on the Oman-India fertiliser project.

(d) The broad intent of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement is to promote and protect investment from either country in the other. Each country is required to encourage and create favourable conditions for investors and the admission of investment shall be subject to the laws and policies of the country where the investment is made. In addition, each country is required to accord treatment to investments from the other country which is fair and equitable. Further the agreement provides that nationalisation and expropriation of the investment shall

not be resorted to, except in the public interest in accordance with law on a non discriminatory basis and against compensation.

The Agreement for the Avoidance of Double taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to taxes on income is expected to pave the way for increase in mutual trade, flow of investments and transfer of technology between India and Oman. The agreement provides for mutually agreed procedure for resolving tax problem encountered by tax payers in the respective countries. It also provides for exchange of information between the two governments for preventing tax evasion.

M.R.T.S. in Delhi

6100. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether obstacle relating to acquisition of land for MRTS Project in Delhi has cropped up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the institutions/ persons objecting to it and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Government of NCT of Delhi have informed that the land acquisition process for the Modified Phase-I of Delhi MRTS Project has been initiated. However, in respect of the Shahadara-Nangloi Rail Corridor, residents of Kirari Suleman and Mundka Villages have represented to the Government of NCT of Delhi to consider alternative location for construction of Nangloi MRTS Depot. For this purpose, M/s. RITES have been asked to examine the possibility of relocating or redesigning the Nangloi Depot so as to dislocate minimum number of residents of that area.

[Translation]

Anti-India Propaganda in Government Schools of Kashmir

6101. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Anti-India Propaganda has been launched in Government schools of Punch and other schools of the Kashmir Valley and generally these Madarasas and Government schools are under the influence of a pro-Pakistani fanatic organisation, the Jamaite-Islami;

(b) if so, the places where such propaganda is being made and the names of the organisation engaged in this work and the names who are providing financial assistance to them and their total number; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Government are aware of some reports of schools run under the patronage of certain secessionist/militant organisations such as Jama at-Islami, etc. with the aim of indoctrination of the youth in the State. The State Government has been regularly sensitized in the matter and sustained pressure is being maintained on such organisations to contain their anti-national activities. Efforts are also being made to reactivate and improve the functioning of the regular educational institutions, which would also inter-alia wean away children from the influence of such organisations.

[English]

Establishment of V.T.I.

6102. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH :

SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any assurance to Gujarat Government for establishment of Regional Vocational Training Institute at Vadodara;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions prescribed by the Union Government therefor ;

(c) whether these terms and conditions have been complied with by the Gujarat Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be established ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The establishment of RVTI for Women at Vadodara was agreed to in 1991, on the clear understanding that the Government of Gujarat would make available a suitable plot of land measuring about 5 acres free of cost, for construction of a permanent building for the Institute and also to provide adequate temporary accommodation immediately for starting training activities. In April, 93, the State Government of Gujarat made available a plot of land with an existing old super-structure as also a new building already under construction on it. While the land was offered free, the State Government desired the cost of building under construction to be reimbursed to them. This could not be accepted as the building under construction did not meet the standards and requirements of the World Bank with whose assistance the Scheme is being implemented. The Institute, is however, functioning with the limited infrastructure since May, 1995.

IFCI

6103. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Association regarding not follow-

ing the reservation policy properly in the departmental promotions in the Industrial Finance Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Norms for using Roof

6104. SHRI SIBU SOREN :

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for using "roof" in a three storey DDA's LIG flat at Rohini, New Delhi;

(b) whether the roof can be used only by the allottees of third floor;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against those allottees of DDA's LIG flat at Rohini and other places who did not pay the instalments and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The DDA has reported that the terrace is generally used by the allottees of 3rd/upper floor for their out door activities. However, the allottees of the lower floors also have access to the terrace for the purpose of maintenance of water storage tanks and TV antenna etc.

(d) According to the terms and conditions of allotment, the allottees of flats on hire purchase basis are required to make the payment of monthly instalment on their own by the 10th of every month. DDA has taken the following steps to recover the outstanding dues of instalments:

(i) Issue of defaulter notices to the defaulting allottees.

(ii) Issue of Non-recovery certificates.

(iii) Issue of Press releases advising defaulting allottees to clear dues to avoid coercive action.

(iv) Coercive measures under Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887 and P.P. Act like issue of arrest warrant, sealing of flats, cancellation of allotments, etc.

(v) Door to Door recovery in Rohini zone.

Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

6105. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made any review of the implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Urban Development in the States;

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

(c) whether any coordination is maintained with the State Governments for the implementation of the schemes;

(d) the funds allocated and the target fixed and achieved during the last three years, State-wise and Scheme-wise;

(e) whether any new proposals relating to Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been received from the States for clearance;

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

(g) the time by which these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The following 6 Central Schemes are being sponsored by the Union Government in States for Urban Development:-

(i) Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT)

(ii) Mega City Scheme

(iii) Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP)

(iv) Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP).

(v) Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP).

(vi) Low Cost Sanitation (LCS).

State Governments are the implementing agencies for these schemes and coordination between the State Governments and the Central Government is achieved by holding regular meeting at appropriate intervals.

(d) The funds allocated, the target fixed and the achievements made during the last three years in respect of these schemes are given at Statement-I to X.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Question does not arise.

Statement - I*Allocation of funds and No. of Towns under IDSMT Scheme during last three years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		Towns	Funds	Towns	Funds	Towns	Funds
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	135.00	6	208.21	8	490.18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	26	1	10.00		11.00
3.	Assam	3	45.00		40.00	2	60.00
4.	Bihar	2	46.00	5	120.00	5	75.00
5.	Goa	1	24.00				
6.	Gujarat	7	150.00	4	118.00	4	176.97
7.	Haryana			2	50.00		10.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh			1	35.00	1	15.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir		40.00			1	73.50
10.	Karnataka	11	290.00	6	242.00	8	334.45
11.	Kerala	4	118.50	3	171.09	2	44.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12	253.50	7	279.50	7	116.35
13.	Maharashtra	17	433.75	6	398.75	6	206.01
14.	Manipur			1	10.00	1	49.50
15.	Meghalaya						11.00
16.	Mizoram	1	12.00		17.00	1	16.00
17.	Nagaland		15.00	1	17.00	1	13.00
18.	Orissa	9	181.00	3	84.00	2	25.00
19.	Punjab	1	36.25	2	45.00	1	50.00
20.	Rajasthan	3	70.00	5	171.50	2	130.00
21.	Sikkim		20.00				6.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	11	139.00	9	198.20	5	45.90
23.	Tripura				13.75	1	39.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5	159.00	11	353.00	12	398.00
25.	West Bengal	8	95.70	4	190.00	6	195.40
Union Territories							
1.	A & N Islands						
2.	D & N Haveli			1	5.00		
3.	Daman & Diu			1	5.00		
4.	Lakshadweep						
5.	Pondicherry						
Totals		104	2289.70	79	2782.00	76	2592.01

Statement-II

Funds released to the Mega Cities nodal agencies during the last three years

(Rs. in crores)

Mega City	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4
Calcutta	16.10	18.08	13.58
Mumbai	16.10	18.08	13.08

	1	2	3	4
Chennai		11.10	17.08	11.98
Hyderabad		11.10	15.58	11.71
Bangalore		20.10	15.08	10.55

As such no physical targets have been fixed under Mega City Scheme, as the Scheme envisages infrastructure development in the Mega Cities covering a wide range of projects. However, the main aim of mega City Scheme is to help Mega Cities to create a "Revolving Fund" by the year 2002, with a view to undertaking infrastructural development on a continuing basis.

Statement-III

Name of State	No. of towns selected	Total slum pop. in town coverage (in 000's)	No. of slum pkts selected for coverage	No. of bene. covered in slum pkts (in 000's)	No. of RCVs selected	No. of NHCs constituted	No. of CD Soc. formed	No. of COs appointed	No. of mini plans prepared	Progress rpt. as on Month/year	SUDA SMC Est. or not
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Andhra Pd.	23	950	808	753	5888	647	56	40	545	08/96	SUDA
2. Arunachal Pd.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	SMC
3. Assam	4	174	84	174	6786	60	60	7	40	11/96	SUDA
4. Bihar	18	4187	29	290	1656	166	11	22	27	07/96	SUDA
5. Goa	6	31	7	31	—	—	3	1	15	08/96	SUDA
6. Gujarat	27	1486	254	304	2573	245	35	73	254	03/97	SMC
7. Haryana	3	887	12	70	833	70	2	8	62	01/97	SUDA
8. Himachal Pd.	3	31	21	13	29	9	—	3	8	02/97	SMC
9. J & K	2	12	8	5	—	14	—	1	—	03/96	SMC
10. Karnataka #	45	559	28	279	2103	200	—	25	200	06/96	SMC
11. Kerala	17	549	536	549	14945	2989	224	51	224	08/96	SMC
12. Madhya Pd.	10	912	36	420	4737	542	64	53	457	03/97	SUDA
13. Maharashtra	35	6657	557	981	6357	719	30	84	—	08/96	SMC
14. Manipur	4	78	45	20	385	33	1	11	233	09/96	SUDA
15. Meghalaya	2	111	16	15	196	14	—	2	4	10/95	SUDA
16. Mizoram	1	107	50	100	624	52	1	4	52	09/96	SUDA
17. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18. Orissa	12	180	331	109	1329	137	—	25	328	08/96	SUDA
19. Punjab	4	719	77	223	1737	173	19	14	152	08/96	SUDA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
20. Rajasthan	21	1387	400	433	1732	117	2	13	80	02/97	SMC
21. Sikkim	14	150	16	10	16	16	16	4	14	02/97	SUDA
22. Tripura	9	49	32	15	261	26	—	6	23	12/96	—
23. Tamil Nadu	25	1219	717	723	7632	757	69	55	717	02/97	SUDA
24. Uttar Pd.	25	2565	764	906	6708	618	64	25	543	12/96	SUDA
25. West Bengal	28	622	66	559	5190	560	5	56	100	06/96	SUDA
26. A & N Islands	1	42	4	28	4	1	—	1	11	01/96	DUDA
27. Chandigarh	1	100	11	60	—	5	—	—	—	01/97	SUDA
28. D & N Haveli	1	12	1	12	—	—	—	1	—	02/97	SUDA
29. Daman & Diu	2	15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	12/96	DUDA
30. Delhi	1	1500	47	388	2158	126	18	9	36	12/96	DUDA
31. Pondicherry	4	226	80	101	772	58	—	2	24	11/96	SLMC
Total	353	25517	5037	7572	74151	8354	680	596	4149		

Progress in respect of 11 towns

* information reported is for only 14 towns.

Statement-IV

Urban Basic Services for the Poor—Financial Progress Reported as on 31.3.1997 Utilisation of Central Funds

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cumulative Central share Released (1990-91 to 94-95)	Utilisation Certificate Received (1990-91 to 94-95)	Percentage of Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	754.55	574.95	76.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.00	35.00	100.001
3.	Assam	89.85	66.45	73.96
4.	Bihar	581.64	338.22	58.14
5.	Goa	57.00	48.83	85.66
6.	Gujarat	342.10	313.76	91.72
7.	Haryana	101.80	87.24	85.89
8.	Himachal Pradesh	57.00	53.00	92.98
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	46.00	7.50	16.30
10.	Karnataka	599.85	299.72	49.98
11.	Kerala	285.78	285.78	100.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	672.00	495.98	73.80

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	919.24	781.31	84.99
14.	Manipur	62.50	46.00	73.60
15.	Meghalaya	61.00	56.45	92.54
16.	Mizoram	62.50	62.50	100.00
17.	Nagaland	35.00		
18.	Orissa	199.30	116.70	58.55
19.	Punjab	183.70	132.47	72.11
20.	Rajasthan	392.45	284.79	72.56
21.	Sikkim	62.50	62.50	100.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	904.30	886.00	97.97
23.	Tripura	62.50	62.50	100.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1418.63	1105.14	77.90
25.	West Bengal	629.58	498.09	79.11
26.	A & N Islands	64.65	22.20	34.13
27.	Chandigarh	49.35	47.89	97.70
28.	D & N Haveli	55.50	45.73	82.40
29.	Daman & Diu	37.20	34.60	93.01
30.	Delhi	120.85	113.28	93.73
31.	Pondicherry	54.20	35.24	65.01
Total		8997.52	6999.82	77.80

Statement-V*Basic Services for the Poor—Financial Progress Reported as on 31.03.1997 Provision of State Share*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cumulative State Share Required	Cumulative State Share Provided	Percentage
		(1992-93 to 95-96)		
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	448.73	335.10	74.68
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.66	8.50	88.00
3.	Assam	36.50	27.83	76.25
4.	Bihar	256.11	256.11	100.00
5.	Goa	31.66	27.99	88.40
6.	Gujarat	150.53	138.25	91.84
7.	Haryana	57.46	57.48	100.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	27.99	20.66	73.81
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.33	6.00	45.01
10.	Karnataka	269.71	249.25	92.41

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	152.42	144.55	94.84
12.	Madhya Pradesh	358.80	353.97	98.65
13.	Maharashtra	379.95	—	—
14.	Manipur	35.33	34.10	96.51
15.	Meghalaya	35.06	30.66	87.45
16.	Mizoram	36.06	47.00	130.33
17.	Nagaland	6.00	—	—
18.	Orissa	90.99	87.22	95.86
19.	Punjab	72.36	61.83	85.44
20.	Rajasthan	216.37	186.60	86.24
21.	Sikkim	27.99	12.00	42.87
22.	Tamil Nadu	385.23	385.23	100.00
23.	Tripura	29.83	29.83	100.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	630.92	529.94	84.00
25.	West Bengal	283.66	223.00	78.61
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	7.33	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	20.66	27.69	134.00
Total		4070.64	3280.79	80.60

Statement-VI

URBAN BASIC SERVICES FOR THE POOR (UBSP)

Statement showing year-wise Central Share Released (1994-95 to 1996-97)

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	179.60	260.10	208.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	5.50	—
3.	Assam	21.90	5.50	11.00
4.	Bihar	86.28	101.80	135.70
5.	Goa	11.00	16.50	16.50
6.	Gujarat	63.45	48.15	96.35
7.	Haryana	26.55	29.30	26.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.00	11.00	11.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Karnataka	110.50	94.95	63.30
11.	Kerala	68.08	70.85	65.30
12.	Madhya Pradesh	152.45	174.20	116.15
13.	Maharashtra	133.54	133.00	44.35
14.	Manipur	16.50	16.50	11.00
15.	Meghalaya	15.00	17.60	14.50
16.	Mizoram	16.50	17.60	16.50
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	49.55	30.60	20.40
19.	Punjab	34.05	16.45	16.45
20.	Rajasthan	96.00	107.10	71.40
21.	Sikkim	16.50	5.50	5.50
22.	Tamil Nadu	167.60	108.45	216.90
23.	Tripura	16.50	8.25	16.50
24.	Uttar Pradesh	144.28	282.45	368.95
25.	West Bengal	65.57	136.45	178.95
26.	A & N Islands	09.15	13.75	—
27.	Chandigarh	09.15	—	18.30
28.	D & N Haveli	18.30	27.45	09.15
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	9.15
30.	Delhi	—	11.00	11.00
31.	Pondicherry	11.00	—	—
Total		1550.00	1750.00	1780.00

Statement-VII

*Funds Released Under PMIUPEP for the Years 1995-96 and 1996-97.
Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Central Share released (1995-96)	Central Share released (1996-97)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	980.50	866.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68.11	85.8045
3.	Assam	265.94	314.7863
4.	Bihar	819.37	443.0348
5.	Goa	90.00	58.5615
6.	Gujarat	583.59	315.5450

1	2	3	4
7.	Haryana	183.03	103,6784
8.	Himachal Pradesh	87.57	82.6388
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	136.22	128.5492
10.	Karnataka	634.59	343.1226
11.	Kerala	263.20	186.24
12.	Madhya Pradesh	772.87	437.7788
13.	Maharashtra	948.60	512.9095
14.	Manipur	48.65	68.4318
15.	Meghalaya	38.92	42.6336
16.	Mizoram	19.46	27.7938
17.	Nagaland	108.65	123.1772
18.	Orissa	269.17	145.5448
19.	Punjab	306.30	270.55
20.	Rajasthan	506.27	447.18
21.	Sikkim	38.92	36.7290
22.	Tamil Nadu	1046.37	647.00
23.	Tripura	19.45	27.37380
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1584.74	884.3184
25.	West Bengal	679.43	390.4892
26.	A & N Islands	50.00	30.00
27.	Pondicherry	30.00	30.00
Total		10580.00	7060.00

Statement-VIII*Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)***Target :**

5 million urban poor have been targetted to benefit under the Programme during the 5 year Programme period (1995-96 to 1999-2000).

Achievements :

The physical achievements as reported by the States are as under:-

(a) House-to-house survey completed in 240 towns

(b) Town-wise project reports have been prepared for 229 towns.

(c) Under the self-employment components, 31,286 applications have been forwarded to banks, out of which 4726 cases have been approved.

(d) Under the Shelter Upgradation Component, 14504 applications have been forwarded to banks/HUDCO, out of which 7796 cases have been approved by HUDCO.

(e) 8382 Neighbourhood Groups, 1280 Neighbourhood Development Committees and 81 Community Development Societies have been formed.

(f) 921 Thrift and Credit Societies and 151 Community Kendras have been formed.

Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) Physical Achievements

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of Towns	Town-wise Project Reports prepared	Household Survey Conducted (No. of towns)	Number of applications forwarded		Cases approved by		Elections to UIBs held
					Banks	Banks/ HUDCO	Banks	Banks/ HUDCO	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	34	—	—	7012	3874	—	—	Yes
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	07	—	—	—	—	—	—	No ULBs
3.	Assam	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	Yes
4.	Bihar	28	24	—	—	—	—	—	No
5.	Goa	03	—	—	—	—	—	—	Yes
6.	Gujarat	27	—	27	—	—	—	—	Yes
7.	Haryana	09	08	08	—	1090	—	1090	Yes
8.	Himachal Pradesh	09	—	—	—	—	—	—	Yes
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	#
10.	Karnataka	17	12	—	—	390	—	390	Yes
11.	Kerala	09	9	9	3088	1650	762	1650	Yes
12.	Madhya Pradesh	29	26	26	7150	1365	2397	300	Yes
13.	Maharashtra	28	28	28	3834	—	411	—	Yes
14.	Manipur	05	—	—	—	—	—	—	No
15.	Meghalaya	04	—	—	—	—	—	—	#
16.	Mizoram	02	02	1	—	—	—	—	#
17.	Nagaland	07	—	—	—	—	—	—	#
18.	Orissa	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	No
19.	Punjab	18	—	18	299	—	—	—	Yes
20.	Rajasthan	20	20	20	2082	3343	455	3343	Yes
21.	Sikkim	04	—	—	—	—	—	—	No
22.	Tamil Nadu	41	41	41	1389	1769	—	—	Yes
23.	Tripura	02	—	—	—	—	—	—	Yes
24.	Uttar Pradesh	53	46	46	9564	—	689	—	Yes
25.	West Bengal	18	13	16	702	1023	12	1023	Yes
26.	A & N Islands	01	—	—	—	—	—	—	Yes
27.	Pondicherry	01	—	—	—	—	—	—	No
			229	240	31286	14504	4726	7796	

Statement-IX
Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Funds Released (Central Share)					State share released	Expdr. reported
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.29	83.29	—	0.00
2.	Assam	0.00	26.06	0.00	168.05	194.11	26.05	62.00
3.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	94.50	0.00	94.50	45.00	MR
4.	Goa	6.24	10.14	0.00	9.20	25.58	22.48	36.28
5.	Gujarat	71.08	87.24	27.30	70.00	255.62	146.00	90.25
6.	Haryana	30.25	34.00	77.65	86.20	228.10	142.00	235.33
7.	Himachal Pradesh	8.79	9.88	82.83	16.60	118.10	52.84	146.80
8.	J. & K.	5.32	20.00	28.45	10.20	63.97	18.25	33.58
9.	Karnataka	85.15	105.12	0.00	47.58	237.85	—	190.27
10.	Kerala	28.21	37.62	25.00	48.00	138.83	115.00	24.39
11.	M.P.	205.10	343.19	380.53	156.12	1084.94	714.27	995.25
12.	Maharashtra	85.38	92.50	36.30	159.75	373.91	100.00	264.91
13.	Manipur	7.65	20.50	39.00	76.04	143.10	118.15	145.84
14.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	48.90	10.00	58.90	18.01	24.00
15.	Mizoram	4.26	0.00	7.10	11.88	23.24	20.00	34.40
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.33	52.33	—	—
17.	Orissa	50.23	51.13	0.90	187.47	289.71	177.76	177.59
18.	Punjab	26.73	35.64	77.76	44.00	184.13	—	247.62
19.	Rajasthan	81.97	177.97	237.00	306.75	803.69	1012.55	1227.09
20.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	82.24	9.59	0.00	104.12	195.95	91.83	101.75
22.	Tripura	5.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.16	—	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh	327.88	586.17	764.87	352.42	2031.34	1380.28	2116.00
24.	West Bengal	39.13	52.25	71.56	0.00	162.94	39.00	201.51
	Total	1150.75	1699.00	1999.65	2000.00	6849.40	4239.48	6354.95

Statement-X
Low Cost Sanitation Scheme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		Total No.	Towns covered of Schemes
		Loan Amount	Subsidy	Loan Amount	Subsidy	Loan Amount	Subsidy		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	402.10	190.58	1415.85	544.32	0.00	0.00	68	68
2.	Assam	244.59	180.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27	27
3.	Bihar	1271.84	1107.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9	42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
5.	Haryana	1038.32	934.32	460.91	414.78	0.00	0.00	85	78
6.	J & K	0.00	0.00	0.00	514.94	0.00	312.28	9	30
7.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66	66
8.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2	15
9.	M.P.	675.30	542.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32	112
10.	Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	7.88	2.02	0.00	0.00	11	152
11.	Manipur	0.00	27.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2	4
12.	Meghalaya	82.20	33.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2	2
13.	Orissa	33.85	30.47	16.86	15.17	0.00	0.00	63	63
14.	Punjab	1223.59	1069.52	112.72	100.69	31.39	16.46	78	75
15.	Rajasthan	102.86	861.75	0.00	1446.63	0.00	1048.65	117	117
16.	Tamil Nadu	220.57	66.98	313.73	90.34	853.74	177.63	85	87
17.	Tripura	436.38	235.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	12
18.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4918.11	4426.27	65	65
19.	West Bengal	652.39	579.25	4309.63	3622.32	0.00	17.42	12	112
20.	A & N Islands	99.48	33.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
Grand Total		6483.27	5892.09	6637.58	6751.21	6853.24	5998.71	736	1129

Chinese Mediation on Indo-Pak Talks

6106. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has counselled Pakistan to have talks with India on the Kashmir issue as reported in 'The Hindu' of December 2, 1996; and

(b) if so, the details thereof about the Chinese initiative and the Pak response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government have seen the news report in the 'The Hindu' of December, 1996.

(b) The President of China, Mr. Jiang Zemin, in his address to the Pakistan Senate on December 2, 1996, stated, inter-alia:

QUOTE : 'As home to one third of Asia's population, South Asia is an important part of Asia. Without its stability and development, there can be no peace and prosperity in Asia as a whole. We sincerely hope that this region will enjoy long-term stability and vigorous economic development; that South Asian countries will treat one another as equals and live harmoniously, thus becoming exemplary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in practice; and that they will settle their differences and disputes peacefully in the spirit of seeking common ground while reserving

differences, mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. China will, as always, support South Asian regional cooperation, support the proposal and initiative for the establishment of South Asia Nuclear free Zone and Indian Ocean Zone of Peace, and support all efforts designed to serve peace, stability and development in the South Asian region'.

UNQUOTE

There has been no formal public response by Pakistan to the statement made by the Chinese President.

Nexus between Narcotics Smugglers and Wild Life Dealers

6107. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of a strong nexus between narcotics smugglers and those dealing in wild life articles in the Himalayan ranges, particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Himachal States;

(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 FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Festival of India

6108. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recently two Air India (AI) Air hostesses were officially selected to represent AI at the Festival of India in the Cambodian Capital, Laos;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the duo were instead made model in some revealing clothes of a foreign fashion designer;

(c) whether they were also made to model at some cafe where they were subjected to humiliation; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to probe into the matter and initiate action against those officials who were responsible for such humiliations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Air Hostesses have alleged that they were made to wear revealing dresses designed by a private designer and perform like models at a hotel cafeteria. However, our Ambassador in Laos has reported that the allegations are completely false.

(d) The management of Air India has submitted its report on the matter which is under examination of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

LPG Agencies

6109. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3846 on December 12, 1996, regarding LPG Agencies and state :

(a) whether the information in this regard has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some more information is required to be furnished by the oil companies.

Tibet Issue

6110. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese Government have recently offered negotiations with Dalai Lama over the issue of Tibet;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to play any role in respect of negotiations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Government are not aware of any new offer by the Chinese Government of negotiations with the Dalai Lama.

(b) to (d) No, Sir, does not arise.

Restructuring of ONGC

6111. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad has made a study to restructure the ONGC;

(b) whether the Government have received any representations from Members of Parliament and others in this connection;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to restructure ONGC in the light of recommendations and representations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) ONGC Ltd. had given a consultancy assignment to the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, in July 1994, for carrying out a study on Strategic Planning and Organisational Restructuring of the Corporation. ASCI submitted its report to ONGC in August, 1995. The ONGC has not made any proposals so far to the Government for restructuring of the ONGC.

Child Labour in M.P.

6112. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child labourers in Madhya Pradesh is around 13 lakhs and the budget allocation made for the child labour projects being implemented by the Union and State Government is not sufficient;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Child Labour Projects are presently being implemented in 76 districts in the country including 5 districts in the State of Madhya Pradesh. These projects are fully funded by the Central

Government as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme. It has been decided that the question of sanctioning additional projects would be considered only after the evaluation of the on-going projects, which is already on.

Accelerated Urban Water Supply

6113. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any communication from a Member of Parliament requesting that certain small towns which are to become municipalities in Cuddapah District of Andhra Pradesh where water is a perennial problem be given special attention under the accelerated urban water supply scheme for small towns;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the names of other small towns in various districts of Andhra Pradesh which are being considered under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir. Central assistance under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme is available only to urban bodies and not to small towns with less than 20,000 population, which are yet to be converted into urban bodies/municipalities.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has informed that in the State the Municipalities are constituted for towns with a population of 25,000 or more and the towns having population less than this are under the control of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Authority. Therefore, due to population criteria no town has become eligible for assistance under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme which is applicable to towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census.

Govt. of Andhra Pradesh in November, 1996 has forwarded project proposals for Bhattiprolu town in Guntur District for consideration under AUWSP. This Ministry has already requested the State Govt. to forward the same through the State Level Selection Committee as per guidelines of the programme.

Crude Oil

6114. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to non-availability of proper technique, the crude oil produced in the country, is sent to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of crude oil of such quality sent

to other countries during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have taken any action so far for refining such crude oil in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

IBM'S Participation in India Trade

6115. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Business Machinery has decided to rise its participation in Indian trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Two proposals for foreign investment by IBM World Trade Corporation USA have been received by Govt. The first proposal is for enhancement in the equity capital of an existing Joint Venture between Tata Industries Ltd. and associates and M/s. IBM World Trade Corporation, USA, for manufacturer of computer systems. The second proposal is for setting up of a joint venture company between by M/s. IBM World Trade Corporation New York and Tata Information Systems Ltd. in the area of information technology services.

(c) Government is yet to take a view on the proposals.

Refinery in Karnal

6116. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the proposed oil refinery located at Karnal (Haryana) is likely to be commissioned;

(b) the date which was fixed for its commissioning previously; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard and the steps being taken to expedite the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) As against the original schedule of mechanical completion of April, 1997, the Refinery Project in Panipat District is now expected to be completed during the current year. The delay has occurred mainly because of slippages in delivery of equipments and job execution by vendors.

A close follow-up is being maintained by IOC with the vendors on regular basis for expediting the delivery.

Outstanding amount against Escrow Account

6117. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total outstanding amount against the Escrow Account with Russia as of current financial year;

(b) whether many exporters are misusing this account on a large scale through over invoicing to get more export benefits from the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps are being taken to check this large scale misuse of this account by exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) As on May 2, 1997 the balance in the Central Account of the Russian Bank for Foreign Economic Relations (BFER) with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Bombay, was Rupees 1,866 crores (Rupees One thousand, eight hundred and sixty six crores).

(b) and (c) Some instances of suspected misuse of the Escrow account have come to the notice of the Enforcement Directorate. A Show Cause Notice has been issued for the alleged violation of the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 to the extent of US \$ 4.5 lakhs.

(d) The Government keeps a strict vigil in this regard and actions as envisaged in the law are taken as and when any such case is detected.

Rural Electrification

6118 SHRI N. DENNIS :

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to redefine the concept of rural electrification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new concept has been discussed with various political parties and State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the extent to which the new proposals are likely to be accepted by the State Governments; and

(f) the measures being taken by the Government for the implementation of new proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (f) Yes.

Sir. As per the existing definition of village electrification, a village is deemed to be electrified if electricity is used within the revenue boundary of the village for any purpose whatsoever. It is proposed to widen the ambit of this definition so as to include the inhabited locality of the village. The State Electricity Boards/State Government have been consulted in the matter and this issue has also been discussed by various Parliamentary Committees attached to the Ministry of Power.

Since the proposed new definition of village electrification is to cover the inhabited locality of the villages, it will have the advantage of extending electricity to more households and is therefore, likely to be accepted by the State Governments.

Land on Concessional Rates

6119. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA allots lands to certain institutions on lease at concessional rates;

(b) if so, the criteria, the terms and conditions of the lease agreements;

(c) the names of the institutions which have allotted land with the area and location of land allotted so far in Delhi;

(d) whether some of these allottees are found to have violated the terms and conditions of lease agreements; and

(e) if so, the names of such allottees and the action being taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The allotment of land is made to the registered societies/institutions at concessional rates considering the recommendation of Govt. of India/Govt. of NCT of Delhi on institutional rates approved by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment from time to time. The terms and conditions of the lease agreement are available in the perpetual lease-deed form.

(c) Approximately 1005 institutions have been allotted land in Delhi by DDA. The names of such institutions alongwith the area and the location of land allotted to them during the last 5 years are given in the attached statement-I.

(d) and (e) List of allottees/institutions who have violated the terms and conditions of lease agreement are given in attached statement-II. Action against those violating the terms of allotment is taken as per the conditions of the allotment letter and lease-deed.

Statement-I

List of allotments made to Societies/Institutions for the period from 1-1-92 to 31-12-96 in the various parts of Delhi

S. No.	Name of the Society/ Institution	Area allotted	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Pallavi Arts.	1315.00 Sqm	Vasant Kunj,
2.	Association for Advancement and Rehabilitation of Handicapped.	1000.00 Sqm	Vasant Kunj, Sec. 13.
3.	Kiwani Club of New Delhi	1821.00 Sqm	Instl. Area.
4.	National Blind Youth Association.	400.00 Sqm	Mandawali
5.	Community Hall, Sarvapriya Vihar CBBS.	1175.60 Sqm	Sarpapriya Vihar CBS Ltd.
6.	Community hall, Janta CHBS Ltd.	0.414 Acre	Janta CHB Ltd.
7.	Institute of Social Scienes	803.00 Sqm	Vasant Kunj.
8.	Anand Lok CHBS Ltd.	620 Sqm	Anand Lok
9.	Kiwanis club	0.45 Acre	Artificial of South limb centre of IIT.
10.	Nangyal Institute for research on Ladakhi Art & culture.	1.32 Area	South of IIT.
11.	Seth Ugarsain Khilani Devi Charitable Trust.	1000 Sqm	Pitampura
12.	Rohtas CHBS Ltd.	611.53 Sqm	Rohit Kunj Pitampura
13.	Common Cause.	560 Sqm	Vasant Kunj.
14.	Lohia Karpoori Institute of Technology for change.	513 Sqm	Sarita Vihar
15.	Sondhi charitable Hospital Society.	1,162 Sqm	Mayur Vihar Ph. I.
16.	U.P Samaj CHB Society	401 Sqm.	Deepali Pitampura
17.	National Press India.	513 Sqm	Sarita Vihar
18.	Very Special Arts India.	560 Sqm	Vasant Kunj Sector-C.
19.	Great India Education Society.	925 Sqm	Paschim Vihar Janta CHBS.
20.	I.S.I.C.H.B. Society, Mank Vihar	969 Sqm	Mank Vihar
21.	Institute for Resource Management and Economic Development	0.06 Acre	Karkar Dooma Instl. Area.
22.	Escorts Heart Institute & research centre.	0.643 Acre	Sarai Juliana Okhla.
23.	Handicapped children's Parents association	1.25 Acre	Dwarika.
24.	Diabetic self care foundation.	427.50 Sqm	Sarita Vihar
25.	Jt. Forum Vasundhara Enclave CGHS & Institution.	1069.59 Sqm	Vasundhara Enclave CGHS.
26.	Aggarwal Prem Sabha.	500 Sqm	Jank Puri
27.	Forum of Financial writers for Institute of Economic.	700 Sqm	Sarita Vihar
28.	Saapna.	560 Sqm	Vasant Kunj.

1	2	3	4
29.	Plg. Commission C.H.B. Society.	841 Sqm	Yojna Vihar.
30.	Rashtriya shoshel parishad.	500.28 Sqm	Tuglaka Bad.
31.	Indian cancer Society	1.5 Acres	Rohini
32.	Nyingmapa Mahabudha Vihara	500 Sqm.	Dheerpur, Gandhi Vihar
33.	Jai Sharkar Memorial Centre.	427.50 Sqm	Sarita Vihar.
34.	Sant Nirankari Mandal.	10 Acre + 1000 Sqm.	Dheerpur.
35.	Munni Lal Mange Ram Charitable Trust	1 Hect.	Paschimpuri.
36.	Sh. Krishan Lila Samiti.	411 Sqm.	Janakpuri.
37.	A/o land to Manau Sewarth.	1 Hect.	Paschimpuri.
38.	A/o land to Bhartiya Yog Sansthan.	5000 Sqm.	Rohini
39.	National of labour NFLC.	575 Sqm.	Sarita Vihar
40.	The G.B. Pant Memorial Trust.	0.9 Acre	South of IIT.
41.	Indian Ex. Services League.	2000 Sqm.	Dwarka.
42.	A/o Land Mahila Dakshta Samiti.	400 Sqm.	Karker Dooma.
43.	Jai Shri Ram Sewa Sangh (R).	300 Sqm.	Pitampura
44.	Muskaan. Parents Association for the Welfare of children with mental handicapped.	4090 Sqm.	Vasant Kunj.
45.	Bhartiya Brahaman Charitable Trust.	2.38 Hect.	Pitampura.
46.	Children Med. Foundretion.	1.4 Hect.	Saket.
47.	A/o Land to Multan Seea Samiti.	1590 sqm.	Pitampura
48.	A/o Land for servants of the people society.	4000 Sqm.	Dwarka
49.	National heart Institute.	901.6 Sqm.	East of Kailash
50.	Human care Med. charitable Trust.	1 Hect.	Dwarka
51.	A/o Land to Asian Institute of Transport development.	2 Hect.	Dwarka
52.	Sh. Virender Nath Jamuna Dass Charitable Trust.	1 Hect.	Dwarka
53.	A/o Land Additional Land to New Friends Club.	583 Sqm.	New Friends Colony.
54.	A/o Land to Arpana Trust.	500 Sqm.	Vasant Vihar.
55.	A/o Land to Nor Narain Institute of culture.	1000 Sqm.	Tughlaka Bad
56.	Deep Yoga centre A/o Land	793 Sqm.	Vasant Kunj.
57.	Birla Academy A/o Land.	317 Sqm.	Vasant Kunj Ph.II
58.	Society for Employment and carrier counselling.	1000 Sqm.	Tughlaka Bad.
59.	A/o Land Devki Devi Foundation.	1.23 Hect.	Saket
60.	A/o Land to Shri Rama Vittale Shikshana sewa sakti.	1.5 Acre	Vasant Kunj.
61.	A/o Land to B.R. Dhawan Memorial Trust	0.9 hect.	Dwarka.

1	2	3	4
62.	A/o Land to Dalmia foundation for medical Research.	676.71 Sqm.	Siri Fort.
63.	International centre for alternative dispute resolution.	3 Acre	Vasant Kunj
64.	Trilik Singh Bhandari charitable Trust.	669.60 Sqm	Shalimar Bagh.
65.	A/o Land to D.A.V. College man Trust Managing Society.	786.60 Sqm.	Wazirpur.
66.	Sanjay Club (Sansed Vihar CGHS)	1 Hect.	Dwarka.
67.	A/o Land to Riversid sports & Recreation club.	2000 Sqm.	Mayur Vihar Phase. I
68.	Deepalye Education Society.	900 Sqm.	Janakpuri
69.	A/o Land to Dr. Narain Dutt Shrimalt foundation Ch. Trust.	3 Hect.	Pitampura.
70.	A/o Land to Bharat Vikas Parishad.	900 Sqm.	Janakpuri.
71.	A/o Land to cross for cultural Communication.	427.50 Sqm.	Sarita Vihar.
72.	A/o Land to Tagore Academy.	908 Sqm.	Shalimar Bagh.
73.	A/o Land to Kedar nath Medical Charitable Trust.	570 Sqm.	Sarita Vihar.
74.	A/o Land to Nirogi Charitable & Medical research Trust.	0.85 Hect.	Mandawali, Fazalpur.
75.	A/o Land to Prayas JAC Society.	1000 Sqm.	Tughlakabad.
76.	A/o Land to Ashirwad	350 Sqm.	Karkardooma.
77.	Welfare Home for Children	7000 Sqm.	Sarita Vihar.
78.	Ustad Mushtaq Alikhan for culture	1000 Sqm.	Sarita Vihar.
79.	The Gayathri Fine Arts	1000 Sqm.	Rohini
80.	The Fed. of Educational Publisher in India	420 Sqmtr.	Karkar Dooma
81.	A/o land to Arorbans Sabha	1200 Sqmtr.	Bodella
82.	A/o land to Indra Prastha Cancer Society & Research Centre.	1610 Sqmtr.	Rohini
83.	Shri Aggarsain Jan Sewa Sabha	700 Sqmtr.	Pitampura
84.	Centre for Culture Research	3.90 Hect.	
85.	DAV College Management Committee	4 acre	Narela
86.	Triveni Education Society	3 acre	Vikas Puri
87.	Glourious Education Society	1.5 acre	Rohini
88.	Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee	2 acre	Hargovind Encl.
89.	Bhagwan Mahabir Vidyapeeth	0.5 acre	Ashok Vihar
90.	DAV College Managing Committee	6069.66 Sqmt.	Ashok Vihar
91.	J.N. Education Society	14840 Sqmt.	Paschim Vihar
92.	Tamanna Edu. Society	1174.92 Sqmt.	Vasant Vihar
93.	Lord Bisheswar Edu. Society	4 acre	Dwarka
94.	All Saint Edu. Society	6170.16 Sqmt.	Paschim Vihar

1	2	3	4
95.	Sarvodaya Shiksha Sansthan	4 acre	Trans Yamuna Area
96.	Shahdara Angles Edu. Society	1.10 Hect.	Chilla Dhallu Pura.
97.	Palam Jain Edu. Society	4 acre	Dwarka
98.	Laxmi Edu. Society	1.15 Hect.	Karkardooma
99.	Child Edu. Society	4 acre	Pitam Pura
100.	Spring Field Edu. Society	790 Sqmtr.	Pitam Pura
101.	St. Mary Edu. Society	4 acre	Dwarka
102.	Rock Field Edu. Society	1000 Sqmtr.	Rohini
103.	St. Martin's Edu. Society	2.5 acre	Paschim Vihar
104.	Sanatan Dharam Adarsh Shiksha Sanstan.	860 Sqmtr.	Mayur Vihar
105.	Sunder Shiksha Sanstan	718 Sqmtr.	Yamuna Vihar
106.	Child Education Society	3.38 acre	Rohini
107.	B R. Memorial Edu. Society	1000 Sqmtr.	Vikas Puri
108.	Mother India Edu. Society	1.56 acre	Kondli Gharoli TYA.
109.	St Joseph Academy	795 Sqmtr.	Sarita Vihar
110.	Maharishi Dayanand Sarashwati Memorial Society.		Mandwali Fazalpur.
111.	S.O.S Children Village of India	560 Sqmtr.	Vasant Kunj
112.	Sri Aggarwal Dharamsala	4 acre	Pitam Pura
113.	Deepalaya Edu. society	2 acre	Govind Puri
114.	Vishwa Bharati Women's Welfare Soc	4 acre	Dwarka
115.	Lott Carry Baptist Mission of India	1.5 Hect.	Chilla Dhallupura
116.	Sardar Jagat Singh Chaddha Charitable Trust.	1028 Sqmtr.	Paschim Vihar
117.	Smarth Shiksha Samiti	0.5 acre	Meera Bagh
118.	Kerala Education Society	2.23 acre	Kondli Gharoli
119.	Bal Kishan Edu. Society	1800 Sqmtr.	Vasant Kunj
120.	Educational Society of Rani Bagh	2 acre	Dehati Coop. House Bldg. Soc. (N. Delhi)
121.	St Tosier Edu. Society	2 acre	Shalimar Bagh
122.	Jesus Marry Josheph Society	1.5 acre	Paschim Vihar
123.	Shanta Gruz Edu. Society	900 Sqmtr.	Pitampura
124.	Kids Edu. Society	980 Sqmtr.	Sarita Vihar
125.	Vaish Aggarwal Edu. Society	-	Rohini
126.	Kaushalaya Devi Memorial Society	1.57 acre	Janak Puri
127.	Mayur Education Society	1.5 acre	Trans Yamuna Area
128.	Rohini Shiksha & Sanskrit Sansthan	800 Sqmtr.	Rohini
129.	Jyotirmay Bai Shiksha Sansthan	1.5 acre	Trans Yamuna Area
130.	The Baptist Edu. Society	0.37 Hect	Mandawali Fazalpur
131.	Suyash Edu. Society	800 Sqmtr.	Lawrence Rd.
132.	Laxmi Bai Foundation	-	-
133.	Manohar Memorial Edu. Society	-	Vasant Kunj
134.	Roop Nagar Edu. Society	800 Sqmt.	Shalimar Bagh
135.	Mohit Educational Society	-	Rohini

1	2	3	4
136.	Gulshan Edu. Society	-	Pitam Pura
137.	Sarawati Edu. Society	-	Paschim Vihar
138.	Lakshpat Shiksha Samiti	0.4 Hect.	Trans Yamuna Area
139.	Mahashya Chunnilal Dharmath Trust	0.4 Hect.	Dwarka
140.	Goswani Vidyapeeth Society	0.4 Hect.	Rohini
141.	Kamal Edu. Society	1.43 acre	Vikas Puri
142.	Mount Abu Edu. Society	0.760 Hect.	Rohini
143.	Bal Sarbhomic Balshiksha Samiti	-	-
144.	Dilshad Garden Ayyappa Puja Samiti (Regd.)	399.876 Sq. mt.	Dilshad Garden
145.	Akhil Bhartiya Goswami Sat Sri Lal Sewak Samaj.	434 Sq. mt.	Paschimpuri
146.	Sri Satguru Kabir Mandir	400 Sq. mt.	Mandangir
147.	Jain Sabha Nirman Vihar	400 Sq. mt.	Nirman Vihar
148.	The Delhi Arthodex Dioscesan Council	400 Sq. mt.	Sec.-III, Rohini
149.	Shri Guru Singh Sabha (Regd.)	243 Sq. m.t.	Sec.-III, Rohini
150.	The Delhi Radhaswami Satsang Association (Regd.)	243 Sq. mt.	Kondli gharoli
151.	Gurudwara Shri Guru Singh Sabha	356 Sq. mt.	Jangpura Extn.
152.	Akhand Param Dham (Regd.)	400 Sq. mt.	Dilshad Garden.
153.	Brahman Sabha, Keshopuram	375 Sq. mt.	Lawrence Road
154.	Jagid Welfare Society (Regd.)	320 Sq. mt.	Yamuna Vihar.
155.	U.P. Samaj Coop. House Bldg. Society, Pitampura	401 Sq. mt.	Deepali, Pitampura
156.	Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha Lok Vihar, Pitampura	445.3 Sq. mt.	Lok Vihar, Pitampura
157.	Shri Sidh Baba Balak Nath Mandir	400 Sq. mt.	Kingsway Camp
158.	Sh. Anand Pur Trust	405 Sq. mt.	Mandawali Fazilpur, C.G.H.S.
159.	Sh. Dharma Sastha Sewak Samajam	391 Sq. mt.	Sec.-VII, Rohini
160.	Jat Mitra Mandal	500 Sq. mt.	Lawrence Rd. Insd. tenement
161.	Sri Guru Singh Sabha	331. 15 Sq. mt	Sarita Vihar
162.	- do -	410 Sq. mt.	Vasant Kunj, Ph.
163.	- do -	400 Sq. mt.	Indira Puram
164.	Sant Samajam	400 Sq. mt.	Sect. IX, Rohini
165.	Sh. Ganesh Sewa Samajam	358 Sq. mt.	Mayur Vihar
166.	Shri Guru Singh Sabha (Regd.)	417.52 Sq. mt.	Sect-III, Rohini
167.	Committee Masjid Wa-Madrassa	343 Sq. mt.	Sec-I, Rohini
168.	Indian Pantacostal Church of God Northern Region	400 Sq. mt.	Sec-8, Rohini
169.	Sadh Sangat Sainik Vihar, Pitampura	200 Sq. mt.	Sainik Vihar
170.	Prachin Santan Dharam Sainik Vihar	200 Sq. m.t.	- do -
171.	Arya Samaj Sainik Vihar	200 Sq. mt.	- do -
172.	The Delhi Marthoma Church Society	400 Sq. mt.	Mandawali Fazilpur
173.	Delhi Catholic Archdiocese	400 Sq. mt.	Garh Zheria Maria
174.	Ram Jee Ram Ram Satsang	411 Sq. mt.	C2A, Janakpuri

1	2	3	4
175.	Sant Sh. Nand Lai Shiksha Sadan	409 Sq. mt.	Rohini
176.	Maharini Dharam Samiti	400 Sq. mt.	Dalupura
177.	Delhi Rohini Pooja Samiti	271.40 Sq. mt.	Sect-VII, Rohini
178.	Divya Jyoti Jagriti Sansthan	530 Sq.mt.	Pitampura
179.	Arya Samaj Sarita Vihar	321.23 Sq. mt	Sarita Vihar
180.	Dilshad Garden Pooja Samiti	385 Sq. mt.	Dilshad Garden
181.	Sh. Anand Shakti Sanatan Dharam Sabha	418 Sq. mt.	Sakti Vihar Pitampura
182.	Rajdhani Enclave Shiv Mandir	0.211 acre C.G.H.S.	Rajdhani Enclave
183.	Sri Adi Shankara Sewa Samagam	400 Sq. mt.	Mayur Vihar, Phase III
184.	Pujya Sindhi Panchayat Pitampura	290. 73 Sq. mt	Pitampura
185.	Arya Samaj Surajmal Vihar	450 Sq.mt.	Surajmal Vihar
186.	Sh. Ganesh Mandir Association	146 Sq. mt.	Dilshad Garden
187.	Paschim Vihar Bangali Association	400 Sq. mt.	Paschim Vihar
188.	Arya Samaj Mayur Vihar	397.50 Sq. mt	Mayur Vihar, Phase-II
189.	Sh. Vardhaman Sthanakwasi Jain Mahasangh Delhi Pradesh.	401 Sq. mt.	Pitampura.

Statement-II*List of Misusers*

S.No.	Name of Institute	Location	Plot No.
1	2	3	4
1.	Institute of Socialist Education	Qutab Insttl. area	A-1
2.	Fertilizer Association of India	-do-	A-3
3.	All India Federation of Deaf	-do-	A-4
4.	Gurunanak Foundation	-do-	A-5
5.	Sanjeevani Society	-do-	A-6
6.	Vaitalk Cultural Association	-do-	A-8
7.	United School Organisation	-do-	A-13
8.	Nagri Pracharni Sabha	-do-	A-16
9.	Indian Statistical Institute	-do-	B-1
10.	International Mangement Instt.	-do-	B-10, 30, 31
11.	Foundation for Organisation Research	-do-	B-18
12.	Family Planning Foundation	-do-	B-28
13.	Automobile Association of Upper India	-do-	C-8
14.	The Nriya Kasturba Cultural Society	Hauz Khas	
15.	Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha	Jamuna Vihar	C-9
16.	Sri Baba Gyan Chand Maharaj Bhujiwali Society	Shalimar Bagh Block	C & D
17.	Sri Bharoji Mandir Samiti	Prashad Ngr.	Plot No. 1
18.	Sri Guru Singh Sabha	Vivek Vihar	
19.	Bharati National School	CHBS Preet Vihar	
20.	Mata Jai Kaur Charitable Trust	Wazirpur Ph. III	

1	2	3	4
21.	Roop Nagar Public School	Shalimar Bagh	
22.	Anand Educational Society	Rohini	
23.	Sri Lakshmi Dass Sachdeva Memorial Educational Society	Pitampura	
24.	Rohini Education Society	Rohini Sector-7	
25.	Bharati Education Trust	CHBS Ministry of Health	

Nuclear Bomb by Pakistan

6120. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak has enough plutonium for 15 Nuclear Bombs" as reported in the Statesman dated March 20, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government on such reports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard security and national interest in accordance with our threat perceptions.

[*Translation*]

Independent Atomic Energy Regulatory Board

6121. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up an independent Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority to ensure safe functioning of Atomic Power Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has already been set up by the Government of India in terms of the Atomic Energy

Act, 1962, to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions envisaged under the Act. The constitution, powers and functions of the Board were notified by the Government on 15th November, 1983. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board reports to the Atomic Energy Commission.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Outstanding Dues

6122. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2787 regarding dues on March 12, 1997 and state :

(a) the reasons for which out of 7361 unauthorised occupants having outstanding dues Rs. 1278.00 lakh only Rs. 111.25 lakhs have so far been recovered from 457 such occupants;

(b) the present position of eviction and recovery of outstanding dues from the unauthorised occupants by when these are likely to be recovered and the action taken so far in this regard;

(c) the names of 159 persons who are still unauthorised by occupying Government accommodation and the details of outstanding dues against each of them; and

(d) the steps so far getting the Government accommodation vacated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) In cases of unauthorised occupation, recovery proceedings under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act 1971, as amended from time to time, are initiated to recover the outstanding dues. In a large number of such cases where the unauthorised occupants have vacated the Government accommodation and outstanding dues are recoverable from them, their present addresses are either not known or available with the Directorate of Estates. Efforts are being made to ascertain the present addresses of these persons from their parent Departments, as well as from the Banks from where they are drawing the pensions.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be

laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Sharad Pawar Committee

6123. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendations made by the Sharad Pawar Committee on Power which was set up in accordance with a resolution of National Development Council;

(b) whether these recommendations were endorsed by the Union Government;

(c) the advice, tendered by the Union Government to the State Governments and State Electricity Boards, if any;

(d) the names of State Governments/State Electricity Boards which have accepted/followed the recommendations of the aforesaid Committee and advice of the Union Government; and

(e) the measures being taken to persuade the State Governments and State Electricity Board, which have not so far followed the recommendations made by the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The recommendations of the Sharad Pawar Committee on Power Sector are presently under examination in the Planning Commission. The Report is to be placed before National Development Council by the Planning Commission after the implications are fully examined.

[Translation]

Terrorists in J&K

6124. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether, after the formation of the new Government in Jammu and Kashmir the terrorists have again become active;

(b) if not, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) the total number of innocent people killed in the State after the formation of democratic Government; and

(d) the comparative figures of violent incidents before and after the formation of the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) There has been a marked decrease in the overall level of violence after the

formation of an elected Government in J&K. However, efforts continue to be made by the terrorists and secessionist elements sponsored and supported from across the border, to keep up the violence through attacks on soft targets, indiscriminate use of explosive devices without regard to the lives of innocent civilians, efforts to enforce 'bandhs' and 'hartals', particularly when militants are killed, etc., in a bid to vitiate the atmosphere and to disrupt normal life and derail the political and democratic system in the State. The Government is fully seized of such designs and concerted and coordinated efforts are being made by all concerned to ensure that such activities are effectively contained.

(c) According to available information, 627 civilians were killed in terrorist activities during the period from 1 October 1996 to 15 April 1997.

(d) As against around 2700 incidents of terrorist violence during the six months period from 1st April 1996 to 30th September 1996, the number of incidents during the six months period from 1st October 1996 to 31st March 1997 was 1986.

Recovery of Loan

6125. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the comparative position of recovery of loans from industrial sector and agricultural sector as on April 30, 1997;

(b) whether in comparison to Agricultural sector more amount of loan is being disbursed to industrial sector; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

U.S. Stand on Kashmir

[English]

6126. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news-item captioned "U.S. remarks on Kashmir dangerous" as reported in the Times of India dated March 7, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the statement made by the spokesman on White House in the U.S. are dangerous; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a)

Government are aware of the newsitem under reference. The White House Spokesman's remarks, reported in the newsitem, came in oral response to a question at a regular briefing to the press at the White House on March 5, 1997.

(b) and (c) Government immediately sought clarification from the US authorities. The Spokesman's office clarified that the use of the term "principality" to describe Kashmir was unintentional, in the course of a verbal response and that this did not signal any departure from the US Government's position.

Government of India has made it clear that Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India. This position is fully known to the US Government.

Oil Refineries

6127 DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to change the existing technology in oil refineries in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government had constituted Ganguly Committee to suggest suitable technology;

(c) if so the date on which the said Committee had been constituted;

(d) the time by which this Committee had been asked to submit its report to the Government;

(e) whether the Government have received the Committee's report; and

(f) if so the recommendations made by the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) (a) to (e) The Government had appointed a Committee on 5.1.1995 under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. Ganguly, to review the action plans of the refineries, recommend suitable methodology for integration of refineries with technical institutes and R&D centres, recommend strategies for development of specialised skills needed for refining operations etc. The Committee was to submit interim report by February 1995 and the final report by June 1995, and it has already submitted its report to the Government.

(f) The Committee in its recommendation has broadly covered areas of improving distillate yields and production of high valued products, energy conservation measures, thrust areas for R&D, management of human resources etc.

Israel-Palestinian Situation

6128. SHRI G M BANATWALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the Israel-Palestinian situation, especially relating to Israel settlement policy and the consequent threat to the peace process;

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether the Government had issued any statement on the situation, if so, when and the contents of the statement;

(d) whether the Government have noted any move on the part of several Arab Countries for a trade boycott of Israel; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has expressed its deep concern at the Israel Government's approval for construction of settlements at Jabal Abu Ghneim (Har Homa) to the South of East Jerusalem. Government of India has urged all parties concerned to intensify their efforts for finding a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region on the basis of the Security Council resolutions, as well as the interim agreement for allowing the achievement of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and all States of the region to co-exist peacefully within secure and internationally recognised boundaries.

(c) Government of India has issued a statement on this on March 5, 1997: a copy of the statement is attached.

(d) and (e) The Government of India has taken note of the resolution of the Foreign Ministers of the league of Arab States at a meeting in Cairo on 31.3.1997 recommending inter alia "the continuation of commitment of primary degree Arab boycott of Israel and the activation of such boycott"

Statement

Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Israeli approval for settlements in East Jerusalem

Government of India is deeply concerned at the recent Israeli Government's approval for construction of settlements at Jabal Abu Ghneim (Har Homa) to the south of East Jerusalem. India has consistently maintained that unilateral steps which are not in conformity with the agreements and understandings would hinder the peace process, and vitiate the atmosphere to build mutual confidence essential to progress the peace negotiations further.

We remain convinced of the need for purposeful negotiations on all issues in the final-status negotiations between Israeli and Palestinian sides. We once again urge all parties concerned to intensify their efforts for finding a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region, on the basis of the Security Council resolutions, as well as the interim agreements, for allowing the achievement of

the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and all States of the region to co-exist peacefully within secure and internationally recognised boundaries.

5 March 1997

Irregularities by ICCR

6129. SHRI N.N. KRISHANDAS

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :

SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ICCR got Azad Bhawan White washed during 1996 costing Rs. 2.62 lakhs without calling any tender/quotations and without approaching CPWD for this purpose;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said bill was settled/paid to the contractor without approval from President, ICCR, as is compulsory for each project, exceeding expenditure of Rs. 2.00 lakhs; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take against the defaulting officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. In the first instance the Council approached the CPWD for carrying out the white washing of the Azad Bhawan in 1996. The CPWD declined in writing to undertake the work. Thereafter sealed quotations were invited from different firms and the job was awarded to the firm whose rates were the lowest. The whitewashing was part of the renovation of Azad Bhawan undertaken in 1995-1996 with the approval and at the initiative of President, ICCR.

(c) The question does not arise.

Drinking Water to Vypin Islands

6130. SHRIMATI RATNMALA D. SAVANOOR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is growing agitation among the inhabitants of Vypin Island off Koshi for the lack of drinking water facilities;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any review of the existing arrangement to provide drinking water to the Islanders;

(c) if so, the strategy formulated by the Government to provide adequate drinking water to the people of Vypin Island ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No such report has been received from the State Government regarding lack of drinking water facilities in Vypin Island leading to growing agitation among the inhabitants.

(b) and (c) Questions does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Oil Exploration

6131. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to de-regulate oil exploration activity and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the role assigned in this regard to ONGC, Oil India Limited, Private Sector and Foreign Oil Companies;

(c) whether the Government propose to put ONGC and Oil India Ltd., at par with the private companies in bidding process participation; and

(d) the fate of current cess on oil production and royalty fixed at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In order to encourage private sector participation, Government of India has recently announced the New Exploration Licensing Policy. The salient features of policy are:-

- Open availability of exploration acreage in addition to existing bidding rounds.
- Oil and Natural Gas Corp. Ltd., and Oil India Ltd. to compete for obtaining exploration licences on competitive basis alongwith other private sector companies.
- Oil and Natural Gas Corp. Ltd. and Oil India Ltd. to be provided a level playing field by providing same fiscal and contract terms as available for private companies.
- Special package to encourage exploration in deep water and frontier areas.
- Freedom to contractors for marketing of crude oil and gas in the domestic market.

(d) Cess, which was earlier levied on crude production has been abolished for the blocks offered under NELP and Royalty will be payable at the rate of 12.5% and 10% respectively of the international price of crude oil for onland areas and offshore areas. Half of the royalty from the offshore area will be credited to a hydrocarbon development fund to promote and fund exploration related activities, such as acquisition of geological data on poorly explored basins,

promotion of investment opportunities in the upstream sector, institution building etc.

Crisis of Power in Andhra Pradesh

6132. SHRI P.V. RAJESHWAR RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some new power projects have been set-up in Andhra Pradesh during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether some proposals are pending for clearance with the CEA;
- (d) whether the Government propose to set-up some power projects in the private sector on the pattern of 'Dabhol' in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The details of capacity addition in Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97 are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)
1.	Kothagudem (T)	250
2.	Jegurupadu CCGT (T)	3 x 52.8
3.	Godavari GT	2 x 47

(c) As on date, one project proposal of Andhra Pradesh viz. Ramagundam Extension Thermal Power Project (M/s BPL Power Projects (AP) Ltd.) of 2 x 260 MW is under examination in the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance.

(d) and (e) Jegurupadu CCGT (216 MW) by M/s. GVK Industries and Vishakhapatnam Thermal Plant (1040 MW) by M/s. Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd. in Andhra Pradesh have been structured on the basis of counter guarantee by Government of India.

Enron

6133 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether proposal from US based Company Enron, to set up a Power generating station in Karnataka was under the consideration of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the location, cost, capacity, share equity etc. of the proposed power project; and
- (d) the decision taken by the Government for early commencing of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Ban on Recruitment

6134. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a ban was imposed on fresh recruitment of Government employees at certain levels;
- (b) if so, the period during which the ban has been in operation;
- (c) the total saving achieved due to this measure; and
- (d) whether the Government propose of lift this ban ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Government have not issued any general orders putting a total ban on recruitment for Government jobs.

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

Indian Ocean Rim

6135. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Ocean Prime Countries have decided to form an association;
- (b) if so, the objectives and purpose of the association;
- (c) the names of member States and the seat of the association;
- (d) the role that India would like to play in promoting the objectives of the association;
- (e) whether the making of Indian Ocean Rim may have any adverse effect on Regional grouping like SAARC; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government on the issue of joining the Indian Ocean Rim ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir. The first meeting of the Council of Ministers held in Mauritius in March 1997 adopted the Charter and formally launched the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)

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

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

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

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

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

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

(c) The IOR-ARC consists of fourteen members, viz. Australia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Tanzania and Yemen. A 'pilot mechanism' for coordination, servicing and monitoring implementation of policy decisions as well as for administrative matters is to be set up in Mauritius.

(d) India had successfully coordinated the preparation of the IOR-ARC Charter. Presently, India is coordinating the implementation of four economic cooperation projects included in the Work Programme of IOR-ARC, viz. (i) Indian Ocean Rim Business Centre and IORNET; (ii) Trade Promotion Programme and IOR Trade Fair in India; (iii) IOR Chair in Indian Ocean Studies and Associate Fellows and (iv) Investment facilitation and Promotion. At the same time, India will also be participating in the economic cooperation projects being coordinated by other IOR-ARC member countries.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. Cooperation within IOR-ARC is without prejudice to rights and obligations entered into by

Member States within the framework of other economic and trade cooperation arrangements. It is not a substitute for, but seeks to reinforce, be complementary to and consistent with bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral obligations of member States.

Hydrocarbon Reserve

6136. DR. C. SILVERA:

SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some recent survey undertaken in the north-east part of the Bay of Bengal has indicated huge reserves of hydrocarbon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to get scientific data of the survey analysed in the interest of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Under the Joint Venture Speculative Survey Programme, DGH in association with Western Geophysical Co., USA, has carried out 2D seismic surveys together with gravity and magnetic surveys in the deep water areas of Eastern offshore of India including Andaman offshore. The processing of the data is currently under progress and interpretation work will commence soon immediately after completion of processing.

[*translation*]

Fate of Hostages

6137. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the statements issued by the relatives and well wishers of the foreign hostages, who were made hostages around two years back, in which they have stated that Pakistan know about the abductors of their near and dear ones;

(b) if so, whether the Government have held any talk with Pakistan to get the foreign hostages freed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI. S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Government are aware of reports in the media in this regard.

(b) and (c) The Government has, through diplomatic

channels, consistently been urging the Pakistani Authorities to help in securing the release of hostages, since the group responsible for the abduction and hostage taking of the foreign nationals is based in, and operates out of that country, and is receiving active assistance from the Pakistani agencies for its activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

[*English*]

Religious Shrines in India and Pakistan

6138. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has decided that number of religious shrines in India which can be visited by Pakistani pilgrims will be increased;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan Government is likely to reciprocate this decision;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (d) Government have stated their decision to increase the number of religious shrines which can be visited by Pakistani pilgrims. The visits to religious shrines in India/Pakistan are governed by the bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines signed between the two countries in 1974. Government will take up the matter regarding the increase in number of religious shrines with Pakistan under the bilateral Protocol.

[*Translation*]

Wages in Rural Areas

6139. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "A pathetic To Farm Labourers' published in the 'Pioneer' dated April 7, 1997;

(b) if so, whether there had been decrease in rural wages in the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively inspite of the annual rate of growth being over 7 percent during the said year;

(c) if not, the estimate of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the estimate made by the Government in regard to the rural wages in the year 1996-97 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the Economic Survey 1996-97 the real wages for unskilled agricultural labourer's increased steadily at 5.21% in 1992-93 and 5.61% in 1993-94 though they declined marginally in 1994-95 and 1995-96 by 0.50% and 0.69% respectively.

(d) The estimate of the real wages of agricultural labourers during 1996-97 has not been made so far. However, a statement indicating the available information on existing rates of Minimum wages in respect of unskilled category of agricultural Labourer is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Daily Rates of Minimum Wages For Agricultural Workers Fixed by Different States/UTs Under The Minimum-Wages Act, 1948

(As on 1.10.96)

Sl. No	State/UTs	Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 30.00 to Rs. 36.50 p.d. (According to Zones) (12.2.96)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 23.00 p.d. (According to Areas) (1.11.90)
3.	Assam	Rs. 1134.00 p.m.* or Rs. 984.00 p.m. plus food, shelter and clothing (1.8.89)

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	Rs. 27.30 p.d. (21.12.95)
5.	Goa	Rs. 46.00 p.d. (8.5.95)
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 34.00 p.d. (1.4.96)
7.	Haryana	Rs. 51.22 p.d.* with meals or Rs. 55.52 p.d. without meals (1.1.96)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 45.75 p.d. (1.3.96)
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (13.3.95)
10.	Karnataka	Rs. 26.00 to Rs. 35.35 p.d. (28.3.94)
11.	Kerala	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work (31.3.92)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 38.50 p.d.* (1.4.96)
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 29.00 p.d. (According to Zones) (26.6.94)
14.	Manipur	Rs. 47.65 p.d.* for Hill Areas Rs. 44.65 p.d. for other than the Hill Areas (8.7.95)
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16.3.94)
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (11.6.93)
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6.7.92)
18.	Orissa	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (15.8.96)
19.	Punjab	Rs. 51.67 p.d.* with meals Rs. 58.28 p.d. without meals (1.7.95)
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.00 p.d. (Jan.95)
21.	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 yet to be extended.

1	2	3
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 20.00 p.d. (8.4.93)
23.	Tripura	Rs. 26.65 p.d. (15.5.95)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 33.00 p.d. to Rs. 35.00 p.d. (7.1.92)
25.	West Bengal	Rs. 40.00 p.d.* (31.12.95)
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 37.00 p.d. (Andaman) Rs. 40.00 p.d. (Nicobar) (15.8.94)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs. 52.09 p.d.* with meals or Rs. 58.64 p.d. without meals (4.11.95)
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	Rs. 40.00 p.d. (18.5.95)
29.	Delhi	Rs. 64.50 p.d.* (1.2.94)
30.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (8.5.95)
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1.1.93)
32.	Pondicherry	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d. (24.7.95)
	(ii) Mahe Region	Rs. 30.00 p.d. for light work Rs. 40.20 p.d. for hard work (24.7.95)
	(iii) Yanam Region	Rs. 19.25 to Rs. 26.25 p.d. (24.7.95)
	(iv) Karaikal	Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 22.00 p.d. (24.7.95)
33.	Central Sphere	Rs. 56.09 to* Rs. 63.09 p.d. (1.10.96)

- Notes:-**
- (1) The Minimum Wages also include the variable dearness allowance, wherever provided.
 - (2) Figure in bracket under column (3) indicate the date of last revision of basic wage.
 - (3) *Indicate the provision of variable dearness allowance with the minimum rates of wage.

[English]

Allotment of LIG Plots

6140. COL. RAO RAM SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government invited application for allotment of LIG plots under "Rohini LIG Scheme" during 1981;

(b) if so, whether all the applicants who applied for the plots have since been allotted plots under the said scheme;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details, such as names etc. of applicants who have not been allotted the plots even after a period of 16 years; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to allot the plots to remaining applicants ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) DDA has reported that out of about 38,100 registrants in Rohini under LIG category, 18,085 have been provided allotment. 20,015 registrants under LIG category are awaiting allotment of plots under the Rohini Residential Scheme 1981. The main reason for the backlog is non-availability of developed land. Efforts are on to develop land in phases III & IV of Rohini so as to make available plots for the waiting registrants.

Smuggling of Pashmina and Shahtosh from Tibet

6141 SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a large scale of smugglings in of Pashmina and Shahtosh from Tibet to India through various routes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the illegal smuggling of banned products in India ?

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

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

6142 SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE :

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme in various States during 1996-97 ?

(b) if so, the details of allocation and funds released to the States during 1996-97 and provision of funds proposed to be made under the scheme during 1997-98;

(c) the details of funds utilised under the programme during the past 5 years and project completed, under progressing with locations in Maharashtra; and

(d) the details of incomplete/ongoing and new programmes with location, taken up under the programme in Maharashtra during 1997-98 and the target set and proposals awaiting clearance ?

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

(b) A statement-I showing details of allocations and funds released, state-wise during 1996-97 is attached. For the year 1997-98 a provision of Rs. 28 crores has been made for the programme.

(c) and (d) Since the inception of the scheme in March, 1994, the Maharashtra State has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 2.64 crores on 10 approved schemes being implemented under the programme. The details are given in the attached statement-II.

The Maharashtra Government has proposed another 18 schemes for consideration, the approval of which is subject to availability of funds. The details are at attached statement-III.

Statement-I**Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme Allocation of Funds**

(Rs. in crores)

S.No.	Name of States	Central Share	
		Funds Allocated 1996-97	Funds Released 1996-97
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.66	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.06	0.83
3.	Assam	0.43	1.68
4.	Bihar	1.01	-
5.	Goa	0.12	0.09
6.	Gujarat	1.09	0.70
7.	Haryana	0.42	0.86

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.15	0.16	17.	Nagaland	0.03	0.52
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.09	0.10	18.	Orissa	0.81	1.87
10.	Karnataka	1.31	0.47	19.	Punjab	0.44	0.44
11.	Kerala	0.47	0.48	20.	Rajasthan	1.25	3.06
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3.05	1.56	21.	Sikkim	0.01	-
13.	Maharashtra	1.29	1.72	22.	Tamil Nadu	1.24	1.04
14.	Manipur	0.13	0.76	23.	Tripura	0.09	-
15.	Meghalaya	0.02	0.10	24.	Uttar Pradesh	4.93	3.52
16.	Mizoram	0.07	0.11	25.	West Bengal	0.65	-
				Total		20.00	20.13

Statement-II

Maharashtra

Projects Sanctioned

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Town	District	Sanctioned Date Month/Year	Project cost	Expenditure upto December, 96
1.	Patur	Akola	March, 94	51.03	3.94
2.	Deulgaon Raja	Buldhana	- do -	160.22	131.32
3.	Lonar	Buldhana	- do -	98.18	68.96
4.	Main Dargi	Solapur	- do -	42.21	41.02
5.	Telhara	Akola	- do -	18.37	19.67
6.	Kundalwadi	Nanded	Dec., 95	145.10	-
7.	Sendurjanaghat	Amarawati	Aug., 96	117.78	-
8.	Saswad	Pune	Oct., 96	213.55	-
9.	Indapur	Pune	- do -	324.47	-
10.	Dudhani	Solapur	Nov., 96	200.19	-
Total				1371.10	264.91

Statement-III

Maharashtra

Projects Proposed by the State Government

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of Town	District	Project Cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Rahatapimpas	Ahmednagar	396.76
2.	Sindhi	Wardha	366.57
3.	Mul	Chandrapur	462.81
4.	Kalam	Osmanbad	808.85
5.	Vadgaon	Kolhapur	284.96
6.	Kamleshwar	Nagpur	177.53

1	2	3	4
7.	Sabada	Jalgaon	470.79
8.	Bhagur	Nasik	263.50
9.	Sonepeth	Parbhani	169.57
10.	Paranbdha	Osmanbad	286.28
11.	Biloli	Nanded	272.65
12.	Hadgaon	Nanded	332.77
13.	Bhoom	Osmanbad	357.49
14.	Naldurga	Osmanbad	208.84
15.	Saoner	Nagpur	467.88
16.	Mukhed	Nanded	714.18
17.	Deoli	Wardha	190.42
18.	Khapa	Nagpur	65.85
Total			6297.70

Implementation of Packages**Projects**

6143. SHRI GULAM MOHD. MIR MAGANI :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which packages have been announced by the Union Government for the development and progress of J&K and the details thereof;

(b) the expenditure incurred and the sources through which the said amount has been mobilised, Package-wise;

(c) whether there has been delay in implementation of various projects included in the packages announced for the Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the steps being taken for implementation of projects within a target time;

(e) whether there is any proposal to include the Handicraft/Carpet Exporters of Jammu and Kashmir State in the economic package to the State by way of waiver/Interest Relaxation for Pre-shipment Export Loans for the turmoil period; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. In order to accelerate the development process in Jammu & Kashmir, the Prime Minister had announced in both Houses of Parliament on 23.7.96 and 2.8.96 to take up some important projects and also to complete on-going projects on priority. The status of these measures are:-

(i) Construction of 290 Kms. Railway Line from Udhampur to Baramulla as a national project likely to be completed in seven years at a cost of Rs. 2500 crore. Rs. 20 crore was provided in 1996-97 mainly for land acquisition. The foundation stone for construction of line at Udhampur was laid by the Prime Minister on 15.3.1997.

(ii) Construction of Mughal Road as a dependable alternative link between Jammu & Kashmir. The State Government is to undertake the construction of the project and detailed estimates are being prepared. The cost of the project is to be equally shared by the Central and State Government. The work is expected to be completed in 9th Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 150 crore.

(iii) Completion of Dulhasti and Uri Hydro Projects in the State to provide much needed relief to the power starved state. The first unit of the Uri was dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister on 13.2.1997. Work on other units is underway likely to be completed by the end of May, 1997. Initially some civil construction work on Dulhasti was resumed departmentally by NHPC. The contract for balance civil work has been awarded on 3.3.1997.

In addition, the following measures were also announced to revive economic activities in the State:-

Debt relief to small businesses affected by militancy

With a view to provide immediate succour and relief to the people engaged in trades like tourism, small scale industries, transport and trade etc. who were worst affected due to militancy during the last 6 to 7 years, a scheme has been approved to write off the outstanding loans and interest of all borrowers whose original borrowing is less

than or upto Rs. 50,000/- so as to enable them to seek fresh loans from banking sector to restart their business. For borrowers above Rs. 50,000/- an Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted to suggest various relief which could be given to them.

Special Central Plan Assistance to J&K state for 1996-97

The Plan outlay for 1996-97 was subsequently raised to Rs. 1250 crore and was fully funded by the Centre. Special Central Plan assistance of Rs. 663 crores and Special Plan Loan of Rs. 100 crore was provided in 1996-97 so as to bridge non-plan gap.

Infrastructural development for tourism in Leh district

An amount of Rs. 2.40 crores is being allocated for setting up of Convention/Conference Centre in Leh to give further fillip to tourism in the area. Department of Tourism is engaging an expert agency to undertake a feasibility study.

Development of airport at Kargil

High priority is being given to the development of Kargil Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crores. During the past winter, the Government introduced a weekly helicopter service to Kargil instead of the earlier arrangements of a fortnightly service. Necessary subsidy would be borne by the Government.

During the current year, an amount of Rs. 199 crores for Uri Hydrel Project, Rs. 450 crores for Dulhasti Project, Rs. 75 crores for Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Line and Rs. 8 crore for construction of Mughal Road has been provided by Central Government for expeditious implementation of these ongoing projects. Follow-up action taken on the implementation of the economic package announced by the Prime Minister in Parliament in July/August, 1996 is being monitored on regular basis to ensure that there is no delay in implementation of these projects.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Employment in Agriculture Sector

6144. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth rate of employment in the field of agriculture has declined since 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Government to increase the growth rate of employment in the above sector?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) As per National Sample Surveys (NSS), the Accelerated Growth Rate of Employment in agriculture sector rose from 0.94 in 1983-88 to 1.88

during 1988-94.

(c) The Government is taking multidimensional course of action to further improve the growth rate of employment in agriculture sector by improvement in infrastructured facilities, skill improvement programmes, optimising the use land resources and employment schemes like Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY), Development of women & children in Rural Area (DWCRA), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) etc.

Expandable Housing Scheme

6145. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to grant 15 per cent rebate on total cost in case allottees make 100 per cent payment under Expandable Housing Scheme, 1996 in Dwarka Sub-City; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The DDA has reported that as per terms and conditions for allotment of Expandable Housing Scheme, 1996, the discount as indicated below will be given to those allottees who make 100% payment before taking possession :

S. No.	Locality	Discount
1.	Narela	15% on disposal price
2.	Rohini	- do -
3.	Kondli Gharoli	- do -
4.	Dwarka	5% on disposal price

The discount of 15% was given in respect of Rohini, Narela and Kondli Gharoli flats, as these areas are less popular as compared to Dwarka Sub-city.

At present there is no proposal under consideration to grant 15% rebate/discount on disposal cost of flats in Dwarka Sub-city.

ONGC Exploration

6146. SHRI LALIT ORAON :

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Purnea, Arariya and Kishanganj in Bihar are bordering areas of Indo-Nepal border;

(b) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has expressed strong possibility in its survey about the availability of reserve of Oil and Natural Gas in these area;

(c) whether ONGC propose to drill in Purnea, Arariya and Kishanganj; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. ONGC is still acquiring seismic data in the area, and data are in various stages of evaluation.

(c) and (d) ONGC has already drilled a well in Purnea, which has gone dry. Future drilling in this area would depend upon the outcome of the seismic data being acquired and its evaluation.

Modernisation of Power Stations in Haryana

6147. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of power stations/sub-stations in Haryana at present;

(b) the total power generated by each station/sub-station during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the power generation capacity of these power stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) In Haryana, the total number of power stations and sub-stations are 3 and 25 (220 KV and above) respectively. The year-wise electricity generation in each of the power stations in Haryana during the last three years are given below

(Figures in MU)

Power Station	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1. Faridabad TPS	783.04	799.340	649.247
2. Panipat TPS	2408.177	2266.502	2753.631
3. WYC Hydro Electric Project	229.436	234.306	267.754
Total as a whole in Haryana	3420.653	3300.148	3670.632

(c) and (d) Panipat Units I to IV of 110 MW each are covered under R&M programme for increasing the PLF which in turn, amounts to augmentation of generation capability of these units.

[English]

Hydro Power Projects

6148 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :

SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pace of hydro-electric power projects has been slow :

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have mooted any scheme to speed up the pace of hydro-electric power projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Progress of some of the Hydroelectric power projects has been adversely affected due to fund constraints, delay in land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement problems, law and order problems and geological problems.

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken to speed up the pace of hydroelectric projects:-

(i) Close monitoring of various activities of the projects at the level of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Ministry of Power (MOP) is being done. CEA and MOP officials are regularly holding progress review meetings with the project authorities, major equipment suppliers and manufacturers to overcome constraint and identify corrective measures.

(ii) The Net Budgetary Support (NBS) for hydel projects being executed by the Central Sector Corporations has been substantially increased from Rs. 533 crores in 1996-97 to Rs. 866 crores in 1997-98. In addition, Rs. 617 crores has been assured in the Budget of 1997-98 for early completion of Central sector hydel projects.

(iii) The Government also announced in January 1995 a package of incentives for hydro projects commissioned on or after 1.1.1997 to encourage greater private sector participation in hydel projects.

(iv) A National Policy for rehabilitation of persons affected by the developmental projects including power projects is being formulated by the Ministry of Rural Development.

(v) The Ministry of Power had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M.K. Sambamurti on 26th August, 1996 to suggest development of hydro projects including involvement of the Private Sector. The Committee submitted its report on 27th March, 1997. The recommendations made by the Committee would be incorporated while formulating a National Policy on hydel development.

Indian Fishermen Detained by Sri Lankan Army

6149. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Indian Fishermen have been detained at Sri Lanka by the Sri Lankan Army and Navy during the last few months;

(b) the steps taken to rescue them; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such detentions in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) A total of 45 Indian fishermen were detained by the Sri Lankan authorities in separate incidents in Sri Lankan waters during the period from September 1996 to January 1997. On March 3, 1997, a further eight crew members of an Indian vessel were detained after being intercepted by the Sri Lankan Navy close to the shores of Sri Lanka while transporting refugees and material from Sri Lanka into India.

(b) and (c) The Sri Lankan authorities have been approached through diplomatic channels to obtain the release of the detained fishermen. During the visit of the External Affairs Minister to Colombo in January 1997, both India and Sri Lanka agreed to deal with problems faced by fishermen of the two countries in a spirit of compassion and understanding. The Sri Lankan Government have subsequently released 25 Indian fishermen against whom there were no charges relating to security or trafficking of refugees. The release of the remaining fishermen is being pursued with the Sri Lankan authorities. Steps are also being taken to caution Indian fishermen against entering into Sri Lankan waters in view of the ongoing conflict situation there.

Purchase by ICCR

6150. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE :

SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE :

SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR ROY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the purchasing of official goods in high value of ICCR without tender;

(b) whether the ICCR are also constructing rooms in violation of municipal rules; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Purchases are normally made from Government outlets. The items which are not available in the Government outlets are purchased from the authorised dealers or by calling sealed quotations from reputed firms.

(b) Three temporary enclosures were raised in 1994-95 to accommodate the staff members in the public interest.

(c) The question does not arise.

Power Project at Jabalpur

6151. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up 3000 Mega Watt power plant at Jabalpur division of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the survey team has conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the time by which the plant is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) No proposal for setting up a 3000 MW power plant at Jabalpur division of Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

ICCR Library

6152. SHRI HARI SINGH :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain rare manuscripts and other valuable documents of historic and cultural importance relating to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad have disappeared from the library of the Council for Indian Cultural Relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to recover these rare documents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) All personal papers and manuscripts of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad are physically there in the ICCR Library. However in a preliminary inspection done in 1996 it was found that five manuscripts of works by other authors from the collection could not be located in their designated sections.

Since then a physical verification of the books in the Library has been undertaken and four of the missing manuscripts have been located. One manuscript-Kulligat-e-Sadi of Sadi Mushihuddin is still not traceable.

(c) The second round of stock taking and physical verification of the library books is currently being undertaken.

Ambedkar Awas Yojna

6153. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ambedkar Awas Yojana, DDA's

housing scheme for SC/ST was started on November, 1, 1989 and closed on December 29, 1989;

(b) if so, the number of persons registered for MIG, LIG and Janata categories, separately alongwith the total amount deposited as registration deposit for each category, separately;

(c) the number of persons allotted houses under each category under the said scheme and the reasons for non-allotment to the remaining ones so far, if any, under each scheme separately;

(d) the time by which the total allotment is likely to be completed under each scheme;

(e) whether any interest will be paid on the registration deposits; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) The DDA has reported that a total number of 20,000 persons registered themselves under this scheme as per the details given below :

Janta	3000
LIG	10000
MIG	7000

The amount received as registration deposit in different categories is as under:-

Janta-3000 × 4000	= 1,20,00,000/-
LIG- 10000 × 8000	= 8,00,00,000/-
MIG- 7000 × 12000	= 8,40,00,000/-
	<u>17,60,00,000/-</u>

(c) and (d) The DDA has reported that the following allotments have been made to the registrants of Ambedkar Awas Yojana 1989 as on 31.3.97:-

Janta - 2,988 (remaining cancelled/surrendered)

LIG - 3,105

MIG - 1,934

Keeping in view the constraints of availability of land and services like water supply, electricity etc. provided by other agencies, no time schedule is possible at this stage.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. As per terms of the brochure the Registration Deposit will carry interest at the rate of 7% p.a. The interest amount will be credited to the account of registrants annually and interest thereon will be adjusted

towards the payment of cost of the flat. The interest amount will be payable only upto the date of draw of lots in which the registered person becomes successful in getting the allotment. No interest will, however, be paid in case the deposit is withdrawn before expiry of one year from the date of deposit.

Revival of Companies by BIFR

6154. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether out of 675 revival schemes sanctioned by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, only 307 companies have been reopened till December, 1995;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps the Government have taken against the defaulter companies for not complying with the decision of BIFR and also to get the sick companies to start functioning, and

(d) the result achieved by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that upto 31.12.1995, 515 rehabilitation schemes (including 27 schemes sanctioned by the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction) were sanctioned for the revival of the sick industrial companies registered with the Board. Out of the above, 60 companies were declared no longer sick upto 31.12.1995 and were discharged from the purview of SICA on successful implementation of the revival schemes. The rest of the rehabilitation schemes are at various stages of implementation by the concerned companies.

BIFR has further reported that the period of implementation of the revival schemes generally varies from 5 to 7 years. Therefore mainly such revival schemes as were sanctioned upto 1988-89 were expected to have been completed by December, 1995. Most of the Schemes sanctioned from 1990 onwards are scheduled to be finally implemented only after December 1995.

(c) and (d) The implementation of the schemes sanctioned for the revival of the sick industrial companies is monitored by the designated Monitoring Agency (which are generally the Operating Agencies) and the BIFR. At the stage of implementation of the scheme, difficulties if any, experienced due to delay in compliance/non compliance of the provisions by any party to the scheme, are resolved by bringing together all the parties involved. The Board also has powers to invoke penal provision under Section 33 of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 against wilful non compliance of any provision/orders of the Board.

Revision of Commission

6155. SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kerala Federation of Petroleum Traders have urged the Union Government to enhance commission on the sale of petrol and diesel by retail dealers throughout the country;

(b) if so, when the last revision in commission was done;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action to revise commission on the sale of petrol and diesel by retail dealers;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Various representations have been received for revising the rates of commission. Accordingly, a Committee has been constituted to examine the demands raised by the Dealers/Distributors for revision in the Commission.

The current rates of Dealers commission are effective from 3.7.1996 in case of MS and 7.7.1996 in case of HSD.

[*Translation*]**Power Projects in U.P.**

6156. SHRI SHOHANBEER SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of power projects in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the locations and capacity of these power plants;

(c) whether the Government are aware that these plants are generating power below their capacity; and

(d) if so, the names of such power plants and the action taken by the Government to increase the power generation thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The requisite details are given in the attached statement.

(d) Various measures being taken to increase the generation in Uttar Pradesh includes maximising the generation from existing capacity, early stabilisation of new generating capacity, implementation of Renovation and Modernisation Programme, reduction in Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and obtaining assistance from neighbouring States/System.

Statement*State-wise Details of Power Stations In Uttar Pradesh And Its Generation During 1996-97*

Name of the Station	Location	Generating Capacity (MW)	Energy Generation 1996-97		
			Target (MU)	Achievement (MU)	%
1	2	3	4	5	6
UPSEB :					
Thermal :					
Obra 1-13	Sone Bhadra	1442.0	5800	3634	62.7
Panki	Kanpur	274.0	800	846	105.7
Harduaganj	Aligarh	375.0	900	607	67.4
Paricha	Jhansi	220.0	830	543	65.4
Anpara	Sone Bhadra	1630.0	10500	11696	111.4
Tanda	Ambedkar Nagar	330.0	1200	1088	90.7
Hydro :					
Rihand	Sone Bhadra	300.0	800	925	115.6
Obra Hy.	Sone Bhadra	99.0	280	363	129.6
Ramaganga	Bijnor	198.0	250	338	135.2
Matitila	Lalitpur	30.0	120	120	100.0
Khatima	Nainital	41.4	230	210	91.3
Ganga Canal	Bhadradab	20.4	170	176	103.5
Chila	Haridwar	144.0	725	612	84.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Khodri	Dehradun	120.0	455	432	94.9
Maneri Bhali	Utter Kashi	90.0	430	253	58.8
Khara	Saharanpur	72.0	400	376	94.0
Yamuna 1-4:	Dehradun	114.8	540	546	101.1
Yamuna II :		240.0	950	899	94.6
NTPC :					
Singrauli	Sone Bhadra	2000.0	14500	15381	106.1
Rihand	Mirzapur	1000.0	7000	6634	94.8
Dadri	Ghaziabad	840.0	5850	6054	103.5
Unchahar	Unchahar	420.0	2700	2949	109.2
Auraiya	Auraiya	652.0	3000	3841	128.0
Dadri GT	Ghaziabad	817.0	3000	3981	132.7
NPC :					
Narora APS	Bulandshahr	440.0	2427	2823	116.3
NHPC :					
Tanakpur	Nainital	120.0	500	384	76.8

[English]

PMRY

6157. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what were the targets fixed and numbers of unemployed youth given loan under PMRY during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) whether N.E. Region States are not getting due attention;

(c) whether the Nationalised Banks are not coming forward in the N.E. Region to implement the scheme; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target in each State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) A statement indicating the State-wise targets and number of unemployed youth who have been sanctioned loan under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 is attached.

(b) to (d) Due attention is given for achieving the targets under PMRY, including in the North Eastern States. Despite a low recovery rate of 18.8% under PMRY in the North Eastern Region, the banks have sanctioned 9613 cases (43.6% of target) upto March 1997 under the programme year 1996-97. Necessary steps have been taken to achieve the target by inter-alia conducting periodical review of the scheme and advising concerned State Level Banker's Committee to take necessary steps to achieve the targets.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		Target	No. of App. Sanctioned by Banks	Target	No. of App. Sanctioned by Banks	Target	No. of App. Sanctioned by Banks (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25000	19851	31900	32556	31900	22239
2.	Assam	6600	6404	9900	9852	15000	5939

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Bihar	22150	11705	22150	17924	22150	13580
4.	NCT of Delhi	4540	1763	4550	4143	4550	581
5.	Goa	520	285	550	499	550	224
6.	Gujarat	8500	5707	8500	10190	8500	7830
7.	Haryana	4100	4600	7200	9353	7200	8420
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2100	2306	2100	2578	2100	1936
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2000	1995	3100	2586	3500	995
10.	Karnataka	15000	13759	17700	17000	17700	14709
11.	Kerala	15000	11123	15000	14135	15000	12501
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20000	21840	27050	31566	27050	28970
13.	Maharashtra	20500	26551	35900	40392	35900	28399
14.	Manipur	2000	2026	4000	1753	3000	2072
15.	Mizoram	250	226	250	242	375	226
16.	Orissa	6570	5551	8250	8267	8250	3968
17.	Punjab	4900	5357	15000	15531	8600	6743
18.	Rajasthan	8300	7666	10400	10273	10400	8578
19.	Tamil Nadu	17400	14519	21800	19304	21800	19386
20.	Tripura	1000	796	1300	1238	1950	865
21.	Uttar Pradesh	27400	23060	35813	37324	35813	31830
22.	West Bengal	22900	9441	22900	10184	22900	4783
23.	Andaman & Nicobar	250	54	100	101	100	51
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	250	183	300	287	450	117
25.	Chandigarh	150	165	150	174	150	69
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	250	112	150	156	150	75
27.	Daman & Diu	250	79	100	116	100	49
28.	Nagaland	250	216	300	267	450	Nil
29.	Lakshadweep	75	19	50	26	50	29
30.	Meghalaya	300	314	550	566	825	394
31.	Pondicherry	460	476	500	513	500	353
32.	Sikkim	250	84	200	169	200	110
Total			198233	—	299265		226021

Note: The above informations are primarily received from States/UTs.

Manufacturing of Computers

6158. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the companies in the field of manufacturing computers in the country;

(b) whether there are any foreign companies in this field;

(c) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down for collaboration projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The list of computer manufacturing companies in the country who are sending their production returns to the Department of Electronics is attached as statement-I.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. List of Foreign and Non Resident Indian owned companies whose proposals for manufacture of computers were approved by the Government of India from 1992 onwards is attached as statement-II. Standard terms and conditions prescribed by the Govt. of India. Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion are applicable in these cases

Statement-I

List of Computer Manufacturers

A Main Frame Computers

1. Digital Equipment India Ltd., Bangalore

2. Fujitsu Icim Ltd., Pune

B Mini/Micro Computers

1. ACI Infotech Ltd., Secunderabad

2. Aurelec Data Processing Systems, Koitakupam

3. Byte Systems Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta

4. Caditronics Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad

5. Centre for Development of Advanced Computing Bangalore

6. Concept Computers (P) Ltd., Gandhinagar

7. CMS Computers Ltd., Mumbai

8. Datapro Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Pune

9. Datamax Business Computer Systems Mumbai

10. DCM Data Products, New Delhi

11. DOE Drg Systems Ltd., Vadodara

12. Electro Systems Associates Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

13. Electronics Corporation of India Ltd., Hyderabad

14. Electronic Controls & Systems Mumbai

15. Electronic Systems Punjab Ltd., Chandigarh

16. Engineering Innovations Ltd., Parwanoo

17. Fujinova Data Systems Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

18. Fujitsu Icim Ltd., Pune

19. Godrej & Boyce Mfg. Co. Ltd., Pune

20. HCL Hewlett Packard Ltd., Noida

21. Informatics Services Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

22. Integrated Data Systems Pvt. Ltd.,

23. Indchem Xycom Ltd., Chennai

24. Infotech Ltd., Chennai

25. Jay Instruments & Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

26. Jupiter Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

27. Kerala State Electronics Devp. Corp. Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram

28. Kuruganti Computers Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

29. Menatec, Pondicherry

30. Mahendra Electronics Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

31. Maxoyte Computers Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

32. Microtex International (P) Ltd., Delhi

33. Minicomp Ltd., Solapur

34. Modern Engg. & Marketing Enterprises, Mumbai

35. Modi Oilvatti Ltd., New Delhi

36. Namtech Systems (P) Ltd., Bangalore

37. National Radio & Electronics Co. Ltd., Mumbai

38. Oasis Instruments Company, Calcutta

39. OMC Computers Ltd., Secunderabad

40. Optronics Services (P) Ltd., Calcutta

41. Pascal Computers (P) Ltd., Calcutta

42. Prime Home Computers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

43. Processor Systems India (P) Ltd., Bangalore

44. PSI Data Systems Ltd., Bangalore

45. Ouaser Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

46. Rohta India Ltd., Mumbai

47. Saivam Computers Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad

48. South Asian Computers Ltd., Bangalore

49. Summit Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Gandhinagar

50. Sun Ray Computers (P) Ltd., Bangalore

51. Sun Ray Electronics, Bangalore

52. Tata Unisvs Ltd., New Delhi

53. Unicorp Industries Ltd., New Delhi

54. VHS Computer Engg. Co. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai

55. Versabvte Data Systems (P) Ltd., Bangalore

56. Vimicro Systems (P) Ltd., Chennai

57. Wipro Infotech Group, Bangalore

58. Zenith Computers Ltd., Mumbai

59. Ajiakya Electronic Systems, Satara

60. Aptex Devices Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

61. Applied Electro Optics and Instruments, Thane.

Statement-II*List of Units approved for Foreign Direct Investment for manufacture of Computers*

S.No.	Name of Unit
1.	M/s. Mylex Computer Software Pvt. Ltd.
2.	M/s. CMOS Communication P. Ltd.
3.	M/s. Hewlett Packard (I) Ltd.
4.	M/s. Lottex Management Inc.
5.	M/s. spectra Innovation (India) Ltd.

Use of Hindi

6159 SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn towards Home Minister's statement dated September 14, 1996 wherein he had said that senior officers by using Hindi in their daily work should encourage other officers to use Hindi in their work; and

(b) whether he would direct the senior officers and other officers in his department to follow it and also monitor it in the year of golden jubilee of independence ?

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

(b) Necessary instructions have already been issued to all Officers for compliance. They have also been advised to make maximum use of Hindi in their day-to-day official work. The progress in this regard is monitored regularly.

Kayamkulam Power Projects

6160 SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up separate power projects with the help of Indian Oil Corporation and NTPC at Kayamkulam Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total power likely to be generated in these projects; and

(d) the total funds incurred in these projects so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present. However, Kayamkulam Project (350 MW) is under execution by NTPC on its own

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Profit/Loss Central Haj Committee

6161. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the year-wise details of profit made/loss suffered by Haj Committee since the initiation of process of hiring accommodation for Haj pilgrims in Macca ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : Haj Committee is a statutory body functioning on no-profit no-loss basis. The rent for accommodation of the pilgrims in Makkah is collected on actual basis. Hence, the question of loss or profit to the Haj committee in the process of hiring of accommodation for Haj pilgrims would not arise.

Carbon Black Feed Stock

6162. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether specially lubricant manufacturing units in Maharashtra are facing a lot of problems in procuring carbon black feed stock for regular manufacturing requirements from Mahul Refinery of HPC;

(b) if so, the production and captive consumption of carbon black feed stock by HPC per month and stock available for marketing to private manufacturers of speciality lubricants and supplies made during 1996-97;

(c) the marketing guidelines for the product and expected production of carbon black feed stocks during 1997-98 at HPC Refinery at Mahul and surplus available for marketing to private units; and

(d) the steps taken to meet genuine requirements of speciality lubricants manufacturing units for carbon black feed stock on regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There has been no problem in supplies of CBFS to genuine speciality lubricant manufacturing units in Maharashtra from Mahul Refinery of HPCL.

(b) The production of CBFS at Mahul Refinery is about 70-80 TMT per annum which caters to the demand of manufacturers of carbon black as well as speciality lubricants. HPCL does not have any captive consumption of CBFS. During the year 1996-97, more than 15000 Mts of CBFS has been supplied to speciality lubricant manufacturers.

(c) Since CBFS is a Free Trade Product, it is freely available to the genuine consumers. The expected production of CBFS during 1997-98 will be around 70-80 TMT.

(d) Does not arise in view of above.

Mega City Schemes

6163. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE :

DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the total investment involved in projects under the Megacity Scheme, city-wise;
- (b) the progress made so far under the scheme, city-wise;
- (c) the amount released by the centre for such projects in different cities since 1993;
- (d) the extent to which funds released by the Centre, have so far been utilised by the State Governments; and
- (e) the salient features of the Megacity Projects of Calcutta ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The details of Investment involved in projects under the Mega City Scheme and the progress made thereunder, city-wise are given in the attached statement-I.

(c) The details are given in the attached statement-II.

(d) As against the central release of Rs. 289.80 crores to Mega Cities upto 1996-97 under Mega City Scheme, an expenditure of Rs. 465.04 crores has been incurred by the State Level Nodal Agencies on the implementation of approved projects.

(e) The salient features of the Calcutta Mega City Project are given in attached statement-III.

Statement-I

(Rs. in crores)

Name of Mega City	No. of Projects Approved	Total cost of Approved Projects	Expenditure incurred upto 31.3.1997
Mumbai	22	266.00	117.96
Calcutta	56	334.50	130.84
Chennai	52	327.66	62.60
Hyderabad	14	251.17	57.88
Bangalore	20	260.23	35.76
Total	164	1439.56	465.04

Statement-II*Funds Released by the Government of India Under Mega City Scheme to Various Cities Since 1993*

City	1993-94*	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Mumbai	20.10	16.10	18.08	13.08
Calcutta	20.10	16.10	18.08	13.58
Chennai	15.10	11.10	17.08	11.98
Hyderabad	15.10	11.10	15.58	11.71
Bangalore	0.10	20.10	15.08	10.55

*For the year 1993-94, the funds were released by Planning Commission as special Central assistance, treated as Central Share. From 1994-95 onwards, the funds were released by the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment.

Statement-III*Salient Features of the Calcutta Mega City Project*

(i)	Total Project Cost	:	Rs. 1600.00 crores
(ii)	Cost of Projects approved	:	Rs. 334.50 crores
(iii)	No. of projects approved	:	56
(iv)	Expenditure incurred on Projects (upto 31.3.1997)	:	Rs. 130.84 crores
(v)	Central Share released during 1993-97.	:	Rs. 67.86 crores
(vi)	State Share released during 1993-97	:	Rs. 161.05 crores
(vii)	Project Components	:	Water Supply, Sewerage & Drainage, Solid Waste Management, Traffic & Transportation, Bustee Improvement, Housing & Area Development, Community Development and Environmental Improvement.

House for Beedi Workers

6164. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of housing units constructed for the beedi workers in the country during the last three years, location-wise;

(b) whether any Scheme is under consideration of the Government to construct hospitals and recreation centres in these areas where the above housing units have been constructed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A statement showing the number of houses constructed for the beedi workers in the country during the last three years, State-wise, is attached.

(b) and (c) The Government have taken up construction of a 50-bedded Hospital for beedi workers at Dhuliyar (West Bengal). At present, proposals to set up 30-bedded Hospital at Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) and Mukkudal (Tamil Nadu), and to construct Community Centres in Economically Weaker Section Housing Colonies at Pipri (Nizamabad), Damaracharuvu (Medak) and Lingareddypally (Medak), situated in Andhra Pradesh, are under consideration.

Statement

Statement Referred to in Reply to Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 6164 for 14.5.1997.

Number of Houses constructed for Beedi Workers during last three years

S.No.	States	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tamil Nadu	86	1016	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6355	4834	546
3.	Karnataka	2	-	-
4.	Kerala	457	155	-
5.	Rajasthan	-	-	-
6.	Gujarat	-	-	-
7.	Maharashtra	116	13	20
8.	Bihar	-	-	-
9.	Uttar Pradesh	20	13	37
10.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	51

1	2	3	4	5
11	Orissa	66	153	129
12	Tripura	-	-	-
13	Assam	109	-	-
14	West Bengal	45	30	-

[Translation]

Counter Magnet Cities

6165. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated for the development of selected Counter Magnet Cities under the National Capital Region and the manner in which this amount is likely to be spent during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount spent/being spent under this scheme, city-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) An amount of Rs. 100 crores has been allocated for development of selected Counter Magnet Cities under the Ninth Five Year Plan. The concerned State Governments prepare the integrated plan under which detailed project plans are prepared and implemented. Some of the projects are funded through the Development Fund which is generally financed by the NCR Planning Board and the State Governments. Other projects are financed by the State Governments exclusively through their own resources.

(b) The amount spent/being spent under the scheme city-wise is as under :-

Bareilly (UP)	-	Rs. 7 crores
Kota (Rajasthan)	-	Rs. 2 crores
Gwalior (MP)	-	Rs. 1 crore
Patiala (Punjab)	-	Rs. 1 crore
Hissar (Haryana)	-	Nil

[English]

N.T.P.C.

6166 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) proposes to increase power generation during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of new power plants proposed to be set up by NTPC during the period, State-wise;

(c) the fund earmarked or allocation made to NTPC for setting up of new Thermal Power Plants during the Ninth

Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details of the existing plants proposed to be expanded by NTPC during the above Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The statewide details of new projects proposed to be set up/expanded by National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) during the 9th Plan period (1997-98—2001-02) are as under :-

On Going Name of the Project	State	Capacity (MW)
1. Vindhyachal Stage II	Madhya Pradesh	1000
2. Unchahar St. II	Uttar Pradesh	420
3. Kayamkulam CCGT	Kerala	350
New Projects		
4. Faridabad CCGT	Haryana	400
5. Kawas St. II CCGT	Gujarat	650
6. Anta Stage II	Rajasthan	650
7. Auraiya St. II	Uttar Pradesh	650
8. Hyderabad Metro CCGT	Andhra Pradesh	650
9. Simhadri TPS	Andhra Pradesh	1000
10. Talcher II St II*	Orissa	500
Total		6270

(*only one unit out of 4 units of 500 MW each is envisaged to yield benefit during 9th Plan).

The Ninth Five Year Plan has not been finalised. The Planning Commission will take into consideration the above project proposals while finalising the 9th Plan.

(c) NTPC has projected an outlay of Rs. 19841.91 crores for the 9th Plan to sustain a capacity addition of 6270 MW as well as to start advance action on the projects envisaged for benefit during the 10th Plan period.

Emigration Clearance

6167. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether emigration clearance required for workers going abroad for employment has been causing great

hardships to the semi-literate workers especially in Goa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to abolish the condition of emigration clearance to obviate the difficulties being faced by such workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Mega Power Projects

6168. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Committee has been set up by the Government for the selection of sites for new mega power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith sites identified for the purpose. State-wise; and

(e) the time by which the work for commissioning of projects is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A 'Site Selection Committee' under the Chairmanship of Member (Thermal), Central Electricity Authority has been set up to identify suitable sites for setting up of mega power projects in the private sector.

(c) and (d) The Committee was required to submit the report by February, 1997. However, the time for submission of report was extended and it is now expected to be submitted by end June, 1997.

(e) Commencement of work at any project will depend on its formulation and development subsequent to the prioritisation of the project after consideration of the recommendations of the Site Selection Committee.

Gas based Power Stations

6169. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the daily requirement of gas for the gas based power stations in the country and in Orissa;

(b) the linkage sanctioned by the Government against the requirement; and

(c) the details of any proposal for increasing the gas linkage in near future in respect of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Around 25 MMSCMD has been allocated to gas based power station against which the supply is around

18 MMSCMD. No allocation has been made to any power station in Orissa. There is no proposal for allocating gas to projects in Orissa as the gas projected to be available is fully allocated.

Transportation of Goods through Bangladesh

6170. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of India being allowed to use a corridor through Bangladesh to transport its goods was discussed in the meeting of the Joint Economic Commission of the two countries held recently in Delhi during March, 1997;

(b) if so, whether any preliminary agreement in principle has been reached in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there was consensus on expansion of border trade as a part of greater cooperation in trade and commerce in the aforesaid meeting; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (e) The 5th meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission was held in New Delhi from March 10-12, 1997. On cooperation in transportation sector, the Commission recalled Article 8 of the Trade Agreement concluded between Bangladesh and India in 1980, which provides for "mutually beneficial arrangements for the use of their waterways, roadways and railways for commerce between the two countries and for passage of goods between two places in one country; through the territory of the other". The commission also recalled Article 12 of the SAPTA Agreement which provides for "developing and improving communication system, transport infrastructure and transit facilities for accelerating the growth of trade within the region", concluded in 1993. The two sides reaffirmed their earlier commitment to the above agreements and agreed to take appropriate measures towards the further fulfillment of these agreement.

On border trade, the two sides discussed the question of trade in local produce between areas in India and Bangladesh at selected points contiguous to the border between the two countries. It was agreed to set up a Group of experts to make recommendations on the modalities of border trade.

Minimum Wages

6171. SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to non payment of minimum wages by private organisations to its employees.

(b) whether it has also been brought to the Government notice that implementation of Vth Central Pay

Commission will widen the disparity in income between the Government employees and private employees;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure payment of stipulated wages/salary by Private organisations to its employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Salaries payable to Government employees are determined by Government from time to time, while those payable to employees working in the private sector are negotiated and settled between the concerned employers and employees. The appropriate Government only fixes minimum wages as per provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 with respect to certain categories of workers who work in the notified scheduled employments in the private sector. Parity between wages and salaries of Government employees and of employees working in the private sector does not exist and is also not attempted.

Minting of Coins

6172. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number coins imported and minted in the Indian Mints during the last three years separately;

(b) the reasons for importing blanks coins;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on import. year-wise;

(d) the concrete steps being taken by the Government for minting of these coins in the Indian Mints;

(e) whether the Government propose to import coins in large quantities during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR)

(a) No coins have been imported during the last three years. The coins minted in the Government Mints during the last three years as under:-

Year	In million pieces (approx)
1994-95	1707
1995-96	1450
1996-97	1586

(b) The coin blanks are being imported to meet the gap between blanks made in our Mints and the requirement of blanks for making coins.

(c) The expenditure incurred on import of coin blanks during the last three years are as under:-

Year	In crores (approx)
1994-95	Rs. 39.65
1995-96	Rs. 66.91
1996-97	Rs. 76.10

(d) The Government Mints at Mumbai, Calcutta and Hyderabad are being modernised to increase their capacity to make blanks and coins.

(e) and (f) : As a one time measure, the Government has decided to import 700 million peices of Re. 1/- coins and 300 million pieces of Rs. 2/- coins.

[Translation]

State Electricity Boards

6173. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision for waiving off the power tariff outstanding against the State Electricity Boards and Public Undertakings;

(b) if so, the total amount likely to be waived off; and

(c) the details of authority. State Electricity Board and Public Undertaking who has recommended the waiving off this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

DDA

6174. SHRI VISHWESHVAR BHAGAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the aims and objectives for which DDA was set up;

(b) the extent to which the aims and objectives have been fulfilled;

(c) whether the expenditure incurred on basic structure by DDA is included in the price of flats sold to persons who got their names registered all over India;

(d) if so, the rationale behind it; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to divest DDA from the responsibility of constructing the flats and constitute a separate housing corporation for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority was set up under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. As per the Act, the aims and objectives of the DDA are :

Allotment of Shares

2518. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has made preferential allotment for shares to its employees at heavy discount;

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

(c) whether such facility is likely to be provided in other public sector undertakings in the petroleum industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). ONGC has offered 150 shares to each of its employees at the rate of Rs. 270/- per share. These shares have been allotted to the employees on the grounds that they have made significant contribution to ONGC's performance over the years and have brought ONGC to its present size and capabilities.

(c) The allotment of shares to employees of any Public Sector Undertaking is decided keeping in view the merits of each case and general policy of the Govt. on the subject.

Pilferage of Goods

2519. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Police pilfers goodies worth crores" appearing in the Indian Express on September 28, 1994;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check such practices by the policy;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is not correct to say that a large number of police personnel have been fleecing valuables like VCRs, Furniture, T.Vs, Refrigerators etc. and misappropriating liquor, tyres of cars and scooters etc. from police malkhanas. During 1994, only two such cases have come to notice, and in these, concerned police officials were arrested and necessary action as per law has been initiated against them.

In order to avoid any misappropriation or pilferage of properties kept in police malkhanas, standing instructions on procedures to be followed for ensuring safe custody of case property have been issued to all concerned. Regular inspection and physical checking is done to further ensure that no pilferage of such property takes place.

As regards auction of unclaimed properties, section 69 of the Delhi Police Act provides that unclaimed properties have to be auctioned with the approval of the Commissioner of Police.

Release of vehicles and other articles on 'Supurdagi' is affected under section 102(3) Cr.P.C. Custody of recovered property where such property cannot be conveniently transported to the Courts is given in the "Supurdagi" of its rightful claimant on his executing a bond/undertaking to produce the property before the courts as and when required.

It is a fact that case properties kept in Police Station Malkhanas occupy lot of space and, due to shortage of space, such items have to be kept in the open with the result they get spoiled/damaged or are rendered beyond repairs by the time the concerned cases are decided by the courts. The accidented vehicles which are not released on Superdari are disposed of only after the decision of the criminal case by the court.

LPG Agency

2520. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any LPG agency/Petrol/Diesel outlet has been allotted in Tamil Nadu from his discretionary quota during the last one year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) No dealership/distributorship has been allotted on compassionate grounds in Tamil Nadu during the period January-December, 1994.

[Translation]

Foreign Contribution

2521. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of organisations receiving foreign contribution in Maharashtra;

(b) the amount received by these organisations during the last three years; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to monitor their activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The following number of associations from Maharashtra State reported receipt of foreign contribution during the last three years:

Year	No. of assns.	F.C. reported (in crores)
1990-91	904	Rs. 106.31
1991-92	827	Rs. 132.58
1992-93	989	Rs. 164.47

cerned officers who have allotted DDA property worth crores of rupees in the names of near and dears at throw away prices in connivance of bhoo-mafias;

(c) whether the Government propose to take strict legal action against the officers/employees of DDA who are misusing their good offices and transfer those employees alongwith evaluating their movable/immovable property;

(d) if so, the details therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) to (e) DDA has reported that despite wide publicity and protracted correspondence with Banks, Postal Authorities and Chief Medical Officer (CGHS) (Head Quarter) Bank

Units No. 1&2, space for Post Office and Dispensary in the shopping complex at Naraina Vihar could not be disposed of. Since DDA could not keep these units undisposed for an indefinite period, these units were, therefore, disposed of through auction after getting their use changed from Banks & Post Office to General shops with the approval of the Competent Authority (Statement Attached). However, shops No. 33 & 34 in the said shopping complex were purchased in the open auction held on 28.5.85 by one auction purchaser. The auction purchaser is using both these shops for lottery counters while these were sold as general shops. Show cause notices have been issued to auction purchaser to explain as to why the allotment of these units should not be cancelled in case the breach is not removed. The matter is being processed for auction as per the terms and conditions of allotment. Since necessary action for breach of the terms and conditions of auction is being taken, question of penalising DDA Officers/employees does not arise.

Statement

DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Details of Units auctioned in LSC at Naraina.

Unit No.	Reserve Price	Bid Amount	Date of Auction
Bank Unit-I	Rs. 20,92,100/-	Rs. 21,36,000/-	23.11.93
Bank Unit-II	Rs. 27,81,100/-	Rs. 28,26,000/-	23.11.93
Post Office	Rs. 5,62,000/-	Rs. 6,00,000/-	22.2.94
Dispensary	Rs. 4,18,900/-	Rs. 5,02,000/-	17.12.92

[English]

Prices of Gold and Silver

6179. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) The action proposed to be taken by the Government to stabilise the prices of Gold and Silver in the country vis-a-vis at the international market and to curb Gold smuggling ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : The Govt. took action to stabilise prices of Gold and Silver in the country vis-a-vis those in the International market with the introduction of the liberalised scheme for the import of Gold in March, 1992. Under this scheme 5 Kgs. of Gold was permitted to be imported into India by a passenger of Indian origin returning to India after 6 months on payment of customs duty. Subsequently Gold imports on payment of customs duty were also permitted under Special Import Licenses in April, 1994.

The quantity of Gold permitted for import by a passenger of Indian origin under the aforesaid scheme has been increased to 10 Kgs. each with effect from 1.1.97.

Similarly Silver upto 100 Kgs. was permitted for import

on payment of customs duty by a passenger of Indian origin returning to India after 6 months with effect from February, 1993 and also under Special Import Licenses with effect from April, 1994.

Apart from above, a continued high alert is maintained by anti-smuggling agencies to detect and prevent smuggling of Gold into the country by surveillance over sensitive areas, targeting of intelligence and use of sophisticated equipment like metal detectors, colour baggage X-ray machines, etc. at ports and airports.

Power Station at Hogenkal and Mekedatu

6180. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide Central assistance to the Power Generating Stations at Hogenkal and Mekedatu; and

(b) if so, the funds sought and released for these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Treatment of Sewage

6181. SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in large number of towns in the country there is no sewage facility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this untreated sewage is being dumped into the rivers thus polluting them;
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for setting up sewage treatment alongwith the facility in all the towns of each State; and
- (e) the amount allocated for the purpose during the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) As per the draft report on status of water supply, water generation, collection, treatment and disposal in Class I cities, 1994-95 of the Central Pollution Control Board, out of 299 Class I cities in the country only about 150 cities have some sort of sewerage system benefitting about 70% population in these cities. The total waste water generated in these cities is about 15775 mld of which only 3740 mld (24%) is getting treated either through primary or secondary sewage treatment facilities.

(c) and (d) The National river Conservation Directorate (NRCD) under Ministry of Environment and Forests has stated that under the Ganga Action Plan and National River Conservation Plan it is proposed to construct sewage treatment plants in 125 towns covering 23 rivers in the country.

It has further been informed that presently untreated sewage from most of these towns is flowing into the respective rivers.

(e) NRCD, Ministry of Environment & Forests has informed that Rs. 19.12 crores have been allocated for sewerage schemes, sewerage treatment plants and other allied works.

In so far as Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment is concerned proposals for provision of sewage, sewerage treatment and drainage facilities in the urban areas have been sent to Planning Commission.

Unlicensed Gold Refineries

6182. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to the report of the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, a number of unlicensed gold

refineries are engaged in the refining of smuggled gold in certain areas of the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action has been taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Information collected by the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau indicated the existence of some unlicensed refineries engaged in the refining of Gold in various commercial and residential premises in Delhi. Acting on specific information two unlicensed refineries were detected on 16.2.97 in Karol Bagh by the CEIB jointly with the Directorate of Enforcement and recovery of foreign exchange and gold effected. Since these refineries located in multistoreyed commercial buildings were using hazardous substances such as spirit, acid and other chemicals, the facts were reported to the Environment Ministry and MCD for taking appropriate action.

Clearance to Proposals

6183. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the numbers of proposals of Maharashtra Government regarding water supply to Greater Mumbai and other parts of the city pending for clearance; and
- (b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) One proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra, viz. the Bombay IV Middle Vaitarna Water Supply project for augmenting water supply to Greater Mumbai.

(b) The proposal has been recommended by this Ministry to the Department of Economic Affairs for exploring the possibility of obtaining external assistance from the World Bank. The Government of Maharashtra has also been requested to obtain the clearances of the Ministries of Water Resources, Environment and Forests, Planning Commission and the Central Public Health and Environmental Engineering Organisation.

Privatisation of Industries

6184. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the manner in which Government propose to exercise control over the large number of industries which are being/privatised with a view to safe guard the interests of the labour force working in such industries;
- (b) the number of industries/corporation privatised, so far in Bihar; and
- (c) the manner in which the labour force in the

country at large is going to be benefited by privatisation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The existing labour laws such as the Industrial Disputes Act, the Payment of Wages Act, etc. provide, inter-alia, measures for safeguarding the interests of the labour force in industries including those which are being privatised. Such privatised industries are subject to the same rules and regulations as are applicable to other similar industries in the private sector.

(b) No information about the number of industries/corporations privatised so far in Bihar is available.

(c) The benefits of privatisation for the labour force will depend on the manner in which it is undertaken in individual cases and it is not possible to draw general conclusions on the effect on labour force in the country.

Expenditure Management Commission

6185. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision to appoint an Expenditure Management Commission was taken nearly eight months ago;

(b) if so, whether the Commission has been functioning; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to start function ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Expenditure Management and Reforms Commission which was proposed in the Budget speech 1996-97 has not yet been set up. As its constitution is dependent on getting the consent of the appropriate members, no particular time has been set for its constitution.

Nomination Facilities in Share Certificates

6186. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no nomination facility in share certificates;

(b) if so, whether on death of the share holder the successors have to bear lengthy legal formalities;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to provide nomination facility similar to post office deposit schemes or the 'Either or Survivor' provision on bank pattern to the shareholders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Working Group set up by the Government to re-write to draft of the new Companies Act has recommended to provide for facility of nomination to share/debenture holders of the companies. A provision to this effect finds place in the Working Draft of the Companies Bill (vide Section 74) submitted by the Working Group, and already released for public debate. Government proposes to implement this proposal as announced in the 1997 Budget Speech of the Finance Minister.

Shortage of Court Fee Stamps

6187. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the acute shortage of court fee stamps in several States for official use; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government has not received any complaint of shortage of Court fee stamps in the country during the last three years.

[Translation]

Reservation in Promotion

6188. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Constitution Amendment in the light of the Supreme Court decision to maintain the status quo for providing benefits of promotion to SCs/STs in Government services which are coming to an end in November, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIAN) : (a) to (c) The Constitution has already been amended by Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 and Article 16 (4A) inserted in the Constitution. This Article enables the State to make provision for reservation in promotion to any class or classes of the posts in the services under the State in favour of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, which in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the services under the State.

*[English]***Kashmir Issue**

6189. KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH :

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem under captioned "Kashmir Muddei Per Bharat-Pak Mein, Yuddh Sambhav-Cheen" published in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated April 3, 1997; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the decision proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report has no basis in fact.

Threat To Jantar Mantar

6190. LT. GENERAL (RETD.) PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of highrise buildings near Jantar Mantar in New Delhi will pose a grave threat to it;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision not to approve plans of high rise buildings near Jantar Mantar;

(c) the number of plans received by the Government in respect of construction of high-rise buildings near Jantar Mantar having proposed height of above 50 feet and the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The plans for high-rise buildings around Jantar Mantar are sanctioned as per the provisions of the Master Plan for Delhi, Building Bye-laws and guidelines of the Archeological Survey of India on the subject.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) NDMC has reported that presently no such plans are pending with them.

Indo Pak Trade Relation

6191. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken initiative to

enter into a dialogue with the new Government of Pakistan to explore the potential for trade between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) Government has consistently expressed its interest to expand commercial and economic relations with Pakistan for mutual benefit. Government has extended Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan. Our views regarding the importance of expanding trade ties have been conveyed on many occasions to Pakistan. Government hopes that Pakistan will respond positively to our endeavours to expand commercial and economic relations.

Passport Applications

6192. SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the passport office-wise number of applications received during 1995 and 1996 for seeking passports;

(b) the number of applications out of them which have been disposed of;

(c) the number of applications out of them which have been rejected for various reasons; and

(d) the total number of passports issued and the time by which the remaining passports are likely to be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a), (b) and (d) A statement showing the number of applications received by various Passport Offices during 1995 and 1996, and the number of passports issued during these years, Passport Office-wise, is attached.

The applications pending at the end of 1995 continued to be disposed off in 1996. Similarly, those pending at the end of 1996 were disposed off during 1997. It is not possible to determine the exact date when each one of those applications was disposed off as disposal is an on-going exercise.

(c) Applications once received by the Passport Office are not rejected. In case the applications are complete in all respects and the Police clearance report is received, passports are granted. Some applications continue to pend because of either incomplete columns in the passport application form, deficiencies in supporting documents or receipt of incomplete police report of delay in the receipt of replies to references made to other passport issuing authorities. Therefore, the pending cases continue to be granted as and when the deficiencies are fulfilled. In case the applicant does not respond despite repeated reminders, the application is closed.

Statement

Statement showing the number of applications for seeking passports, received by various Passport Offices and number of passports issued during 1995-96

S.No.	Office	1995		1996	
		Number of Applications Received	Number of passports granted	Number of Applications Received	Number of passports granted
1.	Ahemadabad	105955	99089	126536	127760
2.	Bangalore	97741	95672	102248	105905
3.	Bareilly	36863	35880	36341	33394
4.	Bhopal	20297	20148	19697	18979
5.	Bhubaneshwar	6995	5309	7683	7029
6.	Bombay	223397	218043	222007	209835
7.	Calcutta	50045	47601	63883	62367
8.	Chandigarh	84608	103257	99379	98946
9.	Cochin	80686	80009	84710	83107
10.	Delhi	121389	106607	142804	140904
11.	Goa	15329	14220	15875	14279
12.	Guwahati	7486	6739	8335	8169
13.	Hyderabad	149422	142770	190722	176649
14.	Jaipur	52942	51893	48272	47441
15.	Jalandhar	69384	100743	95861	95667
16.	Kozhikode	133067	135892	140574	126400
17.	Lucknow	91266	99127	103497	90156
18.	Madras	117333	112475	140512	134158
19.	Nagpur	9541	9037	12107	11792
20.	patna	41156	38498	47159	44001
21.	Trichy	164577	139332	189516	191752
22.	Trivandrum	90432	83461	77106	73600
23.	Jammu	11457	8713	12531	10495
		1781368	1754515	1987355	1912785

Infrastructure Facilities in Various Sectors

6193. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the FINANCE Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan for creating more infrastructure facilities in various sectors based on the latest technology in the country;

(b) if so, whether there are various avenues for attracting above 300 dollars of investment in the core sector of the country;

(c) if so, the details of efforts made or proposed to be made by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government's development strategy attaches high

priority to the development of efficient infrastructure and recognise the fact that provision and maintenance of adequate infrastructure of facilities at reasonable cost are absolutely necessary for rapid economic growth on a sustained basis.

Given the competing demands of limited resources available with the Government, the creation of quality infrastructure will need infusion of private capital, including foreign investments. The procedures relating to foreign investment in the infrastructure sector have been further liberalised. Since December, 1996 the Government has allowed automatic approval for foreign equity participation upto 74 per cent in key infrastructure industries such as electricity generation and transmission, non-conventional energy generation and distribution, and construction activities in the area of roads, bridges, railbeds, ports and harbours.

Infrastructure investments are, by their very nature, for long gestation activities. This implies that there is a continuing mismatch between the required debt maturities and the availability of funding. The Asian Development Bank has provided a loan of \$ 30 million for the Private Sector Infrastructure Facility in order to support private sector infrastructure projects through the development of the long-term debt market.

Premium Collected By LIC, Orisea

6194. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of premium collected by Life Insurance Corporation from policy holders in Orissa state during each of the last three years; and

(b) the amount invested in the development work by LIC during the above period ?

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

Teller Machinee In Banke

6195. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 4510 on 6th September, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the date by which the information is likely to be collected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the locations (in Delhi) in which Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) have been installed and in which ATMs are proposed to be installed by public sector banks is attached. In most of the cases the expenditure involved in the installation of an ATM is expected to vary between Rs. 20 and Rs. 25 lakhs per ATM.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	ATMs installed in Delhi	ATMs proposed to be installed in Delhi
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India	New Delhi Main Branch, Sansad Marg	(i) Sansadiya Soudh New Delhi (ii) Central Secretariat New Delhi (iii) South Extension Part-II, New Delhi Scope Complex Lodi Road, New Delhi Greater Kailash-II New Delhi One ATM in New Delhi
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	NIL	—
3.	State Bank of Indore	NIL	—
4.	State Bank of Mysore	NIL	—
5.	State Bank of Patiala	Defence Colony New Delhi	—
6.	State Bank of Saurashtra	NIL	One or two of following Branches- (i) Connaught Place, N. Delhi (ii) Patparganj, Delhi (iii) Nehru Place Complex New Delhi (iv) Chandni Chowk, Delhi (v) Lodhi Road, New Delhi
7.	Bank of Baroda	NIL	(i) Shakarpur Branch, Old Delhi, Transyamuna Area (ii) Vishakha Enclave Branch, Pitampura, New Delhi, West Area.

1	2	3	4
8. Bank of India		NIL	(5ATMs) in five locations in Delhi.
9. Canara Bank		5 ATMs in the process.	
		(i) Parliament St., Branch New Delhi	
		(ii) Nehru Place, New Delhi	NIL
		(iii) R.K. Puram, New Delhi	
		(iv) Karol Bagh, New Delhi	
		(v) Hauzkhas, New Delhi	
10. Central Bank of India		NIL	(i) South Extension Branch, Delhi (ii) Ashoka Hotel Branch, Delhi (iii) Janakpuri, Branch, Delhi
11. Corporation Bank		NIL	Two ATMs in Delhi
12. Dena Bank		NIL	Daryaganj, Delhi
13. Indian Bank		(i) Shantiniketan Branch DDA Market, New Delhi	NIL
		(ii) Janakpuri Branch, New Delhi	
14. Vijaya Bank		(i) Greater Kailash-II Branch, New Delhi	NIL
		(ii) Barakhamba Road Branch, New Delhi	

Financial Assistance To Assam By Fis

6196. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance given by public sector financial institutions like LIC, NABARD, Industrial Finance Corpn. of India, IDBI, Industrial Credit and Investment Corpn. of India to Assam during 1996-97;

(b) whether the assistance is proportionately very low as compared to other states, and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the situation ?

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

Regional Passport Offices in Madhya Pradesh

6197. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of passport applications pending in regional Passport Offices in Madhya Pradesh, Office-

(b) the reasons for their pending;

(c) the steps taken by Government to expedite their disposal;

(d) whether there is a shortage of staff at Regional Passport Offices in Madhya Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof; office-wise; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to depute adequate staff in these offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The total number of passport applications pending in the Passport Office, Bhopal, the only Passport Office in Madhya Pradesh, as on 30th April, 1997, was 2990. Out of this, only 601 applications were pending for over a month, which is the normal period stipulated for issue of passports.

(b) and (c) The reasons for applications pending over a month are :

(i) Non-receipt of replies from the applicants in respect of incomplete applications.

(ii) Receipt of incomplete and vague reports from the Police Authorities.

(iii) Non-receipt of replies from other Passport Issuing Authorities in cases where references are made to them, as required under the rules.

The Passport Office, Bhopal is issuing periodic reminders to all concerned, as that these pending applications are disposed off at the earliest.

(d) to (f) Taking Into consideration the workload of the Passport Office, Bhopal, the existing staff strength is quite sufficient for the efficient functioning of the Passport Office.

Safai Karmacharies in GIC

6198. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted for regularising the services of part time safai karmacharies working in United India Insurance Co. Ltd. and other subsidiaries of GIC;

(b) whether the services of the above category of employees of United India Insurance Co. Ltd. have not been regularised for many years;

(c) if so, the reasons and justification therefor;

(d) the number of such employees in each of the subsidiaries of GIC; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to make these employees permanent and extend full benefit of pay & allowances, pension and other facilities at par with other permanent employees of their status in GIC ?

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

Activities of IDBI

6199. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state the steps taken to expand the activities of IDBI, specially in urban and rural areas State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Transit with Iran and Turkmenistan

6200. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have signed any agreement in regard to Transit with Iran and Turkmenistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above agreement will be effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir. On 22 February, 1997 in Tehran, India, Iran and Turkmenistan signed at the level of Foreign Ministers, a Trilateral Agreement on International Transit of Goods.

(b) A suo moto statement was made by the External Affairs Minister before the Lok Sabha on 26 February, 1997 which includes the relevant information.

(c) The agreement shall come into force on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification.

Violation of Regulations of RBI by PSBs

6201. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any violation of RBI regulations has been committed by the Private sector banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the RBI in the matter and the concerned private sector banks on the instructions of the RBI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that irregularities (including mismanagement of funds) vis-a-vis prescribed procedures in banks or RBI instructions are mainly noticed at the time of periodical inspection of banks. RBI have further reported that in addition to some remedial errors, violation of their instructions relating to payment of interest on deposits and advances against shares and debentures by some private sector banks have come to their notice.

Two private sector banks, had offered different rates of interest on domestic term deposits of similar maturities to public institutions/other institutions in violation of RBI directives on interest rates on deposits. The concerned banks were issued letters of displeasure by RBI during January/November, 1996.

As per RBI's extant instructions the commercial banks are precluded from sanctioning advances against the primary security of shares and debentures to partnership/ proprietorship concerns. Seven banks in private sector had sanctioned advances against the primary security of shares and debentures to partnership/proprietorship concerns in violation of RBI instructions. RBI had issued letter of displeasure to these bank during 1995-96.

[*Translation*]

Kashmir Issue

6202. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the stand taken by Britain in respect of Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the stand taken by the U.S.A. in respect of Jammu & Kashmir;

(c) whether the Government have approached the two Governments recently indicating our country's position vis-a-vis Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) the proposal of the Government towards the solution of the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (d) The full restoration of the political process in Jammu and Kashmir has been welcomed by Britain and the United States. Both countries have also condemned terrorist violence in the State. The country's position regarding Jammu and Kashmir, which has been a victim of proxy war and cross-border terrorism, has been made known to the international community including Britain and the United States. The Government is resolved to take all necessary steps to safeguard the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Buildings on Agricultural Land

6203. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred question No. 2161 dated December 21, 1994 and 5142 dated September 11, 1996 regarding buildings on agricultural land and state:

(a) whether the land has since been reconvered for agricultural use in regard to the 2714 cases in which orders under section 81 of Delhi Land reforms Act, 1954 have been passed or the land has been vested in the Gram Sabha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been no progress in this regard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in this regard; and

(e) the number of cases of unauthorised construction on agricultural land since January 1, 1994, the details thereof and the reasons for the revenue officials having failed to check the coming up of those buildings and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the revenue officials and their seniors who failed to exercise proper supervision over their juniors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allotment of Land

6204. SHRI RAM SAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answers given to USQ Nos. 1704 and 3748 dated July 24, 1996 and December 18, 1996 regarding allotment of land respectively and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Thermal Power Stations in A.P.

6205. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Thermal Power Stations in Andhra Pradesh have achieved a plant load factor of 78.2 per cent during the financial year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the target fixed by the Central Electricity Authority and the overall power generated by each station;

(c) whether the Vijayawada Thermal Power Station has achieved a plant load factor of 93.12 per cent which is the highest in the country during 1996-97;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which it is likely to be increased during 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During 1996-97 the Plant Load Factor (PLF) of Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board was 78.3 per cent.

(b) Station-wise details of energy generation and PLF during 1996-97 is given below :

Name of the Station	Energy Target	Gen. (MU) Actual	PLF Target	(%) Actual
1	2	3	4	5
Kothagudam	3961	3524	58.8	60.0
Vijayawada	9450	10286	85.6	93.2
Ramagundam B	400	379	73.1	69.2

1	2	3	4	5
Nellore	120	110	45.7	41.9
Royalseema	2800	2454	76.1	66.7
APSEB	16731	16753	75.5	78.3
NTPC Ramagundam	14500	15644	78.8	85.0

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The PLF of Vijayawada Thermal Power Station during 1996-97 was highest at 93.2% as against the target of 85.6%.

(e) Efforts shall be made to further improve the generation during 1997-98 to the extent possible.

C.D. Ratio of RRB

6206. SHRI UDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Regional Rural Banks where the Credit-Deposit ratio has gone below 40%; and

(b) the details of action taken by the Reserve Bank of India against those banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) As reported by National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), there are 78 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) where the Credit Deposit (C.D.) Ratio is less than 40% as on 31.3.96. The details are as follows :-

	Number of RRBs with C.D. Ratio below 40% as on 31.3.96. (Provisional)
1. Arunachal Pradesh	1
2. Assam	2
3. Bihar	17
4. Gujarat	2
5. Haryana	1
6. Himachal Pradesh	2
7. Jammu & Kashmir	3
8. Madhya Pradesh	14
9. Maharashtra	2
10. Meghalaya	1
11. Mizoram	1
12. Nagaland	1
13. Punjab	1
14. Rajasthan	7
15. Uttar Pradesh	21
16. West Bengal	2
Total	78

(b) NABARD have reported that some of the important reasons for low C.D. ratio are :

(i) Low credit absorption capacity on account of reasons such as backwardness of area, low level of business/industrial activity and non-availability of infrastructural facilities; and

(ii) Rapid growth in deposits as compared to increase in loan disbursements.

The monitoring of credit performance of banks, including RRBs, is regularly done at fora such as State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) and District Consultative Committee (DCC) where reasons for low C.D. Ratio are discussed and necessary corrective measures are either taken or suggested. Further, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD have, time and again, impressed upon these banks through persuasive measures to improve their C.D. Ratio

Passport to Indian Citizens

6207. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state :

(a) the guidelines governing grant of Passport to Indian Citizens.

(b) whether the procedure for granting passport have been simplified;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the regional passport offices in the country alongwith the locations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The issue of passports to Indian citizens is governed under the Passport Act, 1967 and the Passport Rules, 1980, framed under Section-24 of this Act, as amended from time to time.

(b) and (c) A number of steps have been taken to simplify and streamline the procedures for expeditious issue of passports which, inter-alia, are :

(i) upgradation of office facilities including computerisation leading to faster screening and processing of applications;

(ii) simplification of passport and miscellaneous services forms;

(iii) issue of passports without any further wait for police clearance in cases where police reports are not received during the prescribed time-limit of four weeks;

(iv) a thorough scrutiny of applications at the acceptance stage itself to check their completeness/correctness in all respect;

(v) augmentation of staff strength to reduce and clear pendencies;

(vi) provision to issue passports in cases of emer-

gency/urgency on out of turn basis on the strength of Verification Certificate issued by an authorised official;

(vii) expansion of the list of officials authorised to sign Verification Certificate;

(viii) introduction of passports valid for 20 year; and

(ix) automatic reissue of passports on expiry without fresh police verification.

(d) A statement is attached.

Statement

Statement showing Passport Offices alongwith their Location

State	Location
1. Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Vishakhapatnam
2. Assam	Guwahati
3. Bihar	Patna
4. Goa	Panaji
5. Gujarat	Ahmedabad
6. Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
7. Karnataka	Bangalore
8. Kerala	Cochin Kozhikode Trivandrum
9. Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
10. Maharashtra	Mumbai Nagpur Thane
11. Orissa	Bhubaneshwar
12. Punjab	Jalandhar
13. Rajasthan	Jaipur
14. Tamil Nadu	Madras Trichy
15. Union Territory of Chandigarh, Punjab, Haryana & Himachal Pradesh	Chandigarh
16. Union Territory of Delhi, District of Gurgaon, Faridabad, Rohtak and Sonapat in Haryana	New Delhi
17. Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly Ghaziabad Lucknow
18. West Bengal	Calcutta

Gas for Power Generation

State;

6208. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has sent a proposal for allocation of gas for power generation in the

(c) the other States which have sent such requests; and

(d) the decision of the Government have taken on such requests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Requests have been received from the Government of Orissa for the extension of the Southern Gas Grid to Orissa.

(c) Requests for allocation of gas to power projects have been received from a number of States including Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh etc.

(d) Around 35 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to power projects in different States.

Shortage of Power in A.P.

6209 DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) steps taken by the National Thermal Power Corporation and the Centre to improve the electricity supply position in Andhra Pradesh during the last 10 months;

(b) whether the Union Government have stated that 1000 MW of Coal-based Simhadri project and 650 MW Naphtha combined cycle plant, both proposed by the NTPC would be realised during the current Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the extent to which these projects will help in improving the power shortage in the Andhra Pradesh State; and

(d) the power projects at present under construction and the time by which they are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During the last ten months (June 1996 to March, 1997), power supply

position in the state of Andhra Pradesh was as under :-

(In million Units) (MUs)

Requirement	Availability	Shortage
33735	26360	7283

The steps taken to improve the availability of power in the State of A.P. by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Central Government include :

1. an allocation of 150 MW power out of 15% unallocated central share from three stations of NTPC in the Eastern Region as under:-

(i) 50% of unallocated share from Talcher STES subject to a maximum of 75 MW;

(ii) 30% of unallocated share from Kahalgaon STPS, subject to a maximum of 45 MW;

(iii) 20% of unallocated share from Farakka STPS subject to a maximum of 30 MW.

2. an increase in allocation out of 15% unallocated power of all the central generating stations in the Southern Region, viz., Ramagundam STPS, NLC projects and MAPS from 30 to 35% with effect from 25.3.1997, in addition to the existing share of 580 MW of power in the generation of Ramagundam STPS with a capacity of 2100 MW of NTPC.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. NTPC has planned to commission these units during the 9th Plan period subject to timely tie up of inputs including funds.

(d) The details of other projects under construction in the State of Andhra Pradesh are as under :-

State/Sector/

Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning schedule
Kothagundam TPS Stage V Distt. Khammam (2 x 250)	500	Unit-9 3/97 Synchronised Unit-10 3/98
1. Godavari GTPS (M/s. Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.) GT Unit 1 47 MW GT Unit 2 47 MW GT Unit 3 47 MW GT Unit 67 MW	208	Unit-1 1/97 Synchronised. Unit-2 2/97 Synchronised. Unit-3 5/97 St. Turbine - 11/97
2. Jegurupadu CCGT by (GVK Industries, Hyderabad) GT 1 52.8 MW GT 2 52.8 MW GT 3 52.8 MW ST 77 MW	235.4	Unit-1 7/96 Synchronised. Unit-2 10/96 Synchronised Unit-3 12/96 Synchronised St. Turbine-6/97

[Translation]

Power Generation in Gujarat

6210. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of increase in the power generation capacity of each power station in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the power generation capacity of these power stations in the State; and

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During last three years, power generation capacity in Gujarat has been increased by adding new units during 1994-95 to 1996-97 by commissioning of new stations as per details given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the stations located in Gujarat & Implementing Agency	Unit No. of unit added	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning date (Month/Year)
I.	1994-95 : Gandhar CCGT-NTPC	GT-3	131	GT-3 5/94
		ST	255	ST 3/95
			386	
II.	1995-96 : Hazira CCGT- M/s. Essar Gujarat Pvt. Ltd.	GT-1,2&3	3 x 110	GT-1 8/95
			= 330	GT-2 8/95
				GT-3 11/95
III.	1996.97 :			
	Kutch Lignite TPS	U-III	75	31.3.1997 (Rolled)

(b) and (c) Details of stations located in Gujarat whose capacity addition programmes are currently under execution is given below :

Sl. No.	Project	Capacity (MW)	Commissioning Schedule Original/Revised
On-Going Projects:			
1.	Kadana PSS	60	1985-86/1997-98
2.	Sardar Sarovar (Multi State)	1450	1994-96/1998-2002
3.	Gandhi Nagar TPS Unit 5	210	1997-98/—
4.	Hazira CCGT	515	1997-98/—
5.	Paguthan CCGT	655	9th Plan/—

[English]

Employees Provident Fund

6211. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees in Cannanore and Kasargod districts of Kerala who are contributing to Employees Provident Fund;

(b) the number of employees who have received

pension from Employees Provident Fund pension scheme, so far, in these districts;

(c) whether provident fund office located at Calicut has been facing any difficulties in speedy disposal of pension applications; and

(d) If so, reasons therefor and the steps taken to clear the backlog ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There are 77,745 and 53,711 EPF

subscribers in Cannanore and Kasargod Districts of Kerala respectively.

(b) So far 535 EPF subscribers of Cannanore and 33 of Kasargode district have received pension under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

(c) and (d) The pension applications complete in all respects are processed and disposed of promptly. However, some times difficulties arise in speedy disposal when applications are in-complete or are not properly filled by the beneficiaries. In order to remove the difficulties of the subscribers explanatory meetings, seminars and workshops were organised in the area to educate the members to prepare the application forms correctly. Pension Adalats have also been conducted to correct the objections/anomalies in the pension applications on the spot.

Pending Reply

6212. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4416 dated September 4, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The complete details are still awaited from the State Government. The Government of J&K are being reminded regularly.

RBI Instructions Regarding Loan Interest

6213. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued directions not to take loan at the interest of high rate, the payment of which financial policies are likely to be affected; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regarding rate of interest of loans to be charged by banks. RBI have reported that scheduled commercial banks are free to determine their own lending rate on their advances with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are required to declare a prime lending rate (PLR) which will be the

minimum rate charged by the banks for credit limit of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are also required to announce the maximum spread over the PLR for all advances other than consumer credit. Reserve Bank of India have in February 1997 clarified to the banks that they are allowed to prescribe PLRs and spread over PLRs separately for loan component and cash credit component with approval of their respective boards.

[*Translation*]

Development of Cities

6214. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the cities developed in Rajasthan during the past five years;

(b) the schemes proposed to be undertaken for the development of various cities of the State this year and funds earmarked for the purpose;

(c) whether the Rajasthan Government have submitted some proposals in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision being taken in this regard;

(e) whether the World bank is providing any financial assistance in this regard; and

(f) if so, the project-wise quantum of assistance being provided in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Projects for integrated development of infrastructure in selected towns/cities having population upto 5 lakhs are supported under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT). During the past 5 years, 19 towns/cities in Rajasthan (mentioned in the attached statement) were covered under IDSMT and Central assistance amounting to Rs. 504.50 lakhs released to the State Government. Till December, 1996, the State Government have reported a total expenditure of Rs. 280.04 lakhs on implementing the approved projects in these towns. For 1997-98, funds have not been earmarked Statewise and the coverage of new projects under IDSMT during the current financial year will be considered after meeting the requirement for projects already covered under the Revised Scheme. During 1997-98, no project proposals under IDSMT have been received from Government of Rajasthan.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement*Towns/Cities in Rajasthan Covered Under the IDSMT Scheme During the Past Five Years*

S.No.	Name of Town	S.No.	Name of Town
1.	Nimbahera	2.	Rajsamand
3.	Jhunjhunu	4.	Ratangarh
5.	Deoli	6.	Vijai Nagar
7.	Chaksu	8.	Deogarh
9.	Fatehnagar	10.	Sardarshahar
11.	Bundi	12.	Deawar
13.	Nokha	14.	Pratap Garh
15.	Shahpura	16.	Kapasan
17.	Jaisalmer	18.	Udaipur
19.	Bikaner.		

*[English]***Setting up of Power Project at Udaipur**

6215. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has requested the Hindustan Copper Ltd. to set up a power plant at Udaipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Priority Allotment

6216. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA has made priority allotments to many persons in the past ;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the persons to whom priority allotments have been made, the precise ground of making such allotments and the areas in which the allotments have been made indicating the type of flats allotted to them between January, 1994 to March 31, 1997, year-wise;

(c) by whom these allotments were made;

(d) the number of requests rejected in the same period including the reasons for rejecting those applications; and

(e) the manner in which the rejected applications were different from those accepted for allotment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that priority allotment Out-of-turn (O.T.) Allotment are made according to the policy guidelines of Govt. of India.

(b) Lists containing the names and the grounds for Out of Turn Allotment made under the category of MIG/LIG/Janta and SFS will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Year-wise details are as under :-

Year of allotment	No. of allotments made
1994	54
1995	19
1996	01
1997 (upto 31.3.97)	183
Total	257

(c) These allotments have been made by the Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of Urban Affairs & Employment.

(d) About 1,000 requests for out of turn allotment were rejected during the period as the same are either not approved by the Empowered Committee or were not covered as per the guidelines for O.T. Allotment.

(e) There is a provision for making O.T. Allotment to handicapped persons, war-widows and other persons on compassionate grounds. Guidelines also provide for O.T. Allotment of flats as a measure of reward to eminent sports persons, artists, scientists, scholars of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic etc. Based on these guidelines, cases for O.T. Allotment are approved by the Empowered Committee and the rest rejected.

Expert Group Report on RRB

6217. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any expert group was set up on the Regional Rural Banks to examine various aspects of regional rural banks; and

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the expert group and also those which has been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) An Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. N.K. Thingalaya, Chairman & Managing Director, Syndicate Bank has been constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to advise them, on an ongoing basis, on policy issues covering managerial and financial restructuring issues of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).

(b) The Group has been making recommendations to RBI from time to time. Some of the recommendations made by the Group covering areas like relaxation in broad investments opportunities available to RRBs, relaxation in branch licensing policy frame work, as also operational issues such as consortium lendings, relaxation in housing loans, fixation of interest rates to cover costs and application of asset classification, income recognition and provisioning norms have since been accepted by RBI for implementation.

INSAT-2A

6218. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Inter-Institute Communication network working through INSAT-2B has been snapped and the task has been transferred to INSAT-2A Satellite;

(b) if so, whether the research institute and Scientific Communication will not face serious problem jeopardizing our research;

(c) whether INSAT-2C will go only to Multinational Companies and Private Sectors;

(d) whether the Government would allow Inter-Institute Communications through INSAT-2C in the national interest; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The Education and Research Network (ERNET) link which was working through INSAT-2B was transferred to INSAT-2A for operational reasons as the particular transponder handling this link failed.

(b) There is no impact on the network itself except for a short term outage due to transfer operations.

(c) INSAT-2C is being used by Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, and National Informatics Centre. DOT has licensed private Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) service providers to operate through two transponders in Extended C-band.

(d) and (e) INSAT System has four satellites in operation and individual networks are assigned particular satellites depending on technical requirements, operational plans and technical compatibility between networks sharing a satellite. The technical characteristics of INSAT-2C and INSAT-2A communication transponders are the same. It does not therefore make any difference whether ERNET operates through INSAT-2C or INSAT-2A.

Employment on Compassionate Grounds

6219. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evolved any

criteria for providing employment to the dependents of those who expired while in central Government service, within a specified time period;

(b) the number of such cases where job is not provided within one year during the last three years and also the total number of cases where employment is not provided even after three years; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to avoid such delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Under the existing scheme, appointment on compassionate grounds of a dependent of a Govt. servant who dies in harness depends, among other things, on the availability of a vacancy for that purpose. This stand of the Govt. has been supported by the Supreme Court rulings in the case of Himachal Road Transport Corporation V. Shri Dinesh Kumar dt. 7.5.96 (JT 1996 (5) SC 319) and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Vs. Smt. A. Radhika Thirumalai dt. 9.10.96 (JT 1996 (9) SC 197). Hence, no time-limit has been specified for making appointment on compassionate grounds.

(b) and (c) The power to make compassionate appointment has been de-centralised and vests in respective Ministry/Department/Attached/Subordinate Office. As such, information in this regard is not centrally maintained.

Oil Exploration

6220. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exploration of oil and natural gas is done by Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) whether survey work in Bihar is being undertaken by a Geological Survey Party P.G.I. since 1986;

(c) whether the Rig Drilling Machine for the said work in Western Champaran in Bihar has been shifted to Sivsagar (Assam) due to which survey work has stopped;

(d) whether the Government to make Rig Drilling Machine available to Bihar;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both ONGC and OIL have carried out surveys in Bihar. OIL has undertaken a Remote Sensing Study and a High Resolution Aeromagnetic Study in Western Bihar with the assistance of Geological Survey of India.

(c) ONGC's drilling rig has been shifted out of Bihar

as all the six wells drilled by ONGC in Bihar have turned out to be dry.

(d) to (f) A rig may be brought in for taking up drilling operations as and when a drillable prospect is identified.

Civic Election

6221. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the constitutional amendment, civic elections be held in each State of country;

(b) if so, whether the civic elections have been held in the urban area of Shillong in Meghalaya after the constitutional amendment came into force ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) when the civic election were last held in Shillong;

(e) whether it is proposed to be hold the elections in the coming months; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) As per Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992, elections to Urban Local Bodies are required to be held every five years, unless the Municipality is sooner dissolved under any Law for the time being in force. A statement indicating the election position of Urban Local Bodies in the country is attached.

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

Statement

Election to Urban Local Bodies

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Position about elections to ULBs.
1	2	3
STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	- Elections completed in all Municipal Bodies excepts 14 Municipalities and 2 Rajamundry Corporations. Elections to these local bodies likely to be held by the end of May, 1997.
2.	Arunachal Pd.	- No Municipality exists.
3.	Assam	- State Govt. has decided to held election to 62 No. of Municipal Board & Town Committee in May, 1997. Election will not take place in respect of Goalpara Municipal Board and Bihpuria Town Committee as their term has not expired. Election to one ULB i.e. Tejpur Municipal Board have been held in September, 1996.
4.	Bihar	- Provisions as per Constitution Amendments Act for reservation for seats were made in the State Municipal laws and Panchyati Raj Laws. The Patna High Court, however, has quashed the provisions for reservation for seats in relation to Panchyati Raj Institution. The State Govt. has filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court. The Advocate-General for the State has advised to wait for the decision of the Supreme Court on the above SLP. The State Govt. will conduct the elections immediately after the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter.
5.	Goa	- Elections held.
6.	Gujarat	- Elections held.
7.	Haryana	- Elections held.
8.	Himachal Pd.	- Elections held in all Municipalities except Shimla Municipal Corporation where elections are scheduled for June, 97.
9.	Karnataka	- Elections held.
10.	Kerala	- Elections held.

1	2	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	- Elections held in all Municipalities except 1 Municipal Corporation, 9 Municipalities and 22 Nagar Panchayatas where elections will be held after the completion of delimitation of wards.
12.	Maharashtra	- Elections 9 Municipal Corporation and 203 Municipal Council have been held in Feb., 1997
13.	Manipur	- Elections held.
14.	Orissa	- The State Govt. have taken steps for holding elections to the dissolved Municipalities. Delimitation of wards and reservation of seats in Municipalities completed in June, 1996. A finalisation of reservation of seats of Offices of chairperson is in process due to amended effected to the Orissa Municipality Act, 1950 by an Ordinance recently. The date of poll will be announced by the State Election Comm. after process is completed.
15.	Punjab	- Elections held.
16.	Rajasthan	- Elections held.
17.	Sikkim	- As of date Sikkim has no municipality. The Sikkim Municipality Act, 1995 has been promulgated and election is likely to be held in October, 1997.
18.	Tamil Nadu	- Elections held.
19.	Tripura	- Elections held.
20.	Uttar Pradesh	- Elections held.
21.	West Bengal	- Elections held.
22.	Jammu & Kashmir	- Act is not applicable.
23.	Meghalaya	- Information awaited from the State.
24.	Mizoram	- No urban local body exists.
25.	Nagaland	- No urban local body exists.
UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	Delhi	- Elections to Municipal Corporation of Delhi held.
2.	Chandigarh	- Elections held.
3.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	- Elections held.
4.	Daman & Diu	
	i. Daman	- Elections already held.
	ii. Diu	- Election is due on 16.7.97.
5.	Pondicherry	- Elections scheduled for Oct., 1996, could not held due to Court cases. Further information awaited.
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	- There is no Urban Local Body, entire area is rural.
7.	Lakshadweep	-

Training of Foreign Medical Graduates

6222. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S. Government has banned the expenses incurred on training of foreign medical graduates there;

(b) if so, the number of Indian medical graduates affected by this ban;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the Indian medical graduates in this matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) There are no Government-to-Government funding arrangements for the training of Indian medical students in the United States. It is learnt that the US Government may be cutting back its funding to its own medical institutions. No specific representations from Indian medical graduates in the US have been received by Government regarding any impact on them.

(d) Does not arise.

Transparency International

6223 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the FINANCE Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "It lists India 9th corrupt nation" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated January 7, 1997;

(b) if so, the genesis of the findings of the Transparency International (TI) as reported in the above news-items;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the effective measures have been or being taken to countenance this alarming situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The news-item published in the Hindustan Times dated January 7, 1997 refers to a report printed in the Wall Street Journal (USA) originating from a Berlin based institution called "Transparency International (TI)" with chapters in more than 60 countries. The news-item states that TI puts out yearly corruption rankings for nations. The rankings are based on the level of corruption perceived by employees of multinational firms and institutions.

All cases related with corruption are dealt with as per established law of the land.

Central Assistance

6224 SHRI DHARMA BHIKSHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh sought any assistance from the Union Government to improve drinking water and sewerage problem in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details therefor; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir. However, under the Centrally sponsored scheme for infrastructure development in Mega cities, the Hyderabad Urban Development Authority, nodal agency for the scheme,

has got water supply and sewerage schemes amounting to Rs. 100 crores approved by the State Level Project Sanctioning Committee. Upto 1996-97, a sum of Rs. 53.49 crores has been released to Hyderabad Urban Development Authority (HUDA) under the Mega City Scheme.

(b) and (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government in December, 1996 for obtaining external assistance from the World Bank for the proposed II Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 1488.40 crores. The project includes treatment and transmission of water from Krishna river, rehabilitation and strengthening of the existing water supply distribution and sewerage systems, low cost sanitation, etc. The proposal has been recommended by the Union Government to the World Bank in January, 1997. The World Bank has since advised the State Government to respond to various issues concerning preparation of the project.

Right of Shareholders for inclusion as Director in Companies

6225 SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to provide the rights to shareholders in appointing Directors in companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some representations have been received by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Companies Act, 1956 already provides for appointment of Directors with the approval of the shareholders in the General Meeting. Further, Section 257 of the Act stipulates that a person who is not a Director retiring by rotation, shall be eligible for appointment to the office of the Director at a General meeting, if he or some Member intending to propose his name gives notice to that effect not less than fourteen days before the meeting.

(c) to (e) The Working Group set up by the Government to re-write the Companies Act, 1956 has suggested (Vide Section 215) in its Working Draft of the Companies Bill, 1997, submitted to Government recently that any person offering himself for the position of Director while giving notice to this effect shall also deposit Rs. 50,000 which shall be forfeited if he fails to get even one per cent of the votes of the shareholders present and voting at the meeting. The Working Draft of the Companies Bill, 1997 has already been released for public debate. Comments and representations received in the Working Draft will be considered by the Government before finalising the Government Bill to be submitted to the Parliament.

Motor Insurance

6226. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the motor insurance third party premium is being drastically increased; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Motor tariff has two components covering the risks of 'Own Damage' (OD) and 'Third Party Liability' (TPL). Motor tariff was last revised in 1990. Since then the insurance industry has been sustaining enormous losses in the third party component of the motor portfolio. In 1995-96 the net underwriting loss was Rs. 1423 Crores. In 1996-97 the estimated loss is Rs. 1667 Crores. In order to save the insurance industry from the heavy losses being incurred by it, the Tariff Advisory Committee (TAC), after obtaining

recommendations of a reputed research organisation viz. Operational Research Group (ORG), Ahmedabad, recommended revision in the motor tariff rates as indicated in the attached statement. The Standing Committee on Finance, 1996-97, Lok Sabha, observed that "because of increased liability for payment of compensation on motor insurance in the light of higher incidence of accidents and the court awarding higher amount, immediately there is a case for revision of premium to cover the risk. This should be done regularly." No revision has been suggested in the OD rates. There has been a steep increase in the third party premium rates in respect of commercial vehicles. For them, the TAC has recommended implementation of the increase in three steps starting w.e.f. 1.4.1997 and for the rest in two steps. However, in deference to the wishes of the Government, the TAC decided keeping the rates in abeyance until they afford one more opportunity for transporters' associations to present their case in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras separately. After hearing the transporters' associations once again, the TAC will announce the revised tariff structure for the motor portfolio.

Statement**Revised Motor TP Premium**

*Public Carrier, Private Carrier, (Class A)
And Passenger Carrying (Class C) Vehicles*

Vehicle Type	Existing TP Premium	Revised TP Premium as on 1.4.97 (Rs.)	Revised TP Premium as on 1.4.98 (Rs.)	Revised TP Premium From 1.4.99 Onwards (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
Goods Carrying Vehicle				
(Public Carrier)				
GVW upto 2000 Kg.	805	2127	4772	6094
GVW above 2000 Kg.	1245	3290	7380	9425
Three-Wheeled Motorized				
Rickshaw/Pedal Cycle				
Rickshaw				
(For Carriage of Goods Only)				
GVW not exceeding 1200 Kg.		25% of the rate applicable to Goods Carrying Vehicles (Public Carrier) with GVW upto 2000 Kg.		
Goods Carrying				
Vehicles (Private Carrier)				
GVW upto 2000 Kg.	644	1930	4503	5790
GVW above 2000 Kg.	996	2986	6965	8954

1	2	3	4	5
Three-Wheeled Motorised Rickshaw/Pedal Cycle Rickshaw (For Carriage of Own Goods Only)				
GVW not exceeding 1200 Kg.	25% of the rate applicable to Goods Carrying Vehicles (Private Carrier) with GVW upto 2000 Kg.			
Motorised Rickshaws (Three Wheelers With Passenger Capacity Not Exceeding 6)				
Not exceeding 50 cc				
T.P. Premium Rate	30	67	140	176
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Not exceeding 75 cc				
T.P. premium Rate	30	67	140	176
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Not exceeding 350 cc				
T.P. Premium Rate	40	89	186	233
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Not exceeding 750 cc				
T.P. Premium Rate	60	133	280	353
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Exceeding 750 cc				
T.P. Premium Rate	60	133	280	353
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Three Wheeler Vehicles With Carrying Capacity Between 7 and 18 Passengers				
T.P. Premium Rate	300	666	1398	1764
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	100	222	466	588
Other Vehicles With Carrying Capacity Exceeding 6 Passengers				
T.P. Premium Rate	650	1443	3029	3822
Passenger Liability Premium per Passenger	110	244	513	647

Urban Land Ceiling Act

6227. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to review the Urban Land Ceiling Acts and land use regulations;
- (b) if so, the time Limit fixed for the review; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Government of India constituted an Inter Governmental Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (UD) in December, 1996 to examine the various issues relating to the Act and make recommendations for amending the Act.

(b) and (c) The Inter-Governmental Committee has submitted its report suggesting amendments to various provisions of the Act. On the basis of the suggestions made by the Committee, proposals for amendments to the Urban land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 are being examined by the Government. No definite time frame for review can be given at this stage.

[*Translation*]

Oil Refineries

6228. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some places in Gujarat particularly in the tribal and rural areas have been identified or propose to be identified to set up refineries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the installed capacity of each refinery;
- (d) the steps taken to set up these refineries; and
- (e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Government have issued Letters of Intent (LOI) to the following three private companies for setting up refineries in Gujarat :

- (i) M/s Reliance Petroleum Ltd. for a 15 MMTPA Refinery at Jamnagar;
- (ii) M/s Essar Oil Ltd. for a 9 MMTPA Refinery at Vadinar; and
- (iii) M/s International Petroleum for a 5 MMTPA EOU Refinery on the West Coast of Gujarat.

(d) and (e) As per the LOIs, the refineries by M/s Reliance Petroleum Ltd. and M/s Essar Oil Ltd. are to be set up by June 1998 and January 1998, respectively. The refinery of M/s International Petroleum was to have been

set up by August 1995 as per the LOI, but the company has sought for extension of time.

[*English*]

Encroachment

6229 SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "L.G. directs DCs to list encroachment" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 26, 1997;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether 60 feet wide MCD Road near Siksha Bharti School, village Palam, Delhi has been partly encroached by land grabbers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to remove the encroachments;
- (f) whether the entire colonies in South-West Delhi have been found to exist on Government land; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Improvement of Slum Areas

6230. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any financial assistance has been provided by the Union Government for the development of slum areas in Guwahati;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any proposal has been submitted by the Government of Assam for construction of drains; and
- (d) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) A proposal was received from the Government of Assam regarding more Central Assistance for the upliftment of slum dwellers which was examined in this Ministry. It was decided that the recently launched "National Slum Development Programme" will cover all aspects of infrastructure development of slums as indicated in the proposal. Accordingly the State Government of Assam was advised to use the Central Assistance provided under this programme for

the development of slum areas in Guwahati also. The Planning Commission has allocated an amount of Rs. 2.22 crores to the Government of Assam for Slum Development Scheme in the State during 1996-97 as an additionality to the normal Central Assistance.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A project proposal on Guwahati Metropolitan Area Storm Drainage Improvement Programme with an estimated cost of Rs. 153.00 crores has been received from the Government of Assam in February, 1997 seeking Financial assistance from Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan during 1997-98. The project proposal is under scrutiny for posing it to the OECF under loan package 1997-98.

Employment Schemes

6231. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of ongoing employment schemes in the urban areas of Karnataka;

(b) the total number of mandays created in the urban areas of the State, District-wise upto March, 31, 1997; and

(c) the total amount provided to the State Government during the last three years in this regard and upto March 31, 1997 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) This Ministry is implementing two Centrally sponsored Urban Poverty Alleviation Programmes namely Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) both of which have an employment generation component.

NRY is being implemented throughout the country, including Karnataka, since October, 1989 with the objective of providing self employment and wage employment opportunities to the urban poor living below the poverty line.

PMIUPEP launched in November, 1995 has self employment through setting up of micro enterprises, as one of its many components.

(b) NRY: The number of mandays of work generated under the scheme of Urban Wage Employment in Karnataka upto 31.3.97 is 35.78 lakhs. This Department monitors implementation of the Yojana at State Level.

PMIUPEP: Mandays are not created under this scheme as there is no wage employment component.

(c) NRY- The total Central funds released under SUWE to Karnataka during the last three years are as

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	164.40
1995-96	82.63
1996-97	89.02

PMIUPEP- Central share released to Karnataka is as under:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1995-96	634.59
1996-97	643.12260

[Translation]

Allotment of Govt. Flats

6232. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of not making allotment of Government Houses by the Directorate of Estates which are vacant for more than three months in various colonies in Delhi have come to light;

(b) if so, the total number of such houses which are vacant for more than last three months alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there are also some such houses among them which are lying vacant for more than one year and which have not been allotted by the Directorate of Estates;

(d) if so, the reasons for not allotting the said houses and the name of the department responsible for it;

(e) whether some quarters in Government colonies in Delhi have been declared damaged;

(f) if so, the total number of such quarters;

(g) whether the said damaged quarters are not being used for accommodation purposes; and

(h) if so, the name of the officer who has allotted the damaged houses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Vacancy/allotment of accommodation is a continuous process. As and when a Vacancy is reported, the same is allotted at the earliest. However, sometimes due to repairs, refusal to accept the accommodation offered, technical acceptance of the offer of allotment etc. a particular flat is not physically occupied for quite some time and it gives an impression that the allotments are not being made. However, all efforts are being made by the Directorate of Estate to allot vacant quarters in General Pool without any loss of time.

(e) to (h) Government quarters under the administrative control of the Directorate of Estate are maintained by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), who ensure at the time of sending vacation reports to the Directorate of Estates that the vacant quarters are fit for occupation. In case any quarter needs extensive repairs it is declared unfit and if occupied, the allottee is offered alternative accommodation. This is a continuous phenomenon and all out efforts are made to make such quarters fit for occupation.

[English]

Unauthorised Constructions

6233. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to the USQ No. 2749 dated December 11, 1996 regarding unauthorised constructions and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Demolitions in Chandigarh

6234. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the demolition was carried out by the officials of the UT of Chandigarh in Shastri Nagar Colony, Mani Majra-Raja in June, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of houses demolished and the amount involved in demolitions;

(c) the provision under which it was carried out and whether the persons affected were given an opportunity of hearing before that; and

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

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

(b) In all 69 rooms 13 cattle sheds and one shop were demolished. The value of the demolition involved was not assessed.

(c) and (d) The demolition was carried out under the Punjab New Capital (Periphery) Control Act, 1952. Before carrying out the demolition, due opportunity was given to the affected persons. Besides, a public notice was also issued.

Allotment of Shops

6235. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of each shop lying vacant for SCs/STs in CSC Block A&B and others at shopping centres of Paschimpuri Janata Flats Pocket I, II, III and 356 SFS, Paschim Vihar Block BG-I to VII etc. including predetermined fixed price of each shop as on March 31, 1997;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot these shops lying vacant for the SCs/STs on hire purchase basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the procedure to be followed in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the predetermined fixed price of these shops is higher in comparison to the market value of such type of shops; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) As per the report furnished by DDA, the details of shops yet to be allotted to the SCs/STs in these areas are as under:-

Place	Total no. of shops	No. of vacant shops to be allotted to SCs/Sts
A	11	2 (5 and 10)
Janta Houses		
Block-B	31	6 (7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17)
(Pkt., BG-6)		
356 SFS at	24	NIL
Madipur		
(Paschim Vihar)		
Pkt. BG-3/BG-5	15	NIL
Paschim Vihar		

The pre-determined fixed price of each shop is fixed at the time of allotment. The units are proposed to be allotted during the current financial year and the costing of these shops is to be done at that time.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The application will be invited from SCs/STs in the Month of Sept./Oct., 1997 and allotment will be made by computerised draw to eligible applicants.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

Eulogisation of Militancy

6236. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 1,100 hardcore Jamaite-Islami activists have been absorbed as teachers by the Jammu and Kashmir Government during the past seven years of militancy in the State;

(b) whether these teachers have been instrumental in eulogising militancy and "imprinting" wrong impression on the young minds; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the Government being helpless in the matter ?

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

Restructure of Banking System

6237. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study report titled "Challenges in banking 2000 A.D." made by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) has been received by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to restructure the banking system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) had jointly with the Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indian Merchants' Chamber, held a seminar on "Challenges in Banking 2000" on 23rd April, 1997 at Mumbai. While a copy of the background paper has been obtained, no study report has been received by the Government.

(b) The background paper contains some suggestions relating to different aspects of banking. Effecting improvements in the banking industry is a continuous process in which suggestions received from different sources are kept in view in the light of all relevant factors.

Power Tariff

6238. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any wide variation in tariff rates for different sectors of power consumers in different States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether different State Electricity Boards are increasing and fixing power tariffs arbitrarily without reference to any norms of guidelines and thus causing wide disparities;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Delhi Vidyut Board has increased enormously the power tariff;

(f) if so, the extent to which;

(g) whether the Government proposed to impose some discipline to regulate the increases and gifting away of power to different sectors by Electricity Boards/Under-takings; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The average rates of tariff of electricity sold by different electricity Boards for domestic, agricultural and industrial purpose are given in the attached statement-I.

(c) and (d) The different State Electricity Boards are fixing the retail tariff for sale of electricity to Consumers under the provision of section 59 of Electricity (Supply), Act 1948 after taking into account subventions from the State Governments as per Section 63 of the said Act. The objective of the tariff revision, inter-alia, is to achieve 3% Rate of Return (ROR), after meeting all operating expenses, payment of interest on loan and depreciation provision.

(e) Delhi Vidyut Board has revised the tariff in different categories of consumers effective from the billing cycle of April, 1997.

(f) The details of actual revision in different categories as compared to the pre-revised tariff is given in the attached statement-II.

(g) and (h) The Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power (CMNAPP) finalised in the Chief Ministers' Conference on Power held on 18th October, 1996 & 3rd December, 1996, inter-alia, recommends for establishment of State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERC) in each State/UT for determination of tariffs; no sector paying less than 50% of the average cost of supply agriculture tariff not being less than 50 paise per kwh to be brought to 50% of the average cost in not more than 3 years; recommendations of SERCs being mandatory and for any deviation from tariff recommended by it, the State Gov-

ement/UTs to provide for the financial implication of such deviation in the State/UT budget and a package of incentive and disincentive to encourage and facilitate the implementation of tariff rationalisation by the States.

Statement-I

*Statement showing estimated Average Rates of Electricity
(Average Rates in P/Kwh) as on 11.2.1997)*

S.No.	Name of Utility	Tariff effective from	Domestic upto (100 Kwh/Month	Domestic above 100 Kwh/Month	Agri-culture	Small Ind.	Med-ium Ind.	Large Ind.
1.	Andhra	1.8.96	136.00	248.50	20.05	293.43	318.54	340.90
2.	Assam	8.9.94	105.00	230.00	150.00	178.60	227.10	214.10
3.	Bihar	1.7.93	137.00 U 44.00 R	148.75	29.00	81.60 155.09	138.54	209.99
4.	Gujarat	22.10.96	186.25 U 170.69 R	307.72 277.27	61.22	239.69	268.26	356.21
5.	Haryana	1.7.96	224.00	246.00	50.00	329.00	329.00	329.00
6.	Him. Pradesh	1.11.95	61.00	71.00	65.00	105.00	145.00	165.00
7.	Karnataka	1.7.96	185.00	203.75	7.65	206.02	221.48	370.37
8.	Kerala	1.10.94	77.00	148.50	14.21	119.04	115.65	116.57
9.	J&K	1.4.88	54.90	64.90	12.20	48.80	48.80	48.80
10.	M. Pradesh	1.7.96	90.00	163.95	45.91	125.00	292.51	342.77
11.	Maharashtra	1.7.96	122.50	249.00	38.26	208.30	407.12	373.61
12.	Meghalaya	1.9.96	85.00	103.75	56.00	149.49	168.43	156.07
13.	Orissa	21.5.96	98.75	155.94	70.00	85.00	150.00	306.58
14.	Punjab	11.7.96	135.25	168.06	52.75	195.00	210.00	233.00
15.	Rajasthan	1.10.96	132.56	158.88	41.46	214.00	254.00	275.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	1.2.95	90.00	152.50	0.00	206.30		
	Madras							
	Metro Area						292.07	288.53
	Non Metro						281.57	278.03
17.	Uttar Pradesh	3.1.97	145.00 U 38.50 R	186.25	47.29	295.11		
	Non Continuous Ind.						304.90	331.53
	Continuous Ind.						322.49	357.73
18.	West Bengal	7.1.95	104.43	267.10	87.00	235.93	291.06	274.40

U—Urban

R—Rural

Statement-II

Statement showing pre-revised and revised rates of electricity of Delhi Vidyut Board

Pre-Revised Rates w.e.f. Oct, 1993		Revised Rates w.e.f. the billing cycle of April 1997	
Units/month	P/KWH	Units/Month	P/KWH
1	2	3	4
(1) Domestic			
(i) 0-100	- 60	(i) 0-100	- 100
(ii) 101-200	- 100	(ii) 101-200	- 175
(iii) 201-300	- 180	(iii) 201-400	- 250
(iv) above 300	- 240	(iv) above 400	- 300

1	2	3	4
(2) Non-Domestic			
All Consumption (Minimum charge 200 Units/KW/Month)	- 240	(i) For Single phase consumer (ii) For 3 Phase Consumer (iii) Firm houses and other consumers	- 300 - 400 - 500
(3) Small Industrial Power Upto 100 KW			
(i) Load upto 15 KW/ 20 HP	200	(i) Upto 100 KW	- 300
(ii) Load beyond 15 KW/ 20 HP	- 220	(ii) For other existing consumers without licence	- 400
(4) Large Industrial Power above 100 KW			
(i) Supply on 11 KW Demand charge-Rs. 120/KVA (DC) Month Energy charge- 240 P/KWH (EC) Minimum charge-Rs. 120/KVA/ (MC) Month		(i) Supply on 11 KV— DC-Rs. 150/KVA/Month EC-300 P/KWH MC-Rs. 150/KVA (ii) Supply on 400 V— DC - Rs. 200/KVA/M EC - 400 P/KWH MC - Rs. 200/KVA/M	
(5) Agricultural Tariff			
All Consumption - 50 P/KWH		All Consumption - 50 P/KWH	

Credit Rating Agencies

6239. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking to restore the confidence of investors in the direction of Credit rating agencies;

(b) whether Government are considering to set up an independent rating agency; and

(c) whether any uniform guidelines for various credit rating agencies and independent Credit Rating Agency has been prepared or are likely to be prepared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The

credit rating agencies in India provide, inter-alia, ratings of debt obligations of companies to the investors in order to enable them to make informed investment decisions. Thus, these agencies help in maintaining investor confidence in the securities market.

(b) There is no such proposal at present before the Government.

(c) In terms of the Securities Laws (Amendment) Act, 1995, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is empowered to regulate the functioning of credit rating agencies. SEBI has informed that it is in the process of preparing Rules and Regulations for credit rating agencies which, as and when notified, would be applicable of a uniform basis to all such agencies.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

*[English]***Financial Estimates and Performance Budget for 1997-98 of ESI Corporations**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table—

A copy of the Financial Estimates and Performance Budget for the year 1997-98 (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees, State Insurance Corporation under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2008/97]

Notifications Under, Banking Companies (Acquisitions Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980 :-

(i) The Bank of India (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1995, published in Notification No. P-IR-SAH-706 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd November, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2009/97]

(ii) Notification No. P-IR-SAH-740 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd November, 1996 containing corrigendum to notification No. P-IR-SAH-191 dated the 22nd July, 1995.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2010/97]

(iii) The Corporation Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996, published in Notification No. PAD-IR-3664-96, CBOSR in Gazette of India dated the 7th September, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2011/97]

(iv) The Dena Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. IR/Amend. 3/96 in Gazette of India dated the 30th November, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2012/97]

(v) The Punjab and Sind Bank (Officers) Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1997 published in Notification No. PSB/STAFF/OSR/1997 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1997.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2013/97]

(vi) The Allahabad Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations 1996 published in Notification No. HO/Legal/0938 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1997.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2014/97]

(vii) The Bank of Baroda (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1997 published in Notification No. HO OSR & IR-A 06-09-2828 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February 1997.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2015/97]

(viii) The Vijaya Bank Officer Employees (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 1997 published in Notification No. 542 in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 1997

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2016/97]

(ix) The Bank of India Officer Employees (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. II. 96-97 in the Gazette of India dated the 23rd November, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2017/97]

(x) The UCO Bank (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 1996 published in Notification No. OSR/1/96 in the Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1997.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2018/97]

(2) A copy of the Industrial Development Bank of India (Employees Provident Fund) Amendment Regulations, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 1997 under sub-section (4) of section 37 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2019/97]

Statements showing action taken by Government on the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministries during various sessions of 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th Lok Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

A copy each of the following statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by the Government on the assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Lok Sabha.

Eighth Lok Sabha

- (i) Statement No. XXXI Seventh Session, 1986
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2020/97]

Ninth Lok Sabha

- (ii) Statement No. XXII First Session, 1989,
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2021/97]
- (iii) Statement No. XII Second Session, 1990.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2022/97]
- (iv) Statement No. XXXVI Third Session, 1990.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2023/97]
- (v) Statement No. XXX Seventh Session, 1991
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2024/97]

Tenth Lok Sabha

- (vi) Statement No. XXXIII Third Session, 1992.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2025/97]
- (vii) Statement No. XXX Fourth Session, 1992.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2026/97]
- (viii) Statement No. XXVII Sixth Session, 1993.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2027/97]
- (ix) Statement No. XXIII Seventh Session, 1993.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2028/97]
- (x) Statement No. XXII Eighth Session, 1993.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2029/97]
- (xi) Statement No. XX Ninth Session, 1994.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2030/97]
- (xii) Statement No. XV Eleventh Session, 1994.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2031/97]
- (xiii) Statement No. XIII Twelfth Session, 1994.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2032/97]
- (xiv) Statement No. XI Thirteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2033/97]
- (xv) Statement No. VIII Fourteenth Session, 1995
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2034/97]
- (xvi) Statement No. VI Fifteenth Session, 1995.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2035/97]
- (xvii) Statement No. V Sixteenth Session, 1996
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2036/97]

Eleventh Lok Sabha

- (xviii) Statement No. III Second Session, 1996.
(Vol. I & II)
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2037/97]
- (xix) Statement No. II Third Session, 1996
(Vol. I & II)
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2038/97]
- (xx) Statement No. I Fourth Session, 1997.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2039/97]

Review by the Government of the working of the Oil India Ltd. Dibrugarh for the year 1995-96

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
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 Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Oil India Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2040/97]

- (3) A copy of the Petroleum and Minerals pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 174 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977, under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2041/97]

- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):—

(i) Memorandum of understanding between Lubrizol India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2042/97]

(ii) Memorandum of understanding between Oil India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2043/97]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2044/97]

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2045/97]

Notifications Under Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—
- (i) G.S.R. 184(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods specified in the notification from so much of the duty of customs leviable thereon as in excess of the amount at the rate of 10 percent *ad-valorem* and from the whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 185 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain goods mentioned in the notification from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 186(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials imported into India against an Advance Licence with Actual User Condition from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 187 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials imported into India against and Advance Licence issued on or after the 1st April, 1997 from the whole of the duty of customs leviable thereon.
 - (v) G.S.R. 188 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain goods imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
 - (vi) G.S.R. 197 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain specified goods imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
 - (vii) G.S.R. 216(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials required for the manufacture of final goods when imported into India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of Customs leviable thereon.
 - (viii) S.O. 148 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1997 together with explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into India currency or *vice-versa*.
 - (ix) S.O. 149 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa*.
 - (x) G.S.R. 150(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 11/97-Cus, dated the 1st March, 1997.
 - (xi) G.S.R. 212(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 11/97-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1997.
 - (xii) S.O. 239(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa*.
 - (xiii) S.O. 240(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice-versa*.
 - (xiv) G.S.R. 81 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 140/91-Cus, dated the 22nd October, 1991.
 - (xv) G.S.R. 192(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in certain Notifications so as to incorporate the new provisions of the Exim Policy.
 - (xvi) G.S.R. 237(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt articles imported either under quantity based advance licence from whole of the anti-dumping duty leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:—

- (i) S.O. No. 328 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Ramakrishna. Mission, West Bengal" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 subject to certain conditions.
- (ii) S.O. No. 329 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Divine Light Trust for the Blind, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax, Act 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-1999 subject to certain conditions.
- (iii) S.O. No. 330 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1994-95 to 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) S.O. No. 332 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Shree Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal, Amravati" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (v) S.O. No. 333 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The National Association for the Blind, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (vi) S.O. No. 334 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (vii) S.O. No. 335 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (viii) S.O. No. 336 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Tamilnadu Ex-services Person-
nel Benevolent Fund, Madras" under section 10(23C) of the Income tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) S.O. No. 337 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, West Bengal" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (x) S.O. No. 338 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Indian National Theatre, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xi) S.O. No. 339 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Mahila Samakhya, Ahmedabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xii) S.O. No. 340 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Shri Sadguru Seva Sangh Trust, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xiii) S.O. No. 341 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Harijan Sevak Sangh, Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1994-95 to 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xiv) S.O. No. 342 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Sree Siddaganga Math, Tumkur" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xv) S.O. No. 343 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Industry for Heritage-preserving the past for the Future Bhopal" under section 10 (23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xvi) S.O. No. 344 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding

- exemption to "Calcutta Pinjrapole Society, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.
- (xvii) S.O. No. 345 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Calcutta Pinjrapole Society, Calcutta" under section 10 (23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1990-91 subject to certain conditions.
- (xviii) S.O. No. 346 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The J.R.D. Tata Trust, Bombay, under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xix) S.O. No. 347 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to Acharyakul, Wardha" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xx) S.O. No. 348 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The Annie Besant Trust, Madras" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxi) S.O. No. 349 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Institute of Marketing and Management, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxii) S.O. No. 350 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Railway Minister's Welfare & Relief Fund, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiii) S.O. No. 351 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Jnana Prabodhini (JP), Pune" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1994-95 to 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiv) S.O. No. 352 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Yusuf Meherally Centre, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxv) S.O. No. 353 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra, Madras" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvi) S.O. No. 354 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency", Bangalore under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvii) S.O. No. 355 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxviii) S.O. No. 356 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Swami Ramananda Tirtha Memorial Committee, Hyderabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxix) S.O. No. 357 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Sanstha, Ahmedabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxx) S.O. No. 358 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The Muslim Educational Society (Regd.), Calicut" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxi) S.O. No. 359 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Bharat Bhavan Trust, Bhopal" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act,

- 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxii) S.O. No. 360 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Seva Sangh Samiti, Howrah" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1969-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiii) S.O. No. 361 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Adult Training Centre for the Blind, Ahmedabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiv) S.O. No. 362 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Adult Training Centre for the Blind, Ahmedabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxv) S.O. No. 363 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee Industrial Home for the Blind, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxvi) S.O. No. 364 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Society for Promotion of Wastelands Development, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxvii) S.O. No. 365 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "National Centre of Films for Children and Young People, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxviii) S.O. No. 366 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Homi Bhabha Fellowships Council, Bombay" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1994-95 to 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxix) S.O. No. 367 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Sri Kanyakumari Gurukula Ashram, Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1991-92 to 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.
- (xi) S.O. No. 368 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Sri Kanyakumari Gurukula Ashram, Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1989-90 to 1990-91 subject to certain conditions.
- (xli) S.O. No. 369 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Dahej Niwaran Avam Samaj Kalyan Parishad, Etawah (U.P.)" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xlii) S.O. No. 370 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to lady Tata Memorial Trust, Bombay under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xliii) S.O. No. 371 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Caritas India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1992-93 to 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xliv) S.O. No. 372 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Caritas India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1989-90 to 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xlv) S.O. No. 373 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Hamdard Dawakhana (WAKF), New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xlvi) S.O. 374 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Ramakrishna Math, Belur, West Bengal"

under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1997-98 to 1999-2000 subject to certain conditions.

- (xlvii) S.O. No. 375 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The Institute of Marketing & Management, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1996-97 to 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xlviii) S.O. No. 376 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Dakshineswar Ramakrishna Sangha Adyapeeth, Dakshineswar" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xlix) S.O. No. 377 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "Family Planning Association of India, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment Years 1993-94 to 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (1) S.O. No. 331 published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 1997 regarding exemption to "The Amalgamated Tamil Nadu Shares of Post War Services Reconstruction Fund and Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen, Madras" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1995-96 to 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2047/97]

- (3) A copy of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—
- (i) S.O. 158(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to appoint the 1st March, 1997 as the date on which amendments to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 shall come into force.
- (ii) The Central Excise (Second Amendment) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 145 E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) G.S.R. 168(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 4/97-CE.

dated the 1st March, 1997.

- (iv) G.S.R. 172(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th March, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 4/97. CE, dated the 1st March, 1997.
- (v) G.S.R. 191(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1997, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption and clearance for home consumption of the excisable goods of the description as mentioned in the Notification from so much of the duty of excise leviable thereon as is in excess of the amount specified in the Notification against such clearances.
- (vi) G.S.R. 204(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to lac from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon.
- (vii) G.S.R. 211(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 1997 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in certain Notifications mentioned in the Notification.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2048/97]

- (4) A copy of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts) Recruitment Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 31 in Gazette of India dated the 18th January, 1997 under sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2049/97]

- (5) A copy of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits Amendment) Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 155(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th March, 1997, under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT. 2050/97]

12.03 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following two messages from Rajya Sabha regarding the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1997 and the Finance Bill, 1997:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6)

of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1997 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th May, 1997 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance Bill, 1997 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th May, 1997 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.03 ¼ hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Ninth Report

[English]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM (ALIGARH): I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English Versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Minutes

12.03 ½ hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. DASHMUNSI (HAWRA): I beg to lay the minutes of the sittings related to rules of procedures of committee on Public Undertakings (1996-97) and miscellaneous matters.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Third Report

12.03 ¾ hrs.

[English]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (AMRELI): I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Petitions.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Second Report and Minute

12.04 hrs.

[English]

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA (PURI): I beg to present the Second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (1996-97) and minutes relating thereto.

12.04 ¼ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**

Fifty-first and Fifty-second reports

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILON): I beg to lay the Fifty-first and Fifty-second Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment & Forests on the Demands for Grants (1997-98) of the Departments of Biotechnology and Scientific and Industrial Research, respectively.

12.04 ½ hrs.

[English]

**MOTION RE: THIRTEENTH REPORT OF
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIKANTA JENA): I beg to move:-

"That this House do agree with the Thirteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 13th May, 1997."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That this House do agree with the Thirteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 13th May, 1997."

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (LUCKNOW): Madam Chairman, The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has given minutes of next agenda. The minutes reflect that the Govt. do not have any legislative business. The Govt. is wasting its own time as well as the time of the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

Madam Chairman, to discuss the policy on sports is good, but we should not make a joke of this House. When

the Parliament session started, it was said that Women's reservation Bill would be introduced in the House. The efforts would be made to pass the Lokpal Bill. After making amendments in the bill, it would be introduced in the House.

No such business have come up in the House. This Session will conclude in two days. What have we done in this Parliament session except passing of the budget? If an account of work done is considered it would be disappointing. It seems that the Govt. is not able to conduct the proceedings of the House properly.

Madam, you know that the demand of separate Uttranchal has been overdue since 1991. In this regard the Legislative Assembly of U.P. has passed resolutions many times. Earlier, it was said that Presidential rule is going on in U.P., Vidhan Sabha is not constituted. So, no 'step could be taken for separate Uttranchal State'. Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly is functioning and recently has passed a resolution. That has been sent the Union Govt. Now, the Union Govt. will have to bring a bill under section 3 of the Constitution. Sh. 'Bachi Singh Rawat who is an M.P. from Uttranchal asked a question on the 6th of May and reply of the Home Minister shows that the Govt. is keeping the matter pending deliberately. The reply of the Home Minister is as under:

[English]

"Necessary action is being taken to refer the Bill for the creation of separate State of Uttrakhand, Uttranchal to the State Legislature of Uttar Pradesh for expressing its views thereon as required under Article 3 of the Constitution of India. As there are various legal and constitutional formalities involved in that issue, it will not be possible to introduce the Bill in Parliament during this current session which is expiring on the 16th instant."

[Translation]

Madam the people of Uttranchal are hopeful, their future is in abeyance, development activities has come to a stand still nil and if this Govt. can not bring about a bill carefully how the Govt. would solve other complicated problems of the country. Decision has been taken on the Constitution of Uttranchal. The motion has been passed by the newly constituted U.P. Legislative Assembly and the Union Govt. have to introduce the bill. Hon'ble Home Minister is not present in the House. He says that we want time. How much time does he want? The demand of separate Uttranchal is continuing from 1991 and the people ask us as to what are we doing in the Parliament. We have only one answer that we are at the mercy of Jena Sahib.

Madam Chairman, it is a serious problem and our friend of Bihar will also agree with this as to how this House will conduct the legislative business. As, I told that the discussion on the policy on sports is good and the crisis on textile sector should be discussed but what happened about the bills? The Prime Minister has announced to pass the Lokpal Bill. We are ready to pass the bill. All are agree but where is the bill?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MADAN DEV (SILCHAR): All Prime Ministers are saying that.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: It is a serious matter for us. At the moment you are in the Chair, this House can not function like this.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Thirteen days are not sufficient.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Again and again you refer to 13 days.

[Translation]

Madam, You find out some solution of this problem. The sitting of the House may be extended for a day or two if necessary. We want that we go out from here with some achievements, not empty handed. Let us assume that no other business would be transacted in this session except budget. Perhaps, the Prime Minister would come in the evening. Madam, you see that in regard to the reservation for women, Paswan ji has said that a meeting has already been held in this regard and the second meeting would be called. Your new Minister told in the Rajya Sabha yesterday that the bill is likely to be introduced in this session. The ministers are giving contradictory statements. Whether Govt. has made up its mind in this regard or not. The House should be taken into confidence and every thing should be made clear.

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (MUKUNDAPURAM): Madam, Chairperson, I fully share the concern expressed by the hon. Leader of the Opposition on the issue of Uttrakhand. The question of statehood of Uttrakhand is still remaining a distant ray. It is very unfortunate that the Government is not finding time to present the Bill on the statehood issue in this House. When we are discussing some of the issues everyday, sufficient time could also be found out for presenting this Bill. Three times, the State Legislature passed the resolution—in 1991, 1993 and 1996. Never before this has happened that three times a State Assembly had passed resolution demanding the statehood. The Government has also agreed to it.

As said by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs the other day that there are certain issues eluding consensus but here is an issue where there is already a consensus. All parties—opposition parties and the ruling parties—in U.P. have unanimously passed the resolution for the statehood of uttrakhand. Even the Congress party had also included this issue in their manifesto in the last Assembly election.

So, the constitutional obligation is that the Government move a Bill before this Parliament and it is sent to the

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

State Assembly for eliciting the opinion of the House. So, that should be done. Who is objecting to it and what is standing in the way, we want to know.

I, therefore, request that the Government may come before this House before this Session is over, with the Bill to make the dream of the people of U.P. a reality *i.e.*, Uttrakhand.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Madam, only two days back, we raised the issue of reservation for women. We were told that another meeting would be held soon after the hon. Prime Minister comes back from his visit. Now, only two days are left for this Session to be over and we do not know as to when such a meeting will take place and how there could be a consensus on that issue. The United Front Government is committed to bring this Bill and pass it. It was told by the hon. Prime Minister that he would not only bring this Bill but also see that it is passed in this Budget Session itself. Now, only two days are left and nothing is there. We are kept in dark.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister would you like to respond?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Madam, I have also another submission to make.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is a Zero Hour going on.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is not a Zero Hour. In the Zero Hour also, I have to make some important point *... (Interruptions)* We are kept in dark. Even in the Business of the House, this Bill is not included. The Joint Select committee deliberated and presented its Report...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is all right. I am asking the hon. Minister to make a reply.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why is it not coming? What attempts are being made to arrive at a consensus? Even if there is no consensus, whether that Bill will come and the Government will try to get it passed.

Madam, it was also told by the Government that they would bring a Bill on agricultural labourer in this Session. But it has not been brought so far. There are lakhs and lakhs of agricultural labourers in our country who are the most exploited class of our society. In this regard a delegation of all the agricultural labour unions headed by our hon. friend, Comrade Hannan Mollah, who is present in this House, met the Labour Minister. The hon. Labour Minister told them that the Bill was ready.

So, when that Bill is ready, why is it not coming before the House? When that delegation met the hon. Prime Minister, he also told them that the Government was intending to bring the Bill on agricultural labourer, which is long pending...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please allow the Minister to make a reply.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: As there is a demand from all sections of the House that there should be a comprehensive Bill to protect the rights of lakhs and lakhs of the agricultural labourers, we want to know from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs as to when that Bill will come. Please tell us, whether within these two days, it will come or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs want to give a reply?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (PANSKURA): On this point of Women's Bill I also want that the Government should bring this forward in this session itself. *... (Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the Zero Hour. Let this business be finished first.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jenaji, would you like to reply?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jenaji, please, reply.

(Interruptions)

(English)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please cooperate. Please do not make a noise like this. Please take your seats.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (BARASAT): A mention has been made about two important Bills; one is regarding the reservation for women and another is regarding the agricultural workers. I have talked to the Prime Minister and everybody knows that every party, every organisation is committed for the reservation of women in the Parliament and the State Assemblies. There cannot be any reason for opposition to that. May I know from the Government what stands in the way of pushing the Bill? If some people object to it, let them object to it. If some people want to oppose it, let them oppose it. But the House has got the right to reflect the opinion of the country on the Women's Bill.

So far as Agricultural Labourer Bill is concerned, I have got some report to suggest that the Bill which has already been prepared has been by and large accepted by all the trade unions of the agricultural workers. There cannot be any reason to delay the introduction of the Bill and the passage of the Bill.

If these things are not done, this House will give a wrong signal to the people and I think the Government would take note of it. I request Shri Jena, when he replies

to it, not to ignore it and give a proper signal to the country.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER): Madam Chairperson, we are taken aback to see the report of the Business Advisory Committee. At present several parts of our country are drought affected. Kalahandi district in Orissa is reeling under severe famine. People are facing starvation. Epidemics have broken out in many parts of the country but this issue for discussion has not been included in agenda. The Government had assured us that discussion would be held on this issue but it was not included in the agenda. An assurance was given that a Bill regarding electoral reforms would be introduced here but it was not introduced. The Government had given assurance to introduce Bills regarding Lok Pal, Reservation for Women, Creation of separate States for Utranchal and Vananchal but no Bill has been introduced in this regard. It seems that the Government is deliberately ignoring the vital issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (ALMORA): Madam Chairperson, I also want to say something.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you given Notice for it?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Government reply first. This is not the Zero Hour. Please resume your seats. Let this business be finished first.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Do you want to have a debate? What is going on in the House? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House cannot go on like this.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you given any notice? Who have given notices are being allowed first.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Before the Parliamentary Affairs Minister replies to it, you cannot take up other business. So, let the Minister give the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am allowing the Members who have given notice to make their point.

Shri Srikanta Jena, would you please reply now?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please first listen to the reply to the points raised by you.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you not interested to hear the reply of the Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not behave like this.

[Translation]

Please let the Minister reply to your points.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised very important issues. Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I am on my legs, you should take your seat. This is not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the way to behave? Please sit quiet and bear with me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (PATNA): We also have to put forth our points ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. You have not given any notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please keep quiet and take your seat. None of you has given notice. I have allowed only those who have given notice. Please sit peacefully.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House cannot go on like this. I am not going to allow it. Please take your seat. Please do not test my patience.

[Translation]

Mr. Minister, please ask your Members to be keep quiet.

(Interruptions)

SHRI QAMARUL ISLAM (GULBARGA): A provision for reservation to women belonging to O.B.Cs should be made in the Women Reservation Bill ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not allowed you. You have not given notice. I have allowed him only. Shri Jena, please give your reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (SHAHABAD): Please wind up this matter. There would should be no further discussion on it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Madam, the issue raised by the Leader of the Opposition and other senior Members are very vital issues like the Bill on electoral reforms, the Bill to provide for reservation for women, the Agricultural Workers' Bill, the Lok Pal Bill and the Uttarakhand Bill. These are all very important Bills and the Government attaches very serious importance to all these Bills. The time available in our hands is very short.

So far as the Women's Reservation Bill is concerned, the Government held an all party meeting recently. The meeting was inconclusive and there was no unanimity in that meeting. The Government intends to hold another meeting on this Bill tomorrow. I hope, the Government is very sincere to see that there should be a unanimity on this important Bill.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGHLY): Is it unanimity or consensus? Kindly clarify that.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We will try for unanimity. Even if there is a consensus, the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: The committee had given certain suggestions. The issue regarding reservation for O.B.C. was also there ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the way to behave? You are not allowing the Ministry to answer here. By preventing him from replying you are showing disregard to the Minister. Please let him reply.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: We have seen that when this issue was discussed in this House opinions were expressed not only from this side but from all sections. We want to have a consensus. The Bill has already come to the House. It had gone to the Select Committee. In the Select Committee, unfortunately, there was no unanimity. Therefore, the Government's intention is to see that a message should go not only to the country but to the entire world that this Parliament is unanimous so far as women's participation is concerned.

To bring that issue up to that level, we are trying our best; and for that, we are holding another round of meeting tomorrow itself.

So far as the Agricultural Workers' Bill is concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jena, I hope you do something apart from holding meetings!

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: I fully share the concern of yours and of the other hon. Members. Accordingly we are trying our best to see that there is consensus. I hope that in tomorrow's meeting there could be a consensus.

So far as the Agricultural Workers' Bill is concerned, the intention of the Government, in the past, has been categorical and the hon. Labour Minister has already said that. Regarding this, different States have put forward their objections. The Government is trying to see that other State Governments do not oppose this Bill; and we are also trying to see that there is consensus.

Electoral reforms is a bigger issue for which the Election Commission has recently called a meeting; and the Government also, in the past, had three rounds of meetings. That is also inconclusive. I agree that we could not hold a meeting during this Session. But during the inter-Session, we will certainly try for another round of meeting so that we can proceed in this matter.

On Uttarakhand, the stand of the Government is very clear. That has been said in the past also. We need to have a consensus on this also. The Prime Minister has categorically said that we will hold a meeting on this issue and we would finalise that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: I have given a privilege notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (SOUTH DELHI): Madam, he has not responded to the Lok Pal Bill. ...*(Interruptions)* I think, the Minister wants to respond to the Lok Pal Bill now. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The Lok Pal Bill was introduced; it was sent to the Standing Committee; the report of the Standing Committee has come only very recently.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: It was submitted four days ago.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The recommendations of the Standing Committee are being examined by the Government; and after the examination, the Government will formulate and will call an all party meeting. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: You have said nothing about the Lok Pal Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Would you bring it in the special session of Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please raise this issue during the Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: During the Inter-Session, we will hold a meeting.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 13th May, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

12.29 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour. Shri Vijay Patel.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please maintain peace in the House and let every body speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Madam, I have given a privilege notice. ... (Interruptions) I have given a privilege notice this morning. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your privilege notice is with the hon. Speaker.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: What does it mean? ... (Interruptions) The privilege notice gets the highest precedence than all other things. My privilege notice is about a very important matter. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dasmunsi, your privilege notice is with the hon. Speaker and it is his under active consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: It is a very serious thing. Let the hon. Speaker decide as to whether it will be accepted or not. But I must be allowed to say why I gave a notice for the privilege motion.

This is a serious matter. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please raise the matter of Privilege after getting permission of Mr. Speaker.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: When this opportunity will be provided?

[English]

Madam, the practice of the House is that privilege notice gets precedence over other things. I do not understand taking up any other business.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You may make your submission

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Madam, I gave the privilege notice today. I would like to make it very clear that the Government, till the last on the issue of Bofors, on many occasions, made a categorical announcement—it was made by this Government, the previous Government headed by Shri Deve Gowda and the earlier Government of Shri Narasimha Rao—about the details to be informed to the House so far as investigations are concerned. The House is on now.

I gave the notice today about how the Director of CBI, day in and day out, being an appropriate agency of the Government who could come and take the House into confidence, has been leaking out news classified and titled as 'top secret' partially to the media and thereby bypassing the Parliament without taking the House into confidence. I would like to say about the observation of the hon. Speaker who gave the ruling on 26th February. The Speaker asked the Minister whether the names were being leaked out or not. Then the Minister said:

"There was a lot of kite flying going on. The newspapers were publishing so many things...

Therefore, the CBI thought it proper to inform the country that these were the entire set of names which they have received."

When asked to specify those names, the Minister added:

"They are before everybody."

Then the Speaker's observation was:

"It is, however, not clear why the CBI took an inconsistent stand and though it proper to disclose the names, which the Parliament, as it turns now, is not entitled to know. This is therefore a serious matter to be taken note of by the Government and appropriate action taken by them under intimation to the House."

This was the Speaker's observation on 26th February on the issue of admissibility of notice of motion under Rule 184 given by Shri Jaswant Singh in this House.

Now, the commitment given by Shri Narasimha Rao was referred by Shri Jaswant Singh again. The commitment

[Sh. P.R. Dasmunsi]

was that things will be monitored by him and will be informed to the House. Then, a commitment was made by Shri V.P. Singh which I had quoted in my own speech on 25th February. I quote:

"I would like to assure the House that this matter will be pursued to its logical conclusion keeping the Parliament and the people informed of progress."

And the Law Minister, Shri Ramakant Khalap gave an assurance, when Shri Deve Gowda was the Prime Minister, during his intervention to the debate. The Speaker asked a pointed question as to why CBI disclosed the names. Then Shri Ramakant Khalap told:

"Please allow us to complete the investigation. Please see that the undertaking which we have given to the foreign authority of that country is obeyed and only then, we shall come."

The Law Minister said this in this House.

Now, if the investigation is complete, the House has the right to know about it and the Minister has the duty to inform the House. If the investigation is still classified and marked 'top secret', then how is it that a part of that investigation is leaked out in the media? Is Shri Joginder Singh above Parliament? Is the Director's office more than the office of the Prime Minister? Now, I am not in a mood to quote anybody wrongly. There is a news which has appeared in *Indian Express* today. It is titled 'Rajiv named as accused in CBI's Bofors chargesheet'—the poor man who is not alive today. It says that the 300-page top secret Bofors chargesheet is awaiting Government's formal clearance.

Highly placed sources in the Cabinet Secretariat said today that CBI Director, Joginder Singh has sent the "top secret" Bofors chargesheet for the Government's formal clearance."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you quoting from a newspaper?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: Yes, Madam. Everybody quotes from newspapers. Yesterday also, somebody quoted from the newspaper.

"Although Rajiv Gandhi cannot be prosecuted as he was assassinated in May 1991, the CBI's proposed chargesheet holds him guilty of hatching a conspiracy to cause willful loss to the state exchequer and allowing middlemen—Quattrocchi, Win Chadha and unknown persons—to make money.

However, the CBI's 330-page report, proposed chargesheet admits its failure to prove that Rajiv Gandhi himself benefited financially in the gun deal."

The last part is very interesting.

"In fact, it was L. Revennasiddiah, who as head of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on Bofors got photographs and related evidence to establish Quattrocchi's access with the Gandhi family, Revennasiddiah who was

a trusted lieutenant of former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda sought his transfer to Bangalore before the change of guard at the Centre."

I would like to know from the House, whether it is the way to deal with the top secret matters. I am not questioning the *bona fides* of any gentleman. I am not questioning why Revennasiddiah came. We all know that there are two SITs. One of the SITs was to deal with how Shri Rajiv Gandhi was killed and who killed him. Till this day, the entire nation does not know as to how he was killed. What is the role of SIT? The SIT, however, could not get the benefit of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's presence in the country as he was dead, but it could get some photographs. I know many of the hon. Members, who are sitting here, whose photographs appear with so many other persons. I know a number of persons who have been highlighted in the Bofors gun deal and who have been found with the top leaders in London and Davos only a few months before. This too is revealed by the great lady, Shrimati Chitra Subramaniam, for whom I have great respect.

I would not like to bring those issues here. But is it the way to behave? On the one hand you say, 'admit the failures' and on the other hand you say that it is top secret. Yet he is there. I call it witch hunting, a deliberate step to malign and destabilise the whole thing. You can hang anybody you like, we are not to defend here, right from Italy to here, whether it is Quattrocchi, Ram or Rahim. The DG, CBI goes on disposing his responsibility in this manner, taking everything in his hands, defying the Parliament, the Cabinet and the Prime Minister and using the Media like this. I will never blame the Media. The Media has got a right to admonition. Nobody should question the source of Media from where it gets the information. I question the authority of DG, CBI. How can he do it?

It was a solemn assurance of the Law Minister here. It was the observation made by the hon. Speaker here. Therefore, Madam, I think it is a fit case of privilege. As I quoted from the proceedings, this is the way you are treating a man who is not alive. What more can you offer than killing a man in the conspiracy which is yet to be revealed? These things will go on in this country. Somebody would be photographed with somebody else. I would like to know how many persons in this country, who have been photographed with so many people, have been chargesheeted and tried. Is it the way to denigrate the whole system? So, I feel the CBI Director General, Shri Joginder Singh has purposely violated the willful consent of the House.

The Law Minister replied on the issue of Bofors, on 25th February. There is a very dangerous signal in the report and it says: "The CBI Director General is making hurry to finish all the files and to go". This is a very dangerous thing. He is after how many persons and on what basis, I would like to know. These are the things to be known. I am not questioning the *bona fides* of the institution. I am not questioning the *bona fides* of any of the officers. I am only talking about the propriety. The Law

Minister and the Cabinet as a whole are collectively responsible. Any classified document, be it a Memorandum of Understanding between two nations, cannot be tabled in the House.

The investigation report should be placed before the House. Three consecutive Prime Ministers informed this to the House. When the House is in session, if such a top secret thing is leaked in this fashion, I think, it is a breach of privilege to the entire House. Therefore, I gave this notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Privilege Motion of Shri P.R. Dasmunsi is received by the Speaker and is under his active consideration for final disposal.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (CHITTORGARH): Madam, I will not repeat any of the things that my eminent and good friend Shri P.R. Dasmunsi has said. There are, however, three or four areas of particular worry on account of which I start by a demand in which I join my good friend.

I think, it is time that the Government, before the House rises on Friday, came out with a comprehensive statement on the progress of the Investigations. I say so on account of the worries I have. Firstly, I entirely share my good friend hon. Priya Rajan Dasmunsi's observations that the responsibility for this kind of selective dissemination of information—by whosoever, I am not charging an agency or an individual—is directly that of the Government. Why do I say so? When the Bofors papers first came to light after the Swiss courts had decided, I recollect the then Prime Minister coming to the House; first announcing that he would share all the papers with the House; thereafter coming to the House and saying that he could not do so because late that night he had received a fax confirmation from our officials in Geneva that the Cantonal Court of Geneva had declined permission. I was, even then, not sure that that was factually the correct situation. I was not convinced that that was how the situation was. I was then persuaded to move an Adjournment Motion. I recollect the great eloquence with which my senior and very good friend Somnathji argued, even then, against why that Adjournment Motion could not be admitted. I do sincerely hope that in the passage of these months he has changed his mind.

The second reason is that we were told of the Government of Switzerland saying that we cannot share this information. I had my doubts. The Government then said that they will carry out the investigation and then share all the information.

The third assurance, which has been mentioned, was given by the Government that they will look into the information then looked into by the then Government or agencies of the Government, investigate the matter and come back to the House. I think the hon. Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has quoted that particular assurance of the Minister. The Government has done none of that. I do not know whether they have looked into it. If they have looked into it, then they owe it to us to come and share it with us and say what has happened, what wrong took place

then. I rather suspect that they have not bothered to look into it and because they have not bothered, this mistake has been repeated.

My third worry is that now that the Government appointed, what is called a Special Investigating Team (SIT); that SIT has completed its task; that SIT has submitted its report; and that SIT's report is under Indian laws. It is after all a report that has really found its origin from this Parliament, if the Parliament had not consistently spoken of this issue for the last ten years, we would not have come to the stage of this SIT.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There would not have been a change of Government also.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: He is right. It is a sad thing to have to say but a Government with a tremendous majority, in fact, suffered on account of this.

However, the origin of this SIT is this House. Therefore, for an agency of the Government to selectively disseminate information about the SIT, then for no one from the Government to have the courtesy to this House to come and say, "No, no, this is the factual situation. This is the action that we have taken. We will call a meeting of the leaders. They can examine the SIT report in the meeting, if not in the House," is one more area of concern.

Even then, when this Adjournment Motion was moved by me, I had pointed out that only part of the information had come. Two cases are still under appeal. Let us not do anything to jeopardise the proper disposal of those two cases in Geneva or the Federal Court in Berne. There is an addition to that. I am given to inform that in addition to these two appeals, at the last minute, at the very last minute, now in the Federal Court in Berne, there is a late entrant who has also appealed. This House, therefore, has a right to know the factual situation as to where does the legal position of the remaining cases now rests as far as the Appeal Courts of Switzerland are concerned and who is the last entrant? What is the identity of this last entrant? That is why, I repeat, Madam, that it is vital that the Government comes forward firstly with an explanation why they have failed to not yet satisfy the House on account of that first assurance that we will investigate and come back and inform the House? How did that lapse taken place?

Secondly, the Government owes us a total and comprehensive statement on the progress of the investigation so far, particularly the SIT. It is vital that the Government call at least the leaders of the House to sit and discuss the SIT.

Lastly, what is the status of the cases pending at the Appeal Court in Berne and who is the last entrant? This is the very minimum. I had no intentions of joining this but joined because the issue is important. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (MADHEPURA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with the Motion of Privilege introduced by Shri P.R. Dasmunsi and views and arguments expressed by him thereon. Shri Jaswant Singh has given detailed facts in this regard. But through you, I would like to submit that this House has the representatives of 90 crores people but the dignity of the House has been lowered in a gross manner, we may have differences on certain points, but the dignity of the House should not be lowered. I think that among the three Parts, this House is the most accountable because the Members of Parliament have to face Public every five years. It has such mandate and power which other parts do not have. I do not want to discuss the powers of others. But the manner the dignity of the House has been lowered during last four or five years is very unbecoming. It is very detrimental to democracy.

I would like to submit that today we have the United Front Government. Sometimes I feel that the post of the Prime Minister and Cabinet have become ceremonial like the President's post ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Shri Sharadji, what are you saying?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am telling the truth. I am saying that nobody is accountable to anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): What are you saying about the President?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: O.K., I conclude herewith ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What do you conclude?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: No, Sir. Shri Jaswantji asked me to conclude it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They have said something unethical about the President.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I did not say anything derogatory against the Hon. President and dignity. But the Executive derives power from this Parliament. The power vested in the Executive is immense but it derives power from the legislature.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Subject to judiciary.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I do not want to go into it. But the power from this august House has does not utilise properly. I do not disrespect anybody I am not speaking on behalf of a party. I am putting forth this point in my capacity as a worker, as an elected Member of this House. I fail to understand whether there is rule of law. How Rule of law can be applicable to dead persons. It's a difficult

question. Swamiji is sitting here. He better knows about the heaven and the hell. The rule of law ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (KHAJURAHO): I am on a Point of Order. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what Rule?...

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Ms. Umaji, I did not ask you to speak. Those who are sitting here ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: I am on the point of Order that an hon. Member should not be ridiculed in such a manner. Shri Sharadji should tender an apology to him. Such sarcastic remarks cannot be made against any hon. Member in the House. He should either withdraw his words or tender an apology. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please keep silence. Please bear with me peacefully. I request all hon. Members to speak carefully.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Saints have nothing to do with wordly affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Umaji, I agree with you. I apologize to Swamiji I did not say anything to you. I tender my apology and state that he does not have the keys of the heaven and the hell. But 56 crores of gods and goddesses must have keys of heaven and hell. But what about the Rule of Law? Who would arrest a deceased person? The issue raised by Shri Dasmunsi is a serious one. We want justice in Bofors Case. It is my demand. I am fully agree with Shri Jaswant Singhji ...*(Interruptions)* Barring you. You are excluding us we are excluding you ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a very serious discussion. May I request the Member to be serious?

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I have raised a serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen me peacefully.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am constrained to state ...*(Interruptions)* I am being interrupted. I am being vexed. Persons from both sides are interrupting me. Rising above the poverty lines I would like to state that we achieved the present democracy by great sacrifices and after a long time. This is the polity of Vote bank. The real politik of vote bank will loom large over us and the dignity and power of this august House will decline. I do not want to go into that matter, otherwise it will create a controversy. Although very senior members are sitting here but I would like to state that dignity and power of the House is declining continuously.

AN HON. MEMBER: What measures do you suggest? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: We will take certain measures. We were living in primitive stage and by adopting certain measures we have reached at this stage. I do not want to tell about measures to be adopted but I put forth my stand only ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sharadji, please speak. Please do not mind his words.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: My point is very relevant. My only concern is that the dignity of this august House has declined. I request the entire House to share the concern of the people of the entire country who have voted for us. I am putting forth this matter here. It should be discussed here seriously. The Parliament has empowered the Government also. 370 MPs are supporting the Government. So, you should not be powerless and commitment made in the House should be fulfilled. If the Government do not function properly, democracy will be ruined here. If somebody pronounces any judgement how the House remains a mute spectator. In order to safeguard the democracy that has been obtained with great sacrifices ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (SADAR-DELHI): Is this a Motion of Privilege or something else? What does he want to say? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: My submission is that earlier film personalities were seen on T.V. but now politicians are seen frequently on T.V. because of court cases.

All this work should be in a systematic way. Corruption is a major issue. Perhaps no other office in the country whether it is C.B.I., or other organ of the executive or even Election Commission has as much autonomy as this House has. If this House hits back in straight forward, every thing will be set right. We did not raise our point. If we do not behave properly and keep on creating rowdy scenes, this practice will continue. All we should try to ensure that the dignity of this House should not be let down.

In regard to the question raised by Shri Das Munshi I would like to say that any compromise on the issue of corruption is betrayal with the country. So I do not want to come to that point. But the report which has been presented to the House is about a person who is no more to defend himself as we have seen him dying from close quarters. So sharing my feeling with him I would like to talk the govt. that this is a matter of privilege. Hon. Speaker will decide it. The difficulty is that Hon'ble Speaker is not here at the moment we will have to talk to you if you are listening to me, please discuss with him as to what can be done in this regard. I do not want to go into it. Sharing his anxiety I conclude my speech.

13.00 hrs.

(English)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (BOLPUR): Madam, at the beginning I wish to affirm that it is extremely

important that the Bofors matter be finalised. We have been demanding for it for years. Shri Jaswant Singh has rightly reminded that everybody has been demanding it and this is pending for over ten years. It is high time, especially after the decision of the Swiss Court, that all the necessary investigations be completed forthwith and the House should be taken into confidence. There can be no two opinion on this. I hope that there is no difference of opinion on this. It is a matter of extreme national importance and it should be finalised whatever way it is.

But, Madam, today we are here discussing a notice of a privilege motion, which has been given by my friend, Shri P.R. Dasmunsi under Rule 222. I found, subject to correction, that his grievance is against certain pronouncements of the present Director of the CBI, who has allegedly and selectively, as Shri Jaswant Singh says, disclosed certain names and is giving information in bits.

So far as the privilege issue is concerned, the hon. Speaker's consent is necessary before any discussion can be taken up. But that has not yet been obtained and we have travelled a lot. I found that Shri Jaswant Singh, at least today, has wholeheartedly supported Shri Dasmunsi's contention against the Director of the CBI and the Director of the CBI, according to Shri Jaswant Singh, has not acted properly. At least today he has admitted that. Many things were read when somebody else said something differently. Therefore, Madam, so far as the privilege issue is concerned, I am not competent here to give any opinion. In fact, it is the hon. Speaker who has to give his consent.

So far as the importance and the desirability of finalising the Bofors case is concerned, it cannot wait any longer if I may use, hibernation cannot be. In the name of further investigations it cannot go on for ever and ever. All sorts of speculations will be made. There is no doubt about it. And things are becoming hotter. Newer and newer political events have even been associated with what are supposedly coming—I do not know about these—and these are all the media projections. Therefore, for the polity of this country and for the proper political activities in this country, let this be finalised. And sooner it is done, the better. Today Shri Sharad Yadav suddenly finds that our Prime Minister is not asserting himself. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: What Dada refers to is not my point and I do not mean that. Whosoever Atalji or Dada, may occupies this seat, facts or position can not be concealed. That is, Everyone is making one's point and uttering in unbridled manner whatever one likes. I say that the Govt. is the protege of the House and in order to strengthen this House the protege has also to be nourished and strengthened. This is what I mean.

(English)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Madam, I am not criticising him. I said that the leader of the Janata Dal thinks that the Prime Minister's Office today is not asserting its authority or supremacy as it does. He has also found that

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]

quality or lack of quality in Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also.

Therefore, when I mentioned this, I am sure that, in view of the changed attitude of my friend on the right, my immediate right, and in view of the little changed attitude of our good friend from Chittorgarh, the Prime Minister should know, I believe, that the House supports him entirely. He was talking of the strength of the entire House. If the entire House wants it, that is the strength of the Prime Minister. As has been rightly reminded by Shri Sharad Yadav, I hope, he will also do so in the Steering Committee.

Therefore, Madam, there need not be any apprehension on this. Shri I.K. Gujral should know that the country will support him if he takes immediate action to find out what the real position is and let it be known subject to, of course, judicial interventions these days, about which I do not know. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to speak on this?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (DUMARIAGANJ): Madam, I have given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will be given a chance. First, listen to me for a minute if we conduct the business of the House in a proper way, everybody will get a chance. If we make a hue and cry in this way, nobody will get a change. Let me make one point clear that if you speak out of turn, nobody will get a chance. Please keep quiet.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: I have given the notice first ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: We do not get a chance because we do not make a hue and cry...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down you are going to be given an opportunity.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It has not come to an end, how long it will last. Members are waiting to raise their points in the zero hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: We eleven members are enough to disturb if we like. We are not ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The sort of language could not be allowed here

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: It is not a Question of using such language, why we are ignored?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not being ignored Members are waiting for zero hour because they have to raise their points.

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: When you allowed three hon'ble Members to speak for half an hour each was it not curtailing zero hour? Are we not the Members? ...*(Interruptions)* Do we have no opinion regarding Bofors Case or on this motion? If any senior members raises a point he is allowed to speak by the Chair and he may speak as long as he likes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Azmi please sit down.

I shall give you a chance.

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: When will you give me a chance? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please leave it now. I have invited the next member to speak.

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI: You have called out a name but at that time you had stated that you would call me after Dada.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At the moment, regular discussion is not going on. If Members from every party stand up in this way, this would not be zero hour. It is up to the House that there should not be zero hour and all members may continue discuss this point this can not be permitted.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (SOUTH DELHI): Madam, first you ask the Govt. to come out with a statement in this regard ...*(Interruptions)* otherwise this affair would be talk out. After all, there has been such a serious discussion on this issue for 20-25 minutes and therefore, you should direct the Govt. to make a statement on it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is, in fact a matter of privilege and it has already been referred to the Hon'ble Speaker. I would request Shri Srikanta Jena to respond to it.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Govt. should make a statement about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, zero hour starts, you please speak.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL (GANDHI NAGAR): I want to invite the kind attention of this august House to a very serious problem. It not only relates to Gujarat but it also relates to the whole nation. The ONGC has shut down its oil production at Gandhar Oil Field in Gujarat in consultation with the Central Government. That news is published in the *Gujarat Samachar*, a Gujarati Daily of Gujarat. The State Government has not provided adequate security and protection to the ONGC people and that is why, the oil production has been shut down.

We import oil from foreign countries and we pay a lot of foreign exchange for it. When we get oil from our

own country, we do not see to it that adequate protection and security is provided to such institutions.

It is also published that agriculturists around that area of oil production in Gujarat have protested against the ONGC people because the compensation for their acquired lands has not been provided. This is a very serious issue. On the one hand the ONGC has to shut down its oil production, which is not in the interest of our nation, and on the other hand, the poor agriculturists have not been given their compensation after compulsory acquisition of their lands under the Land Acquisition Act.

So, I request the Central Government to see to it that the poor agriculturists are given the compensation for their lands and also oil production at Gandhar Oil Field is started very soon.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (JUNAGARH): The Govt. should consider it seriously and should start the Gandhar project ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to me for a minute.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA: The Govt. should commission it at the earliest issuing directions in this regard.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (PALI): I support her point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Brij Bhushan Tiwari, please do not make a noise if you all speak together, support it so let other do it.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Madam, I want to raise a very important issue some armed persons attacked the fruit and vegetable market fiercely in which 30 shops at old market and seven at new vegetable market were burnt, dozens of people were badly wounded about thirty bicycles were broken, motors were burnt and lakhs of rupees looted. This happened due to ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (BAREILLY): It has not been mentioned here.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: The reason of this incident was that these were a group of some persons who extorted money from the shopkeepers forcibly. The police have not registered a report of those shopkeepers so far. Whereas the ministers of Uttar Pradesh Govt. were present there. The B.J.P. Govt. district president was heading the attackers. These shops belonged to the people of Minority and the poor sections. This is the law and order position there. Those hooligans had the patronage of B.J.P. If the district administrations and the State Govt. do not take effective step and do not issue proper directions to the Govt. of Delhi in this regard it will not only affect the whole of district but affect the entire country as well. Therefore, I would request the Govt. to get the report in this regard laid before the House and by filing the case action against the culprits should be taken.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: Allow us to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right, you are associating together.

13.12 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Sarvaraj Singh and some other Members came and Stood near the Table

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please Go back to your seat, first, I shall not listen to you from the well. Tiwariji, just make the people of your party understand. The remaining people are to be associated. First, you go to your seat. I shall not listen to you from here.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have given a notice, please go to your seat and wait.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised this issue. What do you want now?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have raised it, what is problem, now.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILLON): Madam, I have to raise an important matter regarding allocation of rice under P.D.S. in Kerala. Please allow me. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This noise would not go on to the record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: First all go to their respective seats. I shall not listen to anybody in this way. This can not be allowed. Go back to your seat.

13.18 hrs.

[English]

At this stage Kunwar Sarvaraj Singh and some other Hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vinayji, please sit down for a minute. You are provided one minute time to speak. Vinayji will speak after you.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: This matter is very serious. There have been such incidents in Uttar Pradesh. I had also raised this issue, last week. Several people went to the Mainpuri in order to occupy the mosque. Two of the activists of our party were badly beaten. The report in this regard against was not lodged.

When the court ordered, then only report was lodged. After that, this incident took place. The houses of minorities were burnt there ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: It's hot time.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: Shops were looted there. All these things were done under the protection of one party. The administration is silent. I want that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have finished your matter. Now you sit down please.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: This is a very serious matter ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: During the zero hour, if the Minister wants, he would speak on this matter. You have already spoken. Now you please keep quite and sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two persons from your side have already spoken on this matter. Kindly you give an opportunity to speak to others.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken. You will not be allowed to speak again. Repeated discussion cannot be held on a single subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whoever the honourable Member is saying will not be included in the record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is this? Will you continue to speak?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Madam, I have taken note of this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (FAIZABAD): This subject has been raised in the House. This was related with the state government. This should have been raised in the state instead of raising it here. In this regard I want to submit that the honourable member has wrongly stated the matter. He has misled the whole nation. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Expressed as ordered by the chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should sit silently. You have taken the name.

[English]

He has a right to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: The activists of Bhartiya Janta Party were shot dead in broad daylight. As a result of it, tension mounted there. A few days back there.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have called him by name.

[English]

He has a right to reply.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Farmers do not get reasonable prices for their products in the Market...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pappujee, you should read the rule book. You have called him by name, then he has a right to reply. You please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Madam Chairperson, I want to draw your attention to this fact that the Samajwadi Party's activists have perpetrated such a misdeed. Even today, terror of these people is prevailing in Ferozabad, Bharkana and Mainpuri. These people are extorting money from grain merchants in the Mandis and whoever refused to give it, are shot dead. Such an incident took place in Mainpuri. Samajwadi Party's people masterminded the murder of a Thakur. When a 25 year old youth refused to pay money, he was shot dead. Therefore, Samajwadi Party's people donot want that a Dalit woman should be the Chief Minister of the state ...*(Interruptions)* For these reasons these people are making wrong statements. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam Chairperson, this subject is related to that state and therefore, it should have been raised in the state itself and not here. The wrong statements made by these people should be condemned. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar may speak now.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (BARELI): Madam, Chairperson, I would like to raise a serious problem related to my constituency...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jena Saheb, would you like to reply?

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Let me say this much that I will bring this issue to the notice of the Home Minister to take appropriate action immediately.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: Madam Chairperson, I have talked about security.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is alright, the honourable Minister has given reply to the question.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Madam, Chairperson, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the government a problem of my constituency. In my Parliamentary constituency, there is a vast area of cantonment where civilian people also live in a good number. Several villages are also connected with the cantonment but it is unfortunate that administrative officers of the cantonment close the passages without any prior notice. My colleagues standing before me who belong to Samajwadi Party are related with it but not listening to me. Recently a road was closed which is near to Bhartul village. The population of that village is 5000. Hundreds of acres of land is cultivated by the people there but they could not produce Rabi crop on that land after the road was closed and they are facing this problem today. This has happened due the approach of commanding officer of the Medical Field unit Ambulance Battalion. I have written also in this regard.

Madam Chairperson, through you I want to say to the Defence Minister that if necessary, the road should be closed, nobody has objection to it but the city people living in those areas have to make to and fro and some arrangement should be made for them. For this, the administrative officers of the cantonment area should be instructed that in the interest of villagers the proper steps should be taken and the road for movement should be opened.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (SAMBALPUR): Madam Chairman, I want to raise an issue relating to an unprecedented and irresponsible move by the Director-General, National Water Development Agency to shift the Chief Engineer's office located at Bhubaneswar to Allahabad. Not only this move is grossly illogical but it also has vested interest.

The National Water Development Agency is an autonomous society under the Ministry of Water Resources and was instituted in 1982 by the then hon Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. After an expert study, the feasibility report has told that the office of the Chief Engineer should be located in Bhubaneswar and it cannot be shifted. But unfortunately, due to some political reason of something else which has been there, the Director-General has already instructed to shift it to Allahabad.

The Chief Minister of Orissa has written a letter to the Prime Minister and to Shri Janeshwar Mishra telling that the State Government is very much concerned over this news item.

At present, the office of the Chief Engineer (North),

National Water Development Agency, Bhubaneswar is taking up survey and investigation of Manasa-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga and Ganga-Subarnrekha-Mahanadi-Godabari link canals. The above works will take considerable time for completion and for satisfactory progress of these works, it is imperative that the headquarters of the Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency should continue at Bhubaneswar, furthermore there is bound to be severe public resentment if an office functioning for several years at Bhubaneswar is shifted for no apparent valid reasons.

Meanwhile, the former Chief Minister and late lamented leader Shri Biju Patnaik also had written a letter to Shri Janeshwar Mishra. I quote his letter. It says:

"I am enclosing a copy of notice dated 12th March, 1997 regarding shifting of Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency from Bhubaneswar.

Although you had given me personal telephonic assurance on 17.2.97 that the proposal of shifting is cancelled, I will be grateful if you have taken any action in this regard, as assured by you again on 17.3.97 on telephone."

In this connection, the hon. Minister of Water Resources Shri Janeshwar Mishra has received a minimum of 25 letters from the hon. Members of Parliament, from the Legislators of the State, from the Chief Minister and also from the former Chief Minister and late lamented leader Shri Biju Patnaik. But he has not yet acknowledged even to the letter of the present Minister Shri Srikanta Jena also, which is most unfortunate.

Madam, Orissa has, always, been facing drought, flood and cyclone intermittently.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If one person speaks for five to ten minutes then the rest of the members will not get an opportunity to speak.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, the post of the Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency at Bhubaneswar was sanctioned by the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi. If the headquarter of the Chief Engineer's office is shifted to Allahabad, about 150 workers of Orissa, who are working there in different capacities, will be affected. In addition to that, the catchment area of not only Orissa, but also of West Bengal, Assam and Bihar also will not be taken care of.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Bhoi, please conclude in five seconds. Otherwise, nothing will go on record.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, I am just concluding.

So, I request the present Government and the Minister to immediately give a categorical assurance on the floor

[Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi]

of the House that the order of shifting of the Chief Engineer's office from Bhubaneswar to Allahabad would be cancelled.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should listen to me for one minute. I humbly request you to sum up your speech in two minutes so that everyone should get an opportunity. If one speaks for ten minutes then nobody would get opportunity.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA (SATNA): I would speak for five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sum up in two minutes.

After that this would not go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kushwahaji, please you speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: We do not interfere into others affairs, then how can we speak in such circumstances. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, I want an assurance from the Government. (Interruptions) The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here and he can respond to this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; he is not required to react to every matter. If he wants to give a reply, he can do so.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Madam Chairperson, I would bring this issue to the notice of the Minister of Water Resources, Shri Janeshwar Mishra, positively.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: Madam Chairperson, after attending the session on 3rd, I went to the tribal areas of Satna of my constituency. The law and order situation has deteriorated there. Parmasia plateau is the land of 90,000 tribals. At the behest of the people sitting at the helm of affairs 'jungle raj' is being run there. I would like to attract the attention of the government towards that situation. The poor tribals of forest are detained under fake charges and when they are detained their children starve. They knock at the doors of administration and leaders, but nobody pays any attention to them. They have a right over the forest's produce. That is the means of livelihood of those persons and their children. In jungle, influential persons like Mahera and Cher are given contract. However, there is no constitutional provision for it and after awarding contracts through illicit means they are tortured and exploited. When tribals oppose it, administrative machinery and power is misused and police visit there, conduct raids

Their crematorium and agricultural land is captured by them and they are called naxalites. I have come after making a seven day's visit there. They do not have water, clothing, bread but they are harassed by calling them naxalites. Therefore the administrative mechanism is not in order there. Therefore through you I want to make a humble request that an investigation team should be constituted over the oppression being committed on them.

The tribals are leaving that area due to the harassment by the Police, and the powerful feudal lords who have been a terror in that area have established their chaotic regime there and usurping the forest produces belonging to tribals which is sole means of their livelihood. They have also captured the mining area. Due to these reasons, the tribals of that area are living in a state of terror.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It can not go like this, please take your seat.

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: Therefore, I would request the august House that an inquiry committee may be constituted and the false trial cases against tribals may be revoked and also the D.M. and S.P. who are Administrative officers of that area must be ordered not to implicate them in false cases and they should be transferred to elsewhere.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record now.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would give opportunity to all one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let men give due share to women only then they will be able to get reservation.....

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sahib, I shall call your name also.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE (TARANTARAN): Madam, Chairperson, I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister for Railways towards the tragic railway accident and request him to make a statement on it. On 22nd March, 1997 at about 12.15 P.M. a railway accident occurred on Amritsar-Jalandhar-Delhi main line under Northern Railways. This accident occurred at Railway crossing near the Vyas Railway Station. The railway crossing was unmanned. Nobody was knew that any train was to pass through that area at that time. Many people were going to Anandpur Sahib Hala Mohalla by a tractor trolley. As the tractor-trolley approached towards the railway crossing via Baba Bakala, suddenly a train came towards Amritsar killing five persons—Shri Ajit Singh, Shri Kanwal Preet Singh, Shri

Joginder Singh, Shri Ranjit Singh and Shri Balkar Singh on the spot. The sixth person Shri Swaran Singh was badly injured. Luckily 40-50 persons who were on the same tractor-trolley had a narrow escape as the hook of the trolley broken apart. But the Railways have not taken any action to give financial relief to the next of kith and kins of those five persons who had died in the railway accident and have not paid any compensation for the loss of tractor-trolley.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE: No action has been initiated to punish those railway officials who are responsible for this accident. Neither financial relief has been given to next of kith and kin of deceased persons till date nor any compensation has been for the tractor involved in the accident. I would like to ask the Minister for Railways about the number of accidents that have occurred due to the negligence of Railway employees, and what is the policy of the Government in regard to providing relief to the dependents of the deceased persons. I would like to request the Government that adequate compensation may be given to the next of kith and kin of deceased persons because the common man who has very high opinion of Railways earlier, has gradually changed it to the contrary. I want that the Government should make a statement in regard to this accident and the amount of compensation to be given to the next of kith and kin of deceased persons and the loss to tractor should be borne by the Railways. Alongwith this the railway employees who are responsible for that accident should be punished.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA): Madam Chairperson, this matter which has been raised in this House now, is very serious. Kindly direct the Government that Minister for Railways should give a statement in regard to this incident. Government must give its statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If Minister so desires, he can give his reply in Zero Hour, but it is not necessary.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA: This is a very serious matter, Government must say something, otherwise it would be of no use to raise this issue in this House when there is nobody to listen it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI TIRUCHI P.N. SIVA (PUDUKKOTTAI)*: Madam Chairperson, with a heavy heart, I would like to place before this House expecting suitable action from the Government, a chapter from the continuing tales of sorrow the people of coastal Tamil Nadu have been living through.

On the eleventh this month, three fishermen namely Chandran, Thirugnanam and Kuttiyandi who left for fishing from a coastal village in Pudukkottai District of Tamil Nadu were shot dead by the Sinhalese Armed Forces in the high seas. These three fishermen from a same family were shot dead by the Sri Lankan Naval Forces without any rhyme

or reason. Likewise, some other fishermen who went about fishing on the second of this month have not returned home as yet. It is not known as to what had happened to them. They are still missing. Since it involves another country, the Government of Tamil Nadu could not do much in this. They have been trying to formally contact the Union Government and through them the Sri Lankan High Commission. It is important to note that this is not a stray incident or a sudden development. This has been going on for quite long. The people of the eastern coastal region of Tamil Nadu are facing this problem for many days now. Fishermen while fishing are shot dead month after month. Many fishermen are lost. Many of them have not returned home. Though there cannot be an easy identification of boundaries in the sea waters, Sinhalese Armed Forces kill our fishermen claiming that they had trespassed international waters. Fishermen community over there are suffering a lot. People there are a distressed lot. I wish to bring to the notice of this House their sorry plight. There should be an end to this ongoing onslaught.

Madam, please understand the sentiments behind the concern which I am expressing. Everyday, women and children of those fishermen who have gone on fishing, await on the shore because they do not know whether they will come back alive or their dead bodies will come.

This has become a recurring thing. Series of such killings of our fishermen goes on unhindered. It is the bounden duty of the Government to put an end to these stray killings. We must evolve a permanent solution. Centre must intervene immediately to wipe out our tears, sorrow, grief, pain and distress. So far there has been no action for what all that had happened. Government of India should not remain aloof and they should not shy away from their responsibility. Government cannot be indifferent and can never ignore such killings. I bring this to the notice of this august House as my duty on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu and all the people of Tamil Nadu.

I request this Government to pay compensation to the bereaved families immediately, and to trace all those fishermen who are missing. The Government must intervene immediately as I am expressing this concern on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu.

This is also a caution from the people of Tamil Nadu to the Government to take up this matter as expeditiously and as appropriately as possible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajendran, if you want to associate with him on this subject, then you may please associate.

SHRI P.V. RAJENDRAN (MAYILADUTURAI): Thank you, Madam, for allowing me to associate with him on this subject. I would like to give a suggestion to the Government.

This is like a serial story. Frequently, our fishermen are getting killed. You can see, at least, a few hundred widows on the shores of Tamil Nadu, and also a few hundred fishermen who have been maimed.

*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Tamil.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Shiva has already mentioned this. You may just associate with him.

SHRI P.V. RAJENDRAN: Previously, when Shri Vajpayee was the Minister of External Affairs, he had a suggestion which he told to the Press also.

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that we can permit our fishermen to go inside and fish in Sri Lankan waters and that we can also permit them to go inside our waters. It is not happening. There is no demarcation in the international boundary line in the sea waters. Whenever the Sri Lankan Navy see our fishermen, they just kill them. We are not killing our Pakistani fishermen. They are not killing our Gujarati fishermen. Even the Bangladesi Navy is not killing our Bengalee fishermen. Many of our fishermen have been killed by Sri Lankan Navy.

Therefore, I would request you to convey to the Government to take appropriate action for a permanent solution to this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI P.V. RAJENDRAN: We have our sentiments which we have to express.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody has sentiments. Please cooperate. You have your sentiments. Other hon. Members also have their own sentiments.

SHRI P.V. RAJENDRAN: The Heads of SAARC States are meeting in Male. But there is no SAARC spirit.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The sentiments expressed by the hon. Member should be taken as the concern of the whole of Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" (ALMORA): Madam Chairman, Food Corporation of India has created buffer stocks in Uttaranchal since long time back. The Transport subsidy has been provided to Hill state but Uttaranchal has not been declared a Hill state so far. There are number of problems. Railway Head could not take the buffer stocks there due to the absence of transport subsidy. Therefore, all Godowns established there have no stock of foodgrains. The common man is dependent upon cheap foodgrains being made available by the Government. This matter has been raised here but you are delaying the matter of state. I have a private member bill but yesterday I was informed that consensus has been taken under Article 3 to present the bill in the next session still the Central Government is misleading in this matter. Hon'ble Atalji raised this matter today. We have been informed that the President rule has been imposed there but today it is being said that consensus will be taken in this regard. After crossing so many stages, cabinet has taken decision. Therefore appropriate instructions should be issued so that the transport subsidy being available to all states of the whole country for carrying out food grains, to hilly states may be provided to Uttaranchal to make food grains

available to that state until that is declared a separate state ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (DEOGRAH): There is a hunger strike going on ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (CHATRA): Madam Chairperson, I am here to speak in connection with funds being made available to the State Government by the Central Government under the Employment Guarantee Scheme and Indira Aawas Yojana. I belong to Bihar and a lot of misappropriation of funds is being done in Bihar. The District Magistrate of my area does not seek the opinion of the Member of Parliament. These funds are being allocated through mediators. The District Magistrate does not require to take the opinion of the Member of Parliament. The whole funds are being misappropriated there. Thus funds are being allocated arbitrarily.

I would like to say that there should be such an arrangement wherein recommendations of the concerned Member of Parliament is obtained regarding Indira Awas Yojana and Assured Employment Scheme.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA): It is an important matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (FAIZABAD): Madam Chairperson, the opinion of the Member of Parliament should be sought ...*(Interruptions)*. The bureaucrats work there arbitrarily. ...*(Interruptions)*. The opinion of the peoples' representatives should be taken regarding funds released by centre for Indira Awas Yojna and Assured Employment Scheme etc. The fund should be spent as per their advice. ...*(Interruptions)*. I think that the whole House would agree with it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would convey your feelings to the hon. Speaker.

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATHAN (NAGARKURNOOL): Madam Chairperson, I would like to raise the following matter during Zero hour in connection with the 77th Constitutional Amendment:-

Though it is nearing two years since passing the 77th Constitution Amendment Bill, no concrete steps have been taken for its implementation. Under the Constitution 77 Amendment Act, 1955 in Article 16 of the Constitution, after Clause IV, the following Clauses have been inserted namely:-

"Clause IVA:-Nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any provision for reservation in matters of promotions to any class or classes of posts in Services under the State in favour of SCs/STs which, in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the Services under the State."

It is a matter of surprise that the Government of India has so far not issued even an office memorandum for the implementation of the Constitution (Seventy-seventh) Amendment for the reasons known to them. It is very clear from the language of the Constitution Amendment in Article 16 (4) (A) that the Government may provide reservation in promotions to all the categories, but restrictions have been imposed on providing reservation in promotions up to certain levels.

I request, through you, the Government to come out with a statement in this regard.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (PALI): Madam, Chairperson, with your permission, I want to raise a matter of national importance. A scam of Rs. 200 crores has taken place in Rajasthan Bank in which members of the Bengal family who are the proprietors of the branch situated at Chowrangee have diverted the amount through fake accounts and by opening up fraudulent companies. This is the Scam like scam in Indian Bank that had taken place in Chennai. I want that the hon. Finance Minister should look into this matter and hand over this case to the C.B.I. so that the poor investors who have invested their life time savings are saved from being ruined. I request that the Finance Minister should take action through the C.B.I. and take over the Bank of Rajasthan. The Reserve Bank of India has not taken any action till today. Investor's money squandered due to undutiful approach of R.B.I. So, my submission is that it should be investigated by the C.B.I. and guilty be punished and the R.B.I. should take it over.

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGRAH): Madam Chairperson, The Punjab Act is applicable to the persons working in private institutions in the Union territory of Chandigarh. The Act of 1969 was applicable so far according to which employees of the private Schools were not getting pensions. That Act has been repealed by Punjab Government. But that Very repealed Act is still being applied in the Union territory of Chandigarh Whereas employees of the private institutions of Punjab are getting pension today according to the new Act enacted by it in 1979.

I would like to demand, through you that since the old Act has been repealed and the new Act has come into force in Punjab. There is no reason to continue it in Chandigarh. The new Act should be enforced in Chandigarh be it the Delhi Education code or the new Act of Punjab and employees of all such private schools be given pensions. This matter has already been taken up with the Government, the Chandigarh administration too has written in this regard to the Government. I demand that the Government should convene a meeting and take decision in this regard expeditiously so that they are provided pensions.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (QUILON): I would like

to draw the attention of the Government of India to a matter which is of great concern to the State of Kerala. Kerala is the only State where the statutory rationing system is going on. Recently, by an order of the Government of India, the allocation for ration has been cut from 24 lakh tonnes to 17 lakh tonnes due to introduction of new public distribution system. It may be noted that during the Conference of the Food Ministers which was held two months back, it was assured that food deficient State like Kerala would be protected and special consideration would be shown when this APL and BPL is introduced in the House. But to our surprise, it has come to the notice that there has been a drastic cut in the allocation of rations. I urge upon the Ministry to keep the promise and enhance the rationing allocation of wheat and rice.

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN (SRI GANGANAGAR): India is an agricultural nation. 80 percent of Indians live in the villages. Rajasthan too is predominantly an agricultural state. The Government has fixed the rate of wheat at Rs. 450 per quintal. The farmers spend approximately Rs. 5000 from sowing to reaping of the crop. Rs. 450 does not even cover the cost of insecticides. The farmers are dissatisfied with this rate.

I would like to request to the Government that the rate of wheat should be fixed at Rs. 700 per quintal or it should be fixed at 15 percent higher than the cost of the crop. So that they become prosperous. Thank You. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PUDRAUNA): Madam Chairperson, I am on the point of order. I am being ignored. Yesterday, I had my turn. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. I will call you.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Even today it is my turn why I am being ignored. Why I am sitting here? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everyone cannot be given permission to speak at a time.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Therefore, I walk out from the House in protest against the way you are conducting the House. You have not given attention to the problems of farmers, though I am supposed to be the eighth speaker....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would call you, please take your seat. How can I call everyone at a time?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat, I am conducting the House, please sit down peacefully.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (PATNA): You are getting angry, what have I done? Why should I sit? what are you talking?

SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI (BANSHTGAON): Madam Chairperson. Aami river flows through the district of Basti in Uttar Pradesh. Our Bansgaon region comes under it. The water of this river is being polluted by the effluents discharged by paper, sugar and Jute mills. Its water has become polluted and contaminated. Thousands of animals have died and many others taken ill by consuming this contaminated water.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever you want, you demand it from the Government.

SHRIMATI SUBHAWATI DEVI: We are demanding from the Government that pollution should be controlled. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ram Naginaji, please speak.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Madam Chairperson, we are sorry that when in the House ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everyone cannot be allowed to speak at a time. Ram Naginaji, please conclude within a minute.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: I would not be able to complete my point within a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, please leave it.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Its alright.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rasaji, please conclude within a minute.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: My turn had come yesterday too but I was interrupted again and again. How would I be able to express my point within a minute? It is alright I would not speak

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rasa Singhji, please speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No point of order.

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT: Madam Chairperson, in many of the southern districts of Tamilnadu incidents of caste clashes are occurring since some time back and more than 40 people have been killed. The law and order situation in the southern districts of Tamilnadu have become worse and due to the ethnic riots looting, clashes and fatal attacks are taking place there. It is going on merely in the name of naming the districts and transport corporations and the Government are watching it as a mute spectator.

Therefore, I would request the Union Government that adequate steps should be taken to protect the people of these weaker sections who are fighting among themselves and families of those dalits who have been killed there be provided compensation. Thank you.

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (BULANDSHAHAR): I am on point of information, I have given it many a times and

are being called. My name is in the first page itself. I would like to raise the menace of lotteries. Everyday it is going on at large scale all over the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA (KANPUR): Madam Chairperson, if I remember correctly, with a consent of the Lok Sabha there is a clear instruction and tradition that an honourable Member can speak only once in a week during Zero Hour. If we go through the record, we would find that honourable Members have been allowed to speak for more than once which is not proper ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (HOWRAH): Madam, the hon. Member is very right.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are right. I fully agree with you and I would like to make a request to the honourable Speaker to prepare a list of the names of those honourable Members who have spoken in this week. I would convey your feelings to him....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

The House stands adjourned to reassemble at 2.55 p.m. 13.55 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifty Five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

15.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Four Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(SHRI CHITTA BASU in the Chair)

MATTERS UNDER RULES 377

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

- (i) **Need to declare and develop road between Delhi and Haridwar as a national highway**

[Translation]

SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH (MUZAFFAR NAGAR): Sir, Haridwar a religious centre is 215 kilometers from the capital Delhi. The road leads to Haridwar is very narrow. However, it is a state Highway. Every year, near about 50 lac 'Kanvertye' take this route to reach their respective destinations carrying holy Ganga water from Haridwar and offering it to God at various temples. This state Highway should be changed into four lane National Highway with the help of hot mix system. Various types of assistance is provided to other religious pilgrims by the government

the government should also respect the sentiments of Hindus. Simultaneously, a road should be constructed with the help of hot mix system along with the bank of Ganga canal from Haridwar to Murad Nagar so that during the time of carrying of kanwars, the traffic could pass along the bank of Ganga river canal and loss of life and property of kanwariyas from accidents could be averted. The Kumbha fair is going to be held at Haridwar in 1998 and this occasion a large number of devotees usually gather there.

Therefore, through you I would like to urge the Central Government that State Highway from Delhi to Haridwar should be changed into four lane National Highway with hot mix system, so that, day to day accidents and traffic jam could be averted.

(ii) Need to exempt land recorded as 'Zudpi Jungle' of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra from the Provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI-NORTH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, some areas of Nagpur, Wardha, Garh Chiroli, Bhandara and Chanderpur districts of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra have been registered as "Zudpi Jungle" in the revenue records. The meaning of Zudpi is small bushes, uncultivable or barren land which cannot be used for any agriculture purpose. Where, there are small bushes, that land in Marathi language, is called "Zudpi jungle". Regarding implementation of Udapi land forest (conservation) Act, 1980 provisions the Maharashtra State Government and the Central Government were of the different opinions. Now and then, the State Government has been trying to keep Zudpi land out the ambit of Forest (Conservation) Act, as this land could not be called the forest.

In the seminar of Forest Ministers held on 26 August, 1996 in New Delhi, the State Minister (Forest) of Maharashtra reiterated that this Zudpi land should be kept out of the ambit of forest (Conservation) Act and until the final decision is taken the land being utilised for non afforestation purposes and the unutilized land for afforestation, should be exempted from the provisions of this Act. He, further mentioned that by giving relaxation in the existing terms and conditions of compensatory afforestation in turn of converted forest land for the purpose of non afforestation double Zudpi land should be accorded the status of Zudpi land area.

As the Govt. of India have applied the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on this land. Many restrictions have been imposed on its utilisation. As a result of it, there has been an adverse effect on the projects like roads, mines, small dams, small reservoirs and in providing employment to the unemployed youths. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra had raised this issue in a meeting of an International Council held in New Delhi on 15th Oct. 1996.

Therefore, I demand that Government of India should make relaxations in provisions of forest (conservations) Act the land falling under the Zudpi land I without delay.

(iii) Need to allocate more funds for early completion of railway projects in Orissa.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): There has been an inordinate delay in the completion of some railway projects in Orissa. Prominent among them are Talcher-Sambalpur and Daitari-Banspani lines. The construction of these projects was started more than two decades ago but much progress has not been made so far. Particularly, Daitari-Banspani line will not be completed by the end of the present century at the present pace of progress.

Similarly Talcher-Sambalpur Broad Gauge rail line has been under construction now. But the fund allocation made for that line is very inadequate. The line is under execution since 1984-85. Delay in the completion of the project is attributed to severe resource constraints of the Railways. Out of the estimated Rs. 352 crore, an amount of Rs. 188 crore has been spent so far. A little more than half the estimated cost has been spent in 10 years. At this rate, completion of this project will not be possible in the near future.

In view of the above, I urge upon the Minister of Railways to provide adequate funds for these lines in 1997-98 financial year so that these projects are completed expeditiously.

(iv) Need to improve Banking facilities in Pupri (Sitamarhi) Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI): Sir, the branch of State Bank of India at Pupri under Sitamarhi district of Bihar has been working for 30 years. At pupri, the only commercial Bank is SBI some five years ago. Pupri block headquarters has been turned into subdivision headquarters. There are five blocks Sursand, Bajpatti, Nanpur, Bokhara Chorot in this sub division. Due to Governmental and commercial work the onus of the Bank has grown. Due to acute shortage of staff in the proportion to the above said branch work, the work is not being discharged in time. As a result of it, the customers have to face great difficulties. Strong room and locker room facility is not available to the customers of SBI, Pupri branch. However the proposal of strong room and locker room has already been passed in 1984 but it is lying pending with the General Manager. Being a sole commercial Bank in the city, there is a big crowd of the people. Due to limited cash, payment is not made in time. As a result of it customers have to face difficulties day to day. There is not a single nationalised Bank in the complex of Pupri bazar committee, as a result of it the customers face difficulties daily.

Therefore, I would request the Hon'ble Finance Minister that the efficiency of the said Bank would be enhanced by according State Bank of India in Pupri branch a status of sub divisional branch. At the same time, I would also request him to meet the public aspirations by opening a new branch of the Bank in Pupri.

[English]

- (v) **Need to issue No Objection Certificate to State Government of Maharashtra for providing Civic Amenities to hutment dwellers residing on the land belonging to Airport Authority of India**

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): Sir, there are around 65,000 hutments on the land belonging to Airport Authority of India in Mumbai for the last so many years. Since they have not been provided with civic amenities such as light, lavatories, water, cement passage etc., the life of the hutment dwellers has become very miserable. This matter was discussed with concerned authorities on a number of occasions but it has not been resolved so far. The Government of Maharashtra is willing to include them in housing scheme which has been introduced in the city of Mumbai.

The Union Government should take initiative and finalise the housing scheme with State of Maharashtra or alternatively no objection certificate for providing civic amenities to the hutment dwellers may please be granted at the earliest.

- (vi) **Need to relax maximum age limit in the case of educated youths of Punjab in Central Civil Services**

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (PATIALA): Sir, I want to raise an important issue regarding age relaxation to educated unemployed youth of Punjab in Central Civil Services. Since last many years the State was ruined due to internal and external disturbances. The concerned State Governments and Central Government gave some assistance and relaxation to different affected sections. Accordingly, educated youth of Jammu and Kashmir and Assam have been given relaxation of nine and six years respectively in Central Services examinations. But in the case of Punjab which remained more disturbed, such relaxation has not been given. Everybody knows that during disturbed period, educational institutions remained closed and even Armed Forces were dumped in Educational institutions. Students were worst affected since 1982 to 1992. The State Government announced five years age relaxation for State services. But the Central Government has not announced such relaxation. Many representations by the State Government and educated youth have been sent to Central Government in this regard.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government to issue orders to provide five years' age relaxation to educated youth of Punjab in all Central Civil Services and other examinations controlled by Government of India.

- (vii) **Need to ban manufacturing and use of endosulfan and other poisonous toxicants in the country**

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (SAMBALPUR): Sir, it is a matter of great concern that a large number of people die and suffer from various effects of poisonous pesticide in the country. The reasons for the suffering of the people

a toxic pesticide which is either banned or severely restricted in a number of countries, is freely available in India. Unfortunately, it is marketed under 48 brand names. The agricultural worker, mostly the plantation workers who are working in the tea gardens are the main victims of these pesticides. It is easily absorbed through the skin, lungs and stomach. According to a press report, there is mounting clinical evidence that endosulfan and other organochlorines tend to act as hormones and are the cause for decrease in quality of semen, sterility in men, increased prostrate and testicular cancer, increased incidence of breast cancer and genetic mutation. According to scientists, it is highly toxic to fish, honey bees and birds.

In the light of the alarming situation, I urge upon the Government to ban the manufacturing and use of endosulfan and other poisonous toxic which are the cause of health hazards for human beings, birds, natural habitants and soil. The Government of India may initiate immediate action in the matter.

15.15 hrs.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S PENSION BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up the legislative business. Before I call the Minister to move for the Bill to be taken into consideration, I would like to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee has decided that the Bill will be taken up and passed without any discussion.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR): Sir, I am on point of order.

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): We are not opposing the Bill. ... (Interruptions) Please listen to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no Motion. What is the point of order?

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: My point of order is under rule 78 of Rules of conduct of business.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is it?

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Hon'ble Chairman, the rule 78 provides that none other than the Member/Incharge of the Bill can move the bill. This Bill has been circulated and the Member Incharge of this Bill is Shri

Indrajit Gupta and he is not present here at this time. Therefore, allow me with the consent of the House by relaxing the relevant rules, otherwise the rule makes it clear that none other than the Member-in-charge of the Bill can move the Bill like this. Rule 76 is clear in itself. Therefore, I request that he should not be allowed. Mr. Indrajit Gupta should be called otherwise it should be moved by relaxing the rules with the consent of the House. I do not oppose the Bill, because it is very good and it should have been moved earlier. The rule is clear, if you allow me, I will read it out.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): There is no point of order.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: How it is not a point of order, Sir, As it is clearly mentioned in the Bill that it would not be moved by any member other than the member-in-charge of the said Bill, Member-in-charge of the Bill is Shri Indrajit Gupta and here is the circulated copy of the Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is there any difficulty for the hon. Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta to be present in the House now?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): Let it be asked from the Member of the House.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): Sir, you can take the opinion of the House and allow him to move it.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): Sir, the hon. Minister is the Minister of State for Home. I recall that when I was the Deputy Minister of Defence I moved the Cantonment Bill when my Minister, Shri R. Venkataraman, was sitting here. There was no difficulty at that time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR: Sir, the bringing of this Bill is the result of the assurance of the Minister of State for Home some time previously.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has Shri Indrajit Gupta asked you to be present in the House to pilot the Bill?

SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the hon. Minister of Home has authorised him to pilot the Bill and he being a Member of the Cabinet, has got every right to move the Bill on behalf of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the opinion of the Home Minister is not above all. It neither can be presented without permission of the Speaker nor it can be presented by other than member-in-charge.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given the ruling.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Sir, please let me know about your decision on my point of order.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled it out.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to provide for the payment of pension and other facilities to retiring Vice-Presidents, be taken into consideration."

Sir, under Salaries and Allowances of Officers of Parliament Act, 1953,

[Translation]

only Vice President has been deprived of this facility.

[English]

The Vice-President who happens to be the Ex-Officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha also.

[Translation]

He also holds an important status.

[English]

It is the highest post of the country, next only to the President.

[Translation]

It is against the demands of the humanity as well as the practice of our country. To deprive him of such facilities after he has discharging his duties serving at such a high post, is not a justice to him. Whereas whether they are parts of our Parliament. Hon'ble MP's Hon'ble Minister, Vice President, they are provided the facility of pension, accommodation, medical, telephone and travelling facilities. This discussion has not being taken up today itself.

[English]

But it had been taken up as early as in 1953.

[Translation]

The same matter was raised in 1953 by our an Hon'ble member Shri P. Upendra... and at that time all of members had approved of it in letter and spirit without any hitch and

*Moved with the Recommendations of the President.

[Sh. Mohd. Maqbool Dar]

hesitation. But at that time an assurance was given on behalf of the Government that a Bill will be present in this regard as early as possible. So, I do not think that any present member has any objection to it because this Bill has been discussed at length and this need has been felt with consensus that Vice President of India, who is an ex-officio Chairman of the Council of States, should be provided all those facilities which are provided to the MP's President of India, after his retirement and keeping in view all those things this Bill is presented.

[English]

I request, through you, all the Members of the House that they should approve it and request you that the Bill may be passed without discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the payment of pension and other facilities to retiring Vice-Presidents, be taken into consideration."

The Business Advisory Committee has suggested that this Bill may be passed without discussion. However, I have got two names from BJP.

Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Honourable Chairman Sir, I support this Bill. In fact such Bill should have been brought forward quite earlier. In the event of Honourable President's retirement or becoming ex-President there is provision for such facilities to him since 1953. But in case of honourable vice-President's becoming Ex-Vice-President there was no provision for providing such facilities to him earlier. I appreciate that this Bill has been put forward. While supporting this Bill it is my humble submission that the persons holding the high offices in the country only acquire such high position by their years of sacrifice and they reach the high post due to their years of hard work therefore after relinquishing such a high post they have to face many fold difficulties and mental agony. Therefore all such facilities have been covered by this Bill.

But I would like to draw your attention towards part 'C' of Sub-Section 2, Section 2 of this Bill. Which quotes—

[English]

"Secretarial staff and office expenses, not exceeding rupees six thousand per annum"

[Translation]

I want to ask the honourable Minister about the provision of Rs. 6000 per annum or 500 rupees per month for the secretarial staff and office expenses. How could these expenses be managed by such a meagre amount? He may please state clearly about it. I mean to say that the amount provided under this provision may be increased.

would get a pension of Rupees 6,250 per month after retirement but compared with the pension being given to the bureaucrat this is a meagre amount. However even if we bear with it, the provision for secretarial staff and office expenses can not be accepted as it is quite insufficient, therefore this should be enhanced.

I also intend to say that this provision and one subsection including the concerned figures should also be included in the earlier enacted act regarding the pension and other facilities to the Vice-President. However, the Minister has introduced this Bill in the House, my submission is that the provision for amount for secretarial staff and office expenses may be enhanced.

Alongwith this I also submit, perhaps it may be a deviation from the subject, that we Members of Parliament read in the newspaper everyday and tolerate the humiliation as we read in editorials or in the first page news that the facilities to the Members of Parliament are being increased and due to this we always have to face the humiliation. I humbly request to either clear this issue in this session or it may be clearly stated that nothing is being done in this regard. With these words I support the Bill introduced in the House and I wish it may be adopted.

[English]

SHRI STYA PAL JAIN (CHANDIGARH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. There is no question of any two opinions about the intentions or the contents of the Bill. As a matter of fact, the two offices, the President and the Vice-President, have almost, always, been over and above any controversy in Indian politics. Fortunately for the country, any person who occupied these two high offices, has tried to remain above all sorts of controversies.

Sir, I would like to point out two provisions in the Bill. Clause 1 says that an amount of Rs. 6,250/- would be paid to him as pension. I think this amount is not a big amount. This is a very small amount that is being paid and for a person who has occupied the high office of the Vice-President, it is not a very big amount. So, it would have been better if the Government has included this amount in the rules so that whenever they wanted to enhance it, there would not have been any problem and they would not be required to get the Act amended.

Secondly, I agree with Shri Gehlot that the secretarial assistance of Rs. 6,000/- per annum, as is mentioned in Clause 2(c), is very less. In Himachal Pradesh, even a former Chief Minister gets a Personal Assistant, a Stenographer and, perhaps, a Driver also. If a former Chief Minister of a State gets these three offices, I do not think that we should be satisfied by giving only Rs. 500/- per month to him. The Government should give him a Personal Assistant and a Stenographer who can, at least, manage his affairs.

Thirdly, I think, the Government should have taken it

ruling. But it would have been better if the Home Minister was here so that he could have replied to all these points.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR: I am very much thankful to both the honourable members who have whole heartedly realised the grave necessity of this Bill, so that the honourable Vice-President could get pension. Both the honourable Members have also said that the provision made for the secretarial staff may be increased. I would like to clear his misunderstanding about the provision of 6000 rupees for secretarial staff that it is meant for stationery expenses only and the pay of the staff, a steno and a peon provided to him, is exclusive of this amount and it is not included in this amount. Besides I agree to your point that 6500 rupees is not a very big amount but it is a meagre amount. But there are certain norms and the pay of the President of India is calculated for the purpose of his pension. His pension, which is fixed,

[English]

that is 50 percent of that.

[Translation]

When we calculate the salary of the Vice-President.

[English]

This also comes to 50 percent.

[Translation]

This Bill is drafted according to these set norms.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the payment of pension and other facilities to retiring Vice-Presidents, 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 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3,—

for "1996" substitute "1997" (2)

(Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Forty-seventh"

substitute "Forty-eighth" (1)

(Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the long Title stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

15.35 hrs.

Discussion Re: Problems of Textile Industry

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up the discussion under Rule 193. The time permissible is two hours. I request Shri Sanat Mehta to initiate the discussion.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (SURENDRA NAGAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am here to speak on one very sad chapter of our economic planning. I would say that it is a calamity affecting nearly one million families in the country. It is not a natural calamity, but a man-made calamity, and a calamity created by our economic development.

[Sh. Sanat Mehta]

The textile industry is a pioneering industry in the country. Even when the country was not free, this industry provided the largest employment to the skilled workers. The sickness in this industry was visible not just now, not even for a decade, but for more than a decade. The sickness in the textile industry was visible since 1982.

The Textile Secretary, when he presented his case before the Standing Committee on Industry, reported that 301 mills or companies were registered with the BIFR at present. As on 30th November, 1996 the number of textile mills which have been referred to the BIFR is 189. The Textile Secretary made a very interesting remark that no mill was closed under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. This is a very interesting situation.

The Industrial Disputes Act, 1948 is meant for regularising and controlling the closure of the industrial units. When 301 mills were referred to the BIFR, it means that they were either sick or closed down. Those mills have not been closed down as per the Industrial Disputes Act because if you want to close down a unit under the Industrial Disputes Act, then you have to take the permission of the labour authorities in various States.

I am sorry to say that when such an important subject is being discussed, the Minister of Labour of the Union Government is absent. It would have been much better, if he had remained present in the House.

The remarks of the Textile Industry indicate that whatever number of textile mills were closed down, they were closed down without following any procedures laid down in the Industrial Disputes Act. What is the result of it? I can understand if the units were closed down after taking due permission. I can understand if the units were closed down after paying voluntary retirement benefits. But in this industry, which is a pioneering industry in our country and whose labour fought for freedom in the 1942 Movement, the units are being closed down without following any rules and regulations.

The closure of the textile mills took place between 1983 and 1995. The total number of mills which were closed down in Gujarat is 42, and the number of affected employees or workers in Gujarat is 72,933. It means that nearly 80,000 families in Gujarat, who were working in these textile mills, have lost their jobs.

These units are closed down without any rules and regulations and the most tragic part of the story is that these 80,000 workers who toiled for years and years in the textile mills were not paid any of their legal dues. No notice pay and no retrenchment compensation was given to them. Their salaries remained unpaid. The total amount of dues of the Gujarat textile labour works out to Rs. 222 crore. It means that every worker, in addition to his losing his job, has lost Rs. 30,500 in 20 years. These are the workers who fought for freedom and, as a result, in the 50th year of our freedom they got nothing but unemployment and ruin of their lives. Is this not anti-labour attitude of the country? What means of livelihood have been

provided to these one lakh families who have become unemployed? Where will they go?

SHRI A.C. JOS (IDUKKI): May I ask a question? The hon. Member mentioned that State's permission is required for closing the mill. Under the same law, the State is empowered to prosecute the Management of the company which closes down without getting permission. I am interested to know whether the State Government took any action against that factory which closed down or not.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: I am sorry that your question will not be replied because the Textiles Minister cannot reply this question and unfortunately our Labour Minister is absent on this occasion.

SHRI A.C. JOS: It has to be done by the State Government.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: This is a question which has been replied a hundred times. They close down on the plea that electricity bill is not paid and the connection is cut off. Then a long procedure of prosecution goes on. The prosecution is never decided and the unemployment continues whether it has resulted out of cutting of the electricity wire or due to some other reasons. I am worried more about the unemployment than about the formalities.

It is not that this industry is in a bad condition today. It is not that out of this industry, the Government of India is not getting anything. This is the industry which is at present providing 33 per cent of the export earnings of the textiles.

As far as production of yarn is concerned, why I refer to this matter is because when the sickness started in 1982, many economists wrote articles in various journals of the country that the textile industry is a sunset industry and that there is no future for that. Those things have proved wrong with the result that production of yarn in 1991-92 was 1,805 million Kg. In 1995-96, it is 2,319 million Kg. While the share out of the fabric has gone down, the share of the textile industry in the manufacturing of fabric was 10 million metres in 1991-92 which is reduced to 6.7 million metres. Export of textile is Rs. 35,506 crore. Today Rs. 35,000 crore export is done by textile mills. The increase in yarn production is almost 50 per cent. I think because of the export, the Government of India must be earning foreign exchange. It is not a situation in 1995-96 or 1996-97 or 1997-98 that the textile industry is a sunset industry. What has resulted is that the composite mills have closed down and the spinning mills are developing and the workers who are working in the composite mills have been thrown out. I do not understand such a situation can be tolerated anywhere.

Then what happened? In July 1991 the new Industrial Policy was evolved, the then Finance Minister came to the Lok Sabha and in his Budget speech, he spoke in para 52 like this:

"Government will establish a National Renewal Fund with a substantial corpus. The main objective of this Fund

will be to ensure that the cost of the technical change and the modernisation of the productive apparatus does not devolve on the workers."

He further said:

"This Fund will provide a social safety net which will protect the workers from adverse consequences of the technological change and the deployment."

I visualise that these are the words of the former Finance Minister. Since 1991, all the Finance Ministers have been making a dream budget because now the Budgets are not called as 'workers' Budget' or the 'poor man's Budget' but a new phenomena has started in the country in the name of 'dream Budget'. In this 'dream Budget' he has mentioned that this Fund will not merely provide ameliorative measures for the workers affected in the course of technical change but more importantly provide re-training to them so that they are in a position to remain active productive partners in the process of modernisation. What happened to this promise? I will give some figures which will prove this. The NRF was started in 1992-93. By now, Rs. 3100 crore was allocated to the NRF in each year's Budget till 1996-97. The House has to know this that we provide money in the Budget but we actually do not know whether the money is utilised or not. The total provision made in this year was Rs. 3100 crore. How much was actually allocated? Rs. 1,769 has been transferred to public account and the remaining was kept without being used or diverted to fill the deficit. And out of that Rs. 1,769 crore, Rs. 1,505 crore was used only for voluntary retirement scheme.

In 1996-97, the hon Shri Chidambaram presented the Budget. There was no activity whatsoever. The NRF remained standstill. The safety net disappeared. Workers were forgotten. Let me tell you as to why! I am referring to the total figure. Under the VRS, out of round about 70,000 workers, most of them were textile workers. It means that the NRF money was neither used for rehabilitation of textile industry nor for providing the dues. I remember that day when the NRF was formed. The then Industry Secretary in the Udyog Mantralaya had invited me from Gujarat. He spoke in the presence of representatives of all the States saying that this money was only meant for the workers. One of the Secretaries of the Textiles Department of one State Government said that he wanted to revive the textile industry in his State. He was told that the State Governments would not get the money for that. The first priority of the money would be to pay the dues of the workers. These were the words. From that onwards till 1997, Rs. 220 crore which was due to the textile workers of Gujarat, not a pie has been paid out of that NRF.

Then re-training for employment was another promise given by the Finance Minister. He said that if they were retrenched, they would be re-trained. What is the record of re-training? The number of persons deployed in five years was 2,990. In how many States? In 16 States, 2,990 workers were deployed. It comes to 186 workers per State in five years. This means, 37 workers per year. This is

the result. The safety net has disappeared; employment re-generation has disappeared. The only things were the VRS and re-training. The figure was 37 persons per year in 16 States.

The ILO made a report on this whole NRF Scheme and particularly on re-training and re-deployment. The ILO reported that it covered less than two per cent of all the employees in Gujarat. In 46 mills, 72,903 workers were affected and only 5000 were trained. This is what the human face of our liberalisation is! The story does not end here. It was referred to the BIFR. What is the history of BIFR? It has a very interesting record. Only the NTC holding companies were referred to the BIFR. What is the track record? Out of 301 textile mills, the BIFR sanctioned only 66 mills under rehabilitation scheme. It recommended 96 mills for winding up and the number of cases not to be maintainable is 57. The Textile Ministry referred the case to the BIFR. The BIFR finds that out of 301 mills, 57 cases are not maintainable. Even then they were referred just to make a face to the labour that their cases were referred to the BIFR. The BIFR examines it.

Another tragedy is that the BIFR has a rule that if a West Bengal Textile Corporation is referred to the BIFR, they will not examine it mill-wise. Suppose, out of eleven mills, six mills are viable, they will say that it is none of their business to examine them. They will examine only the holding company, with the result, even the viable units will be declared non-viable. I will give you the record as far as Gujarat is concerned. The NTC has got 22 textile mills in Ahmedabad. The BIFR asked the IDBI to make a report on that. The IDBI reported New Swadeshi, Sahyog Silver Cotton, Subbalakshmi as the viable units. But because the NTC holding company of Gujarat is referred to the BIFR, all the mills are closed down and with the result, whichever mills were viable they were also declared to be wiped out.

I have heard that now they are going to ask the BIFR to examine the case individually. This can happen when all the individual mills are declared as individual holding companies. If this is the situation, what is the past track record of this country? How have we travelled during the years after our freedom? I was a member of the Bombay Bilingual State Legislative Council. At that time, Shri Shantilal Shah was the Labour Minister of that State. There was some difficulty in making payment during 1958-60. Shri Shantilal Shah had brought a Bill in the Bombay Bilingual State Council so that employment of labour is protected. During those years, when the mill-owners were able to run the mills, the textile corporations were formed. A number of guarantees were given by the States. At the end of it, when we started progressing more and more, we came to know that nobody cares for these textile workers these days. Nobody does anything. Even prior to the present situation, when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, there was a sick textile mill in Gujarat. But overnight, 11 textile mills were nationalised. Then a valuation was done and an authority was appointed. Whatever may be the reason, I have got a list to show

[Sh. Sanat Mehta]

as to how much money was paid to each textile mill.

One textile mill was paid only Rs. 32 lakh as a compensation and overnight mills were taken over and the workers were saved. This was the time in this country that if the textile workers were in difficulties, overnight by Ordinance, textile mills were taken over. The mill owners fought up to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court said, "Whatever price has been paid to you is all right. You cannot dispute it". And, today what is happening? Those days are over. The maximum compensation given was Rs. 32.31 lakh. Now, in the VRS, Rs. 220 crore unpaid is there. There is a dream promise, promise to keep the parties of industrial production. The promise to the industrial workers is over.

Then came the idea of 'Turn Around Scheme' in the Textile Ministry. The 'Turn Around Scheme' was evolved and 79 mills are covered under that scheme. How much was the cost of the 'Turn Around Programme'? It was only Rs. 2,005 crore. But the Government has no money for those one lakh families. Those workers are of no use. They have served the country for 20 years, they have toiled and built the whole structure of the textile sector and the Government has no money! So, the Textile Ministry found out a way that the NTC has 1514 acres of surplus land in the metropolitan cities of the country. The Central Board of Direct Taxes was asked to evaluate the land. The land was evaluated at Rs. 2,389 crore. This also needs an investigation.

There is another public body in Mumbai which has published a booklet which says about 600 acres of surplus land in Mumbai, the heart of the city. It was before two years, when the land prices were very high. They have estimated that the cost of that 600 acres of land is from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 crore. And the Central Board of Direct Taxes says that the total value of this land is hardly Rs. 2,389 crore. They required Rs. 1,900 crore for the 'Turn Around'. The scheme was made on the eve of the elections. All national centres were called and an agreement was signed. Our hon. Speaker was, at that time, the Labour Minister and Shri G. Venkat Swamy was the Minister of Textiles. Every worker thought that "now dream will be fulfilled. Rs. 1,900 crore will come, 79 units will recover and he will get the employment". But then came a Statement in this House by the then Textile Minister. He said

"In view of the above-mentioned reasons and fact that the sale proceeds from the surplus land were not available for the investment in rehabilitation, the Turn Around Package of 1995 would not be put to implementation."

He washed his dirty linen in the House by saying, "I am unable to do anything." For two to three years, the workers were provided a dream that this 'Turn Around Programme' would come.

Mr. Chairman, a few days ago, on the 9th of this month, in Parliament I raised this question and then came the reply.

"In the Statement made on the floor of this House on 3.3.1997, the reasons for non-implementation of the 'Turn Around Strategy' for the NTC mill approved by the Government in 1985, have been indicated. Since the sale proceeds from the surplus land are not available and the BIFR has not yet given its approval to the rehabilitation package, the NTC holding companies have submitted a report after reviewing the economic viability of each of the mills by taking into consideration the concessions approved by the Government in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive as per the BIFR norms, this report is presently under the consideration of the Government. No final decision has yet been taken. The salient features of the revised 'Turn Around Strategy' would be laid on the Table of the House as and when finalised."

So, another dream of 'Turn Around' is waiting for the coffers of the Government of India.

16.00 hrs.

During this time, as a man who had spent the whole life in the trade union, I had submitted, at the instance of the Government of India, a scheme. The Secretary of the Industrial Development Department said that such a kind of regeneration scheme was only possible in Ahmedabad because Ahmedabad had a tradition of Mahatma Gandhi's late labour movement. Some 10 to 15 textile mills had gone under liquidation. I had engaged an expert of urban planning and paid him a sum of Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 75,000 from my voluntary organization, from my trade union and prepared a project. The project was very simple. Ahmedabad was the Manchester of India. During this period, in 1982 the share of Ahmedabad was 4.2 per cent in all new investments. And the 1992, the share of Ahmedabad in new investments came down from 4.2 per cent to 2.54 per cent. One-third of the textile mills were under liquidation. The Economic Adviser of the Industrial Development Department, Shri Rakesh Mohan, came to Ahmedabad—he is now being referred to as a magician for the infrastructure development—and requested us to work out something with the help of the town planner and with the help of the economist. We worked out a scheme. The scheme was very simple. The scheme was to reuse the land, to pay the workers their dues and put up the new industries inside the wall of Ahmedabad. Anybody, who is of the old times, would know that Gandhiji was living in the Ashram, which is on the west side of the bank, in 1930. On the east side, there were textile mills. When Gandhiji was asked as to what inspired him to fight for the textile labour he said that daily in the morning he was watching those chimneys of the textiles mills and he was worried about those labour. He started a labour movement in Ahmedabad.

At present, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole eastern part of Ahmedabad has been totally ruined because all the textile mills have been closed down. The workers are fed from hand to mouth. Nothing had been done. So, a scheme was worked out. We worked out a scheme. What was the broad outline of that scheme? The value of the machinery, which was under liquidation—there was no problem of

anything and if the Government of India wanted it, it could have asked the liquidator when we would have started this scheme—was Rs. 60 crore; the value of the building was Rs. 4.5 crore; the value of land was Rs. 93.90 crore and the value of fixed assets were Rs. 30.54 crore. The total income, which would have generated, was Rs. 191.84 crore. Somebody would say: "You know the creditors who have given the money. The financial institutions and the banks should be paid back." That was also under consideration. Against the liability of total accredited creditors, who had fought for their rights—the financial institutions, banks, IDBI—Total valued liability was Rs. 191.84 crore and the dues of the workers were Rs. 86.70 crore.

Sir, at that time, the deficit was only marginal. And at a revised land price, now there is a surplus. We requested the NRF to give the money of the workers and their legal dues and said that the scheme would be implemented by Gujarat State and new industries would be started. We had also calculated that the total land was 8.62 sq. metres and plots of 1,000 sq. meters would have created 616 plots, which would have provided employment to about 54,996 workers. So, the money goes back and the land is reorganised and not sold; new industries are allowed to come up and the total dues are given back to the financial institutions and banks. We only requested the NRF to provide the dues of the workers which was promised by the Finance Minister.

What is the latest position? NRF considered it for days together. The scheme was supported by the Textile Ministry. The scheme was supported by the Industry Ministry. The scheme was supported by the Labour Ministry. Then the final result was before the Standing Committee on Industry. The Secretary of the Industrial Development Department concerning NRF said that though the empowered authority of NRF had given in principle approval to this area regeneration scheme of the Government of Gujarat, yet no assistance from the NRF has so far been given for the scheme as the scheme requires necessary clearance from the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Economic Affairs in terms of the transaction of the business rules. Since three years, only because the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Economic Affairs is not giving approval, the Finance Ministry has been sitting tight. A scheme which can regenerate the whole economy of Ahmadabad, a scheme which can provide jobs to 60,000 workers, a scheme that can pay back the dues of textile mills, pay back the dues of the financial institutions is not being implemented. Nobody replies. Even the Secretary twice came. Shri Ashok Mitra, the Chairman asked him why was NRF created; you got a lot of money from the World Bank.

Sir, for Sardar Sarovar Project, I went to Washington. I met the World Bank man in-charge of this NRF who was giving money. I asked him, 'you have given money to the Government of India for VRF or for area regeneration, for re-training or for VRS.' He replied very categorically. 'We have told Shri Montekh Singh Ahluwalia very clearly that if you are going to use all the money for VRF, we will not further finance you. The money is only meant for such

schemes of area regeneration on that new employment can be created.'

At the end of the whole drama in 1997, what is the result? All those mills under liquidation which can be provide Rs. 191 crore, are one by one being auctioned by the High Court. Orders are issued for Amruta, Nutan, Omex, New Gujarat Synthetic No. 1, New Gujarat Synthetic No. 2, Aryodaya, Vivekanand, Rustom and Ahmadabad Commercial.

Who will purchase these mills in the auction? The land sharks will purchase them. You give properties created by the million workers out of their sweat and toil to the land shark, to the private managers but not to a scheme which can regenerate economy, not to the State Government which can regenerate the economy.

We travel from 1991, from the Budget speech of Dr. Manmohan Singh to the day of auctioning of the land of textile mills in Ahmadabad. Is this the way to handle the problem of NTC textile mills? What is happening in other parts of the world? There are people in this country who want to hire-and-fire. It is because in the name of globalisation, in the name of liberalisation, the industry people feel that the labour legislation should be revised.

There is a country called West Germany. There, the labour legislations are more stringent than ours. There the policemen also can form a union. There this kind of situation, technological change is taking place. Globalisation is taking place.

Here are the words of Chancellor of West Germany of CPD, the Christain Democratic Party. These are the words. There are limits to flexibility, says Heiner Geissler, a parliamentary leader of Mr. Kohl's Christain Democratic Party. He says, "We want no part of the hire-and-fire American systems where millions of people go without social protection". Then he refers to Margaret Thatcher's privatisation in Britain. He says, "...nor of the British scene where over half of the workforce is casual labour and where unemployment is still higher than ours".

It seems Germany could develop a new kind of approach for restructuring of the industry. In Roor, which is their steel area, when the steel industry became sick, the West German Government evolved a scheme 'land readjustment scheme'. These steel mills have large areas of land for stocking raw-materials like coal, etc. So, the West German Government told the steel industry people to part with the land at a subsidised price. We will create a new industry wherein your re-trained workers will be absorbed. That is how the land readjustment has worked in Germany without 'hire and fire' with full social security.

This is a very important problem. Ahmadabad today is a totally broken Ahmadabad. This is the 50th year of Freedom. What was our promise? Our promise was that we will implement this scheme in Ahmadabad. Then, we will be able to replicate it in Kanpur, if necessary, and if Shri Jyoti Basu agrees in Calcutta, and if someone agrees,

[Sh. Sanat Mehta]

in Mumbai also. This was our idea. But the bureaucracy, the Ministry of Finance which evolved the N.R.F. went to the world round and said that we have created N.R.F. We want to have a human face. The human face is tarnished by the black tar of unemployment.

I appeal to the Government not to make any dreams; do not accuse one Government and praise other Government. In Mumbai, the State Government did not give us the permission. Hon. Shri Jalappaji, the turnaround cost is only Rs. 2,000 crore. Can this mighty Union Government not take out Rs. 2,000 crore for one lakh families? This is a man-made calamity. Can this Government not give Rs. 400 crore to the people which are their legal dues? In the Court when we argued, when these mills were auctioned by the liquidator, the lawyer of the T.L.A. argued that we should be given our rights first. The judge said that: 'Nothing is possible under the Company Law and whatever share the labour will get out of the auction, you will get. But you have no first right'.

In this country, labour had some rights when the 'liberalisation' word was not there. We have lost all these rights.

I appeal to the hon. Minister that if this is not resolved in the 50th year of the freedom, the country would have no face to talk of Mahatma Gandhi, who started the labour movement in Ahmedabad, who was living in the Ashram on the western side of Sabarmati looking at the mills and telling the people that the exploitation must end. The hon. Prime Minister then should not refer to the name of Gandhiji. We take the name of Gandhiji and we finish the labour movement of Gandhiji. This is not acceptable. I hope that some conscience in the world will be arisen. I hope the trade unions of this country will unite for this problem and see that these textile labourers who were at the forefront of the freedom are given justice.

I remember Sane Guruji. Sane Guruji was the person who moved from Chauul to Chauul in Mumbai. He was an organised textile worker fighting for the freedom. He organised 60 days strike and soon after freedom, he took sleeping pills and committed suicide. As young men we thought that Sane Guruji was highly emotional; as young men we thought that he should have waited to see the fruits of the freedom. Today, many a time, we feel that he was, perhaps, right that in the 50th year of freedom, the textile labourers who he organised for fighting the freedom are being thrown out of employment and even their leave wages and remaining wages are not being paid to them.

With these words I conclude by making the recommendation that even today there is time for the Cabinet Sub-Committee to sanction the area re-generation scheme and I promise to the Government of India that we will make that scheme a success. They will not have to bear a single paisa burden.

With these words I conclude my speech. Thank you
 ... for giving me enough time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Harin Pathak to speak now. I do not like to put any restriction on time. But you should also be conscious on your own that there are other Members who are very much willing to speak on these very important issues.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD): Sir, I will put a restriction on my own because recently I have gone through some cardiac operation. I will not take much of the time. But I will say something.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman Sir, in this year we are celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our independence. Recently it was declared that a Special Session would be called and this festival would be celebrated all over the country. On the occasion of the forth coming 15th of August every house would glow with light. Our state Governments would make an assessment of the achievements and also the condition in which we were in 1947 and the progress made till 1997. We have sent 'Arya Bhat' in the space. Rakesh went in the space and returned to earth after viewing it from there. Today some of our fellow Parliamentarians are seen moving with cellulars in the house. There are many such achievements which could be mentioned. My veteran friend Shri Sanat Mehta spoke a lot about it. In spite of my illness I would like to place some points before you that while celebrating the 50th anniversary of the country we should not forget the identity of the country. Today we are forgetting our identity. Every aspect of this country's identity is unique may it be culture, politics or industries. Industrial identity of this country was established by—the cotton cloth.

I remember my school days when we were taught in the history that 'Mal Mal' cloth manufactured in Decca could be passed through a ring. It was in the time of pre-partition days.

I have been representing this constituency about which Shri Mehta had mentioned just now. It was the land of Gandhiji and it exists even today. My constituency has three names. My constituency has been named as Ahmedabad in the Parliament which I am representing. It has a population of 35 lakh people. Its old name is Karunavati and I have written to the Government to restore my constituency's original name. My constituency's third name is Manchester.

[English]

It is the city where I was born, which I represented in Parliament for the last nine years and which I represented in Ahmedabad Corporation for twenty years. I represented that city and raised the problem of my city on the floor of this House for the last nine years.

[Translation]

It's third name was Manchester because it had a control over entire country in regard to cotton cloths. There are 76 cloth mills in Gujarat and out of which 65 mills are located in my constituency itself. So, I was born in such

a city. I have witnessed those glorious days of this city and today in the 50th year of my age I am seeing the deteriorating condition of my city.

Just now Sanat Bhai very correctly said that Gandhiji while sitting in his ashram on the bank of Sabarmati river, was very happy to see the smoke coming out of the 65 Mills in my constituency as these mills provided bread to the two lakh families. These mills not only provided bread to the people of Gujarat but also to the people who have come to settle down in my constituency from the every hook and corner of the country such as Bihar, Calcutta, Bengal and Uttar Pradesh etc. That was the golden period for the textile industries as there were 76 textile mills. Why is the House concerned when we have made such a commendable progress? Also why are we discussing it? Because one by one the mills were being locked out. I do not want to indulge in its political aspect. Today only 25-30 Mills are operational. Such condition is not only prevailing in Gujarat but also everywhere in the country. There were 1200 mills in the country. Under the textile policy in 1985 the mills started closing down. We could not protect the interest of the workers engaged in these mills.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have told at the very outset that we are going to celebrate the 50th anniversary. We are proud of our constitution and we would celebrate it. What does our Constitution say? Could we successfully protect our constitution in this matters? I Quote:

[English]

the constitution of India, Directive principles of state policy—Articles 41 and 43.

[Translation]

Where in the protection of the workers interests has been mentioned.

[English]

I quote Article 41. It says:

"The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want."

I quote Article 43 which is very important.

"The State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities and, in particular, the State shall endeavour to promote cottage industries of an individual or co-operative basis in rural areas."

I quote Article 43A. I request the hon. Minister to please go through this Article 43A of the Directive Principles

of State Policy of our Constitution. It says:

"The State shall take steps, by suitable legislation or in any other way, to secure the participation of workers in the management of undertakings, establishments or other organisation engaged in any industry."

[Translation]

How we can celebrate? Two lakh workers, Ten lakh people and two lakh families have been rendered jobless for the last fifteen years. This has been discussed in this House so many times. Several schemes were formulated but all the schemes remain on papers, they have not been implemented. I have had this experience that is why I have to say this with all anguish. I reside in the centre of Karunawati. A beautiful pond is situated in middle of the city which is known as Kan Karia lake and on one side of the said pond I own a small flat. During the last ten years there is not a single day when there is no dead body wrapped in white cloth at the bank side. The boating site of the pond has become a place to commit suicide for the workers of the closed mill.

Sir, through you I want to put forward some demands before the hon'ble Minister. By putting forward these demands I want to explain the situation in regard to which a mention was made by Shri Sanatji just now, prevailing in the entire textiles industry. In 1985 at the time of declaration of textiles policy. Textile workers Rehabilitation fund was instituted to save this industry. According to the said policy the workers of the closed mill were to receive 75 percent of their monthly salary in the first year, 50 percent during the second year and 25 percent during the third year. Sir, through you, I urge upon the hon'ble Minister that under the rehabilitation programme, under T.W.R.F. twenty crore rupees of twenty thousand workers is outstanding. The workers have been rendered jobless. My city is facing lot of problems. The Government are least concerned about these ten lakh people. We have raised this problem in the House time and again. Sir, through you my first demand is that you should take up this matter with the hon'ble Labour Minister and arrangements should be made at least to release the outstanding amount of twenty crore rupees.

As has been stated by Shri Sanatji, he has himself prepared a scheme which has not been implemented. I would remember my Gandhian leader, perhaps Shri Sanatji has forgotten to mention his name. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (SURENDRA NAGAR): It is for you.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD): It is for me. Thank you.

Eighty years old Gandhian leader Shri Arvind Buch sitting on a dharna for the last three years at Major Mahajan pavement in Karunawati, Ahmadabad. The scheme prepared by him and approved by the Government, here I shall not mention that which party was in power in Gujarat and which was in the centre, but after lapse of three years

[Sh. Harin Pathak]

that particular scheme has not been implemented by the Government. Abid Hussain Committee was constituted by the Government in 1985-86 and the said committee submitted its report in 1993-94. I would like to urge upon the Government to implement the twelve recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee. The region where more than twenty five thousand workers are unemployed, textiles restructuring assets trust should be set up there and there should be a statutory authority to study all the circumstances. Methods should be evolved to refund the outstanding amount of the workers and for their rehabilitation, funds should be raised by selling the surplus land and small industries should be set up there by that money. But it is not being done. Everything is being referred to B.I.F.R. and B.I.F.R. functions under company Act. I would like to demand from the hon'ble Minister through you sir, that the recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee be studied to solve the lot of problems. ...*(Interruptions)* I have raised this question in the 18 sessions concluded during the recent years. I have raised this question in the House, out side of the House and with the hon'ble Minister. I am happy that we are celebrating 50th year of our independence, this session is going to conclude after two days and we will meet again during the special session after some days, we should think about the workers before commencing the special session. For implementation of the recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee textiles restructuring assessts trust be set up and provisions should be made therein for this.

Our new industrial policy was announced on 14th July, 1991. There was a mention of safety network to the workers therein. I have already said that I do not want to take much time as I am not feeling well and it is not my nature to deliver long speeches. These are the problems of my constituency and these problems are not of any individual but these are the problems of the entire country. The textile mills once of world fame are closing down one by one in the country. This should be discussed at length some scheme should be prepared in this regard. I would like to demand the twenty crore rupees due to the workers from the Government under the safety network to the workers.

The Gujarat Government have set an excellent example. An agreement has been made between Mazdoor Mahajan Sangh which was set up by Gandhiji 100-125 years ago and 11 mills of Gujarat state textile corporation. Provision of Voluntary Retirement Scheme has been made under this agreement and it has been declared to provide 220 crore rupees to the workers. This scheme is still under implementation. The workers are resigning voluntarily. I have been told that hundred percent labourers would join this scheme.

Mr. Sanat Mandal had raised a good question in this House. And with your permission I made this special mention in this connection. When you were in the chair and you have permitted us. Rest of our friends joined us. Mr. Speaker said that he will request the Government that

Parliament representing those areas where mills of National Textiles Corporations are situated be called in his chamber. I request you to kindly call the said meeting at the earliest. I would like to mention here that the scheme prepared in which 2005 crore rupees are involved is in a very sad state of affairs, the Government which has collective responsibility should resolve this problem. A rehabilitation scheme for N.T.C. mills involving 2005 crore rupees was prepared under the leadership of the hon'ble Textiles Minister Shri G. Venkataswami and the said scheme was approved by the Cabinet though the said scheme is yet to be implemented. We have been reading newspapers daily, that the Government have announced a scheme of rupees 2005 crores textile workers have been coming to us daily. I want to know from Shri Harin Pathank whether this news is correct. I recall that day very well. It was a day before Diwali. Bonus was not paid to workers of some textile mills. Two days earlier some people come to me. I have been at the residence of Shri G. Venkataswami a day before Diwali and have requested him to pay salaries and Bonus to the workers of N.T.C. mills. I am happy that he obliged me by acceding to my request.

But what is the fate of this scheme of 2005 crore rupees today? This Government is saying that this scheme is not acceptable to them, the previous Government have prepared this scheme with great efforts and this Government is not ready to accept the same. My friend has made a mention of I.L.O. I would also mention about that. I will conclude within two three minutes.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. I want that everybody should get the chance.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, you have allowed my colleague to speak for 40 minutes. I will take only three-four minutes more.

The International Labour Organisation in its recommendation No. 180 which was made in its convention No. 173 has clearly mentioned that the dues of the workers should be given priority.

[Translation]

Notices is being done. 3000 crore Rupees have been earmarked under the N.R.F. We have been demanding for the four-five years that 300 crore rupees be given to us as loan for rehabilitation of workers of the closed mills and for modernisation of the said mills.

16.24 hrs.

[Col. RAO RAM SINGH in the Chair]

Till date even a single rupee has not been given to us. I urge upon the Government that the loan received from the World Bank under N.R.F. We borrow money from world Bank for Modernisation and spend that money in voluntary Retirement Scheme. This is fraud. This is a case of hood-winking. The workers, when this case will get

exposed what will be our position in the world. On one hand our workers are getting unemployed and we are not in a position to fulfil their lawful as well logical demands pending for 5, 10 or 12 years. The Government policies regarding Provident Fund and Gratuity are so much complex that we are not able to even to make the payment of their arrears and their financial demands. I would like to bring two things in the notice of hon'ble Minister through you. Under N.R.F. scheme the workers of closed mills are trained for alternative jobs as Textile mill is a composite unit having different departments like bleaching, weaving and spinning. But the persons who are working there for the last 40 years, where will they go? How they will get their livelihood after closure of the Mill. Three months training is insufficient for them. My suggestion is that the period of training under NRF should be extended upto 4 months instead of 3 months and in lieu of paying them Rs. 30/- per day they should be paid Rs. 100/- per day. We have disbursed millions of rupees to the Banks.

[English]

I was fortunate to be a member of the Joint Parliament Committee which enquired into the scam.

[Translation]

I know that crores of rupees of this country has been usurped in the name of social obligation because of that scam and there is no one to ask for any account. That's why I wish when they complete their training they should be provided a kit related to their work for which they have been trained. We are celebrating the Golden Jubilee of our independence. I will like to convey the Textile Minister Mr. Jalappa that this basic industry of the country is almost vanishing. In 1942 in my region, a war of Independence was fought under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. All the Mill-workers in Ahmadabad had gone on without pay strike for continuously 3 months and 15 days on the call of Mahatma Gandhi. Those persons will be given Shields and gold medals. But those mill-workers who were not paid for 3 months and 15 days who were beaten and lathicharged by the police, they should be given their dues; they do not want any medal.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA: They should be paid their dues.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Their dues should be paid. I will like to convey through you that this is the right time to revive this vanishing and scattering Textile industry. As our colleague Mr. Sanat Mehta has expressed whether we have made any progress in these 50 years of independence. This city which was once known as Manchester of India is getting lifeless today. Nearly one million families are on the verge of starvation. So instead of making discussion under rule 193 in the House, some solid step should be taken. If it is not possible today then it should be taken tomorrow or day after tomorrow. If we are really worried about those workers and want to solve their problems, we should implemented all those schemes which have been prepared for them.

Infact, this industry, is not completely dead. But it seems dead because of lack on our part. If Government shows her strong will power to save the industry and carry it ahead, then in my opinion there won't be bottleneck. The whole House supports the Government on this issue. With these words I conclude and thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD): Hon'ble Chairman, while agreeing to the views of the previous speaker I would like to conclude stating with few points in this regard. Discussion is going here on textile industry. The Hon'ble Member has expressed his views over textile industry. But there are also industries like looms and handlooms in the villages. Government should also pay attention towards them. In this industry a large number of people are engaged and many of them have been rendered jobless. Handloom industry in my parliamentary constituency where Khadi was spun through looms, has come to closure. Weavers are neither given any cotton-yarn not any financial assistance for their looms. All the weavers who were engaged in loom industry, are jobless today and they are facing starvation. They are totally jobless. The Government should pay attention towards them, specially towards the rural loom-industry. I have been elected from the Aurangabad parliamentary constituency of Bihar. During this discussion I want to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the closure of Obra carpet industry which had been given a President Award in the past. Today even that industry has been closed.

With these words I would like to say that textile industry that is getting closed one by one, needs the attention of the Government and a serious thought should be given over it. A large number of persons are engaged in this industry. Some steps should be taken to solve the problem of these people with these words I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT (PANDHARPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while moving the motion for this discussion, Shri Sanat Mehta has made a very good contribution so far as the textile industry is concerned. I fully endorse his views.

The textile industry is the largest industry in the country. One-fifth of the output of the nation is invested in this industry. One-third of the total export earning is coming from this industry. So, this is the most important industry. But it is unfortunate that the Government has not paid any attention to this industry. I am not blaming any Government this or that. But right from the inception of democracy, this industry is being neglected.

The Indian textile industry is mainly based on cotton. Cotton is pre-dominantly a raw material of this industry. The price of cotton varies from year to year. If the cost of raw material of any industry is much more than 60 per cent, then the industry runs into losses. Similarly, it happens to the textile industry also. Our policy should be in keeping with the raw material procured for this industry at cheaper

[Sh. Sandipan Thorat]

rates. So, cotton should be made available at a reasonable price for this industry.

In so far as production of yarn is concerned, I may submit to the hon. Minister about the textile industries of Maharashtra and not of the whole country. I am limiting myself to the spinning mills that are very much important in rural areas of Maharashtra. Spinning industry in cooperative sector was the dream of the late Shri Y.B. Chavan who was the pioneer of this industry in the State of Maharashtra. This spinning industry is being destroyed because a lot of restrictions are there. First and foremost, I would like to state here about the hank-yarn obligation which is the main hurdle of this industry. The Textile Ministry has issued the Hank-yarn Obligation Order from time to time. Fifty per cent of yarn is to be produced in hank-yarn form. I submit, when the mill produces hank-yarn, there is nobody to purchase it. It is said that handloom is there. But it is only on paper. Handloom is not there in actual working. I am not against the handloom sector. It should work properly; it should work actually. But the people are weaving their clothes on powerloom. They are affixing their seal made from handloom and making money out of it by way of getting concessions from the Government. This should be stopped. You continue this hank-yarn obligation. Suppose the mill has produced a hank yarn, then there should be a scheme to purchase it where you put an obligation on the production, naturally there should be a policy to purchase it. When the Essential Commodities Act is applied here, it should be applied *in toto* and not partially. The Essential Commodities Act implied that when you fix up the obligation on production, you should purchase it and sell it through fair price shops at reasonable price through public distribution system.

The Government should come forward in this direction. The Government should purchase it and keep it in the fair price shops. Let them purchase from the fair price shops. We do not have any objection. A number of mills are suffering because they are having stocks in their godown lying and nobody is coming to purchase from them. This is a fact. It hampers the production and also results in making losses.

Sir, if there is one unit in a rural area having a capital of less than Rs. 10 crore, that unit produces, within 10 years, more than Rs. 150 crore of the national income by way of payment of wages, by way of electricity bills, by way of excise duty, by way of sales tax payments, by way of provident funds, etc. All these things are there. So, please see that the Hank Yarn Obligation Order, 1995 is withdrawn. If you do not want to withdraw, then please have a scheme of purchasing of the yarn.

I would ask why you do not have a yarn bank. Purchase the hank yarn and keep it in the bank. Let the weavers come and purchase it from the Handloom Commissioner. Do not make the spinning mills sick. Some of the spinning mills in Maharashtra are becoming sick due to the Hank Yarn Obligation.

[Translation]

Netaji and Harin Pathakji were saying that Ahmadabad is the Manchester of India ... (Interruptions) Sholapur is also the Manchester of India, this truth is known to Naik Saheb. Even today, a very good quality of cloth is exported from Sholapur. Sholapur is famous for bed-sheets and towels, but its condition has changed a lot. The former Speaker, Shri Shiv Raj Patil is present here, who happens to be son-in-law of our city. But this city is in such a bad condition that it can not be described in words. Spinning and weaving Mill at Sholapur that was going well, is closed. Even the land belonging to the Mill has been sold. The case of Laxmi-Vishnu mill is still pending with B.I.F.R. You should think a little bit about that. The owners of the Mill and the officials of B.I.F.R. are in collusion, so you should keep this point also in mind.

Sir, Laxmi-Vishnu Mill which was one of the best-mills has been closed and as a result of it about four thousand mill-workers have been rendered jobless. They have no means to earn thick livelihood. They have no food to eat. I would like to appeal the hon'ble Minister to take over those mills through N.T.C. The discussion for providing assistance to N.T.C. is going on in the House. It will be made available to you. I think, the programme that has been prepared by Mr. Vankatswamy will be given to you. I am sure that the whole House will support you in this fight.

You will also get money. You will get the same amount of money by selling land in Mumbai and Ahmedabad as you will get in Sholapur for selling the land there, because the rate of land is attractive in Sholapur. The Mill-owner is selling the land of Mill, you should stop him. Issue orders them to stop what is going on. Take out the ordinance and keep it in your possession. Four thousand families will bless you.

The other thing that I want to say is that the census that is going on about handloom, should be expedited and it should be found out as to how many handlooms are working in this country and how much yarn is required for them. I had also talked to you unofficially that there should be a textile unit in Sholapur. A training Centre should also be established there to stop the deteriorating condition of handloom industry in Sholapur city.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me at the outset thank the hon. Speaker for admitting a very important and national issue, that is, the crisis in the textile industry.

Textile industry is one of the important and vital industries of our country. This industry is vital and important not because that it has a number of units, not because it alone employes more than 20 million workers, not because one-fifth of our total exports is from the textile sector but because this industry, in the past, had helped to make our country self-sufficient.

Sir, when we were not independent, Dhaka's musleem was famous. In order to destroy that industry and to capture our market, the Britishers conspired. But, Sir, this industry which had grown in the past is facing crisis not from 1980s. Shri Sanat Mehta has very elaborately, very eloquently and very emotionally dealt with all aspects of the problems of the textile industry from 1982 including the public sector undertakings and the National Textile Corporation. The sickness was started from 1951. A statement on Textile Policy was announced on the floor of this House on the 26th July, 1985.

17.00 hrs.

While dealing with the problems of textile industry, the reasons behind the sickness, the crisis, have been stated. There is not one factor. There are a number of factors. The factors for growing sickness have been stated in the National Textile Policy Statement. I quote:

"Growing sickness is not of the recent origin as seen from the fact that there were 151 uneconomic units as early as 1951. The various factors that had contributed to the sickness but the obligation of the composite mills to supply a certain percentage of their production at controlled flow, at concessional prices as a social obligation, a prolonged period, long, high cost of cotton man-made fibres at stores, higher electricity charges, the mounting wage bills, surplus labour, high incidence of excise duties, periodic recession in demand, the shift in consumer preference from cotton to blended and man-made fabrics, outmoded machinery, unhealthy competition from mushrooming growth of the power-loom due to excise duty concession given to them and its evasion and management of these mills in general."

These are the factors, the reasons which are elaborated while dealing with the crisis in the textile industry. In order to tackle that, a fund of Rs. 750 crore was created for the modernisation of sick textile mills because it was felt and the main reason was that the machinery was outmoded. Modernisation was not done and in order to make those sick mills viable, modernisation was needed. For modernisation, a fund was created. But what was the result of the efforts of the modernisation? The fund was created. That was not properly utilised. As a result of that, after 1985, when the policy statement was made on the Floor of the House, instead of making some of these sick mills viable, more and more textile mills became sick.

After BIFR was constituted under the Sick Act, more than 300 mills were referred to the BIFR. It is rather surprising when this is such a vital industry which is employing more than 20 million workers, why it is being neglected for years together.

When the National Renewal Fund was announced in 1992, the objective was laudable. We expressed our apprehension that although the objectives were laudable, although the BIFR was created for modernisation, for revival, for retraining and for redeployment, the main purpose of creating the National Renewal Fund was to provide funds for Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

The re-training programme was neglected. A small portion of this Fund was utilised for re-training and redeployment.

Sir, because of our outdated technology, we are facing problems and crisis. There is a need to update our technology because the modernisation is a continuous process. The National Textile Corporation was formed in the year 1968. Since 1968, 120 mills came under the National Textile Corporation. Almost all the mills belonging to the National Textile Corporation were taken over and subsequently nationalised. Nationalisation was not the only panacea. After nationalisation what was needed was infusion of funds for replacement of overaged, old and outdated machinery.

Since 1968, we will find that for modernisation nothing has been done. It is a track record of the Government of India. The mills were taken over and nationalised. The objective was to run the mills efficiently. That was the prime objective when the mills were taken over. How the mills could be run efficiently? The mills could be run efficiently only by providing the funds, by modernising the old-aged, out-dated and out-modelled machinery. But the mills were closed and abandoned. This was not only to save the workers but also to run the mills. The rehabilitation means rehabilitation of the sick mills. How can it be done? It can be done through modernisation.

The textile workers have a history of struggle. Before independence, they fought for the independence. They joined in the independence struggle. After independence, these textile workers had to struggle.

We have the history of Mumbai Textile workers struggling. How many mills were closed in one year? A number of mills were closed, but the workers did not end their struggle. Now, all the textile workers, all the Central trade unions from C.I.T.U. to B.M.S.—five of six Central trade unions—have joined together and have formed a Joint Action Committee. After a prolonged struggle, a demand was made on the floor of this House. There are a number of Textile Research Associations.

These four Textile Research Associations—SITRA, BTRA, NITRA and ATIRA—were entrusted the job to examine the sickness and to suggest measures as to how to improve the situation and as to how all these sick mills can be revived. They submitted their report to the Government after two years. It is a very voluminous report. All the Research Associations made a unit-to-unit study and not a general examination or study. I have a copy of the report of the Textile Research Association. They made unit-to-unit study about the viability and how it can be achieved. One year after the submission of the report a Committee was formed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we were told by the former chairperson that there will be no restriction. Shri Chitta Basu is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no restriction. The only restriction is that two hours are permitted for this under Rule 193.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The debate will not be conclude today.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): Sir, the time is four hours and not two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The direction given to me is for two hours. I have got to go by the direction given to me.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The debate will not be concluded today. It will spill over to tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The two hours' time will end at 5.30 p.m.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The House will not sit beyond 6 p.m. The debate will not be concluded today. There are a number of speakers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The two hours' time will end at 5.30 p.m. The debate started at 15.35 hours.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, it was discussed in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee. At that time, the time of four hours was fixed. I do not know how the timing has been changed. This is a very important matter concerning the entire working class of this country.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, this discussion is there under Rule 193. But when it was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee it was decided that a full-fledged debate should take place and four hours was the limit which was put. But the discussion has been put so far as the rule is concerned, under Rule 193.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The discussion is under Rule 193. It says that: "Notice shall be supported by the signatures of at least two Members." It further states and I quote:

"The Speaker may allot two sittings in a week on which such matters may be taken up for discussion and allow such time for discussion not exceeding two hours at or before the end of the sitting."

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, in order to bring the subject matter this was put within the purview of Rule 193.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, the discussion under Rule 193 are never finished in two hours. This is the reality. You know it very much.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Yes.

SHRI RAM NAIK: We were there when the matter was decided in the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the rule. That is the direction given by the hon. Speaker that two hours have been allotted. If the House wants the time to be extended, I can only represent it to the hon. Speaker for his final

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, that can be done. In the meanwhile the debate can continue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it will not be concluded today. In order to conclude my speech, I need another 15 to 20 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are a number of speakers. I request you to kindly conclude. The only restriction is that we have got to give time to all the other Members. We have to make our points very briefly.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Members should be allowed to express their views. I think too much restriction should not be imposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I entirely agree with you that too much restriction should not be there. The only restriction is that if you take too much time you are taking away the time from the other hon. Members.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have my concern about that.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (SURENDRA NAGAR): Sir, I am very much inspired because the Members of the Panel of Chairman are asking for more time and when we speak and when they are in the Chair they restrict us. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure that you have raised a very vital point. I am told that there are 120 mills which are sick at the moment.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: A committee was constituted under the chairmanship of ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request you kindly to think of winding up now.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: The Textile Ministry constituted a committee with five major central trade unions, INTUC, CITU, HMS, AITUC and BMS to discuss the revival of NTC mills. Then, after a thorough discussion for two years, there was a unanimous agreement in the special tripartite committee on 9.4.94 for the revival of NTC mills as per the scheme prepared by the Textiles Research Association. All the national central trade unions agreed to the voluntary retirement scheme that 36,000 workers would have to opt for voluntary retirement. Then, the Government took one year to approve it. A number of times, we raised the issue on the floor of the House as to why the revival package was not being approved by the Cabinet when there was an agreement. We do not know the reasons behind this. The four textile research associations were appointed by the Government of India. They made a unit to unit study and submitted a report. Then, a committee was constituted. Then, in the meeting of the special tripartite committee, there was a unanimous agreement. The unions, the management and the Government agreed to it. After that, why did the Government of India take one year to approve it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia. I request you

to kindly think of winding up because you have already taken 25 minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I will conclude within 10 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry to say that 10 minutes is too long a period. It is unfair to the other Members. They will not be able to speak. The debate has to be completed today.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I have certain important points. I will finish by 5.30 p.m. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: It can continue tomorrow also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar, the direction from the Speaker is to complete it today.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Eventually, we are mentioning it in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I am not in a position to say how much business remains for completion in the House in the next two days. Therefore, *suo motu* I am sorry to say that I am unable to extend the time.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: All the subject matters have been taken specially because there was no business. We have taken up all the subject matters in order to fill up the gap. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, a clearcut decision should have been arrived at in the meeting of the Business Advisory Committee that the time is extended to four hours. I am sorry that there is no such clearcut direction.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: It was decided. If it is not there on the paper, it is not my mistake.

I will say this much that all these subjects have been taken up specially to fill up the time gap and this being a very burning issue in the country, this should be given top priority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sure all the subjects which have come up before this august House are important.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (INDORE): This is a very serious matter involving so many workers, therefore, it would not be justified, if we finish it within one and half hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, it is not a question of one and a half hour, it is a question of full two hours.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We people and the entire House want you to extend the time.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: According to Rule 193, the time limit

is two hours. Until I get the Speaker's direction, I do not know the position. Tomorrow, there may be something which is equally important. I know that this is an important subject. But tomorrow there may be something which is equally important.

[Translation]

Tomorrow, there may be another subject having equal importance. It is upto the Business Advisory Committee to decide whether or not to extend the House after 16th.

[English]

I am not in a position to say that. Therefore, *suo motu*, I am in no position to extend the time.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the Government could not find any fund for the revival of 79 N.T.C. mills. Then, there was a proposal that the fund would come from the sale proceeds of the surplus land of all these mills. That package was approved. At that point of time, I presume that the Government of Maharashtra agreed to that proposal. The consent of the Government of Maharashtra was taken at that time. Then, one year after that, when the United Front Government came into office at the Centre, the Government of Maharashtra changed their view and they refused to allow the surplus land to be sold. The land belongs to the mills. If the Government is serious enough to revive and to modernise the 79 mills, as proposed ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to make a clarification here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If Shri Basu Deb Acharia is yielding, you can do that.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: The Government of Maharashtra is not selling the land because all the textile workers in Mumbai are opposing the selling of the land tooth and nail. That is the reason for not selling the land.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: All the unions of textile workers in Mumbai have also agreed to the selling of the land. So, some methodology has to be worked out. The Central Government can acquire the land by amending the Urban Land Ceiling Act, because after the approval of the Cabinet they cannot change the revival package.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I am informed that *suo motu* I am not in a position to extend the time and the debate is due to end at 5.35 p.m. I think, the hon. Minister would like to take 15 or 20 minutes to reply to the debate. That is the position. So, what is the view of the House? I will be directed by the wishes of the House. I am informed that according to the rules I am in no position to extend the time of the debate beyond two hours which ends at 5.35 p.m. and before that the Minister has to make a reply. So, I would now request some hon. Members to guide me on this issue.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I would like to say something on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just before you speak, I would like to say that in Kaul and Shakdar a number of instances are quoted. But I would not like to go into all of them. I am sure the House is in a position to guide me correctly on this issue. A number of very senior Members are sitting here.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I will share my information. In the Business Advisory Committee it was agreed that this discussion will take place, at least, for four hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am amazed if it was agreed how is it that it is not recorded in the report of the Business Advisory Committee which was presented to the House? Was it mentioned that four hours will be taken for this?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, it is not mentioned in the report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then Shri Ram Naik. I have to be guided by the rules and conventions.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, I am trying to persuade you that as Members, we feel that the discussion should be continued. Now in the informal discussion, it was agreed that before the Minister replies to the debate tomorrow, there will be a meeting of the concerned MPs with the Speaker to sort out the problem. That is all informal and not formal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I say one thing? I would like your guidance on the specific question, whether the Chairman is in a position to overrule a well established convention and rule. Is he in a position to overrule?

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, on a number of occasions the discussion under Rule 193 has been extended for one day.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (LATUR): Sir, you are very right when you say that according to the rule the time is fixed. The word 'shall' that is used in the rule is for having two occasions in a week's time for discussions of this nature.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It says that twice in a week a discussion under Rule 193 can be taken up at the end of the sitting allotting two hours. So, how do we go beyond that?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The word 'shall' is not applicable to two hours. The word 'shall' is applicable to two occasions. That is not binding on us. If it is the desire of the House and if the Members are willing to sit in the House—as the subject is very important—and if you think that it is proper, the time can be extended and the Members can be given the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will entirely be guided by whatever is the sense of the House.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I agree with what Shri Shivraj Patil has said. As he has very rightly said, it is the House that can request you to extend the time.

I think, it will be quite within your powers to accept it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, you extend the time from two to six hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I request you to kindly not treat it so lightly. Please do not treat it as a joke.

So, what I am in a position to do is to extend the time till 6.00 P.M. After that it will be up to the Speaker to decide as to what he does. As it stands now, there are four more speakers are therefore I will request Shri Basu Deb Acharia—who has already taken 35 minutes—to conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, they should not change the package which was approved by the Cabinet and they should not close down any of the mills. A sub-committee of some Secretaries was constituted and they submitted a report. Then, another report was submitted by the Ministry of Finance to revive only 13 mills and they recommended to throw out 1,04,000 workers to the streets. They should implement the package which was approved by the earlier Government by amending the Land Ceiling Act. Till they implement it, a fund or a loan or a bridge loan can be provided and sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance.

We urge upon the Minister of Finance and the Government of India also that till such a fund is created from the sale of surplus land, loan should be provided for the revival of 79 sick mills of NTC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, ladies have to be given a chance. Geetaji, I would request you to make it very brief.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, before I talk about NTC mills, I will talk about NJMC, that is, the jute industry.

Sir, you know the situation that millions of people are connected with this jute industry. If the jute mills become sick, be they private or public, then it is a very serious situation. As far as NJMC is concerned, a revival scheme has been prepared, and it has been agreed upon by the Government of India. But unfortunately, the necessary money is not being given as the working capital. It is essential that this be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can you talk about jute mills under this subject?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Sir, these jute mills also come under the same Ministry. I got it clarified in the BAC. The Minister has agreed upon it, but that money has not yet come.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (BARASAT): Sir, the discussion is regarding the problems of textile industry. So, it includes jute also.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: In this connection, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards

the cement industry's consistent violation of the Government's mandatory order for compulsory buying of 50 per cent jute bags for packaging their products. They went to the court against the Government order and lost their case. Even then, they are not abiding by this mandatory order. The Government must take stern measures so that the cement industry moves according to the Government orders. If they do that, then the jute industry, both private and public, can be saved from sickness as one of their big products are jute bags.

Lastly, JCI's role must be activated by giving it necessary help from the Government. As far as the NTC is concerned—already much has been said, and I am not going to repeat anyone of them—I am suggesting that a task force or a study group be appointed, consisting of technical experts, Government representatives, labour representatives and employers' representatives. They should go into the pros and cons of the matter, that is, the sickness in the textiles industry, and to submit its report within six months proposing detailed revival plans including diversification so as to retain the effective workforce and releasing others with adequate compensation and other related benefits. These benefits should be given to them. Pending the finalisation of the proposed revival scheme, budgetary support should be continued. Of course, payment of idle salaries and wages without any productive operation should be discouraged in a phased manner.

The administration of the viable units should be done by professional management with the active cooperation of the workforce. The other private textile units should be encouraged for adopting limited modernisation plan and also viability of those units.

Let these few things be done at least. Once again, I particularly insist on the jute bag purchase by cement industry so that the jute industry can be saved.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the problems of the jute industry. My honourable and esteemed friend Shri Sanat Mehta did not look into this subject comprehensively. Textile Ministry also includes the jute textile.

Some of the textile mills are very important in the economy of the region or State. So far as the Eastern part of the country is concerned, jute constitutes the lifeline of economy in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Tripura.

About four crores of people, particularly growers, are dependent on the jute industry. The main problem of the jute industry is that the growers are not being dealt with fairly. They are always subjected to deprivation and exploitation and they require justice from the Government.

I do not want to describe the jute economy of our country for want of time. JCI was established right in the year 1971 and the object was very clear when you see that the Jute Corporation of India is the only procurement agency of the Government to provide not remunerative,

but minimum support price operation in our country. If you are coming from Punjab, if wheat is not bought by the Government and also at reasonable and remunerative price, you can very well understand what would be the impact of that distress sale on wheat for Punjab and Haryana. Similarly, if they are deprived of remunerative prices, not only the economy of the growers, but the economy of the States is shattered. So, the economy at the national level cannot survive.

The Jute Corporation of India was set up in India in 1971 and it was passed by a law of this House and I had the opportunity of taking part of that debate also. JCI was also established by a statute of this House. The main objective of this statute was to procure raw jute direct from the growers at a remunerative price, to serve as a stabilising agency in the raw jute sector through its market intervention operation and holding and releasing stocks whenever necessary to remove imbalances in supply and demand and to function as an official agency for implementing the policy of providing minimum support price to the jute growers. As I have mentioned, MSP is not being operated today in the current months. However, JCI is in deep red and unless the JCI is allowed to survive, there is no possibility for the lakhs and crores of our jute growers to get justice.

Therefore, we want the JCI because when the price falls, the JCI can purchase jute at the minimum support price. This way, peasants will not be forced to resort to distress sale.

I want to be very frank with you in saying that this JCI is not operating on the MSP because of lack of funds. This lack of fund has been created because of the faulty policy of the Government of India and particularly of the Ministry of Textiles. I would say that the Government have not re-imbursed Rs. 58 crore on account of loss due to the MSP operation, as on 31st March last and also Rs. 69 crore due to outstanding payment for supply of jute to the NJMC. This NJMC is a public sector corporation. A lot of jute has been supplied by the JCI but the price has not been paid by the NJMC to the JCI. Therefore, on the whole, more than Rs. 130 crore is due from the Government.

I had the privilege of serving the unions of JCI. They say that they are prepared to revive the mills but the JCI is not prepared to protect, preserve and promote the interests of the growers as well as of mills. More than Rs. 2.5 lakhs is washed out in West Bengal alone in jute mills. Many of the jute mills are closed and many of the jute mills are under lock-outs. I do not want to go into the details of suffering and the plight of the workers of these jute mills. It is in the interests of the mill workers, it is in the interests of the jute growers and it is in the interests of our foreign trade to earn foreign exchange. This sector of our economy is not to be neglected. If this sector is neglected, it is neglected at our national peril. This is my simple demand.

One demand has been that the JCI should be allowed to operate commercially, that is, they should be provided

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

with seed money so that they can purchase jute from the market at a reasonable price and sell it to the NJMC because they also require about 15 lakhs of bales in a year. I am thankful to the Government and particularly to the hon. Minister Shri Jalappa for having agreed to giving them an opportunity of purchasing 60,000 bales for the NJMC. When the requirement is five lakh bales, they have permitted them to purchase jute from the market to the extent of 60,000 bales. The jute workers, the employees of the JCI and I myself want that they should be provided with more seed money for commercial operations to cater to the needs of the NJMC.

My last point is that a high-powered committee has been set up to go into the problems of jute industry and particularly the JCI. The high-powered committee had submitted its report in July 1994. Some recommendations had been made and those recommendations have been kept on shelf. I think, by that way, you are killing the JCI. You are not only killing the JCI, you are killing the economy of the country and inviting disaster to it. I want the hon. Minister to look into this matter.

One very important point has been raised by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

A law is there. This Parliament has made the law and the cement industrialists—I am constrained to say—have pressurised upon some sections of the Ruling parties and they are allowing the cement industry not to compulsorily use the jute bags. Only to protect the interests of the cement industry, they are killing the jute industry. Only to preserve the interests of some multinationals, they are killing hundreds of thousands of our growers in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Assam, West Bengal and Bihar.

Therefore, Sir, I want that the policy should be revised and it should be seen that the cement industry is compelled to obey the law. I think, nobody is above the law. We are all within the law. We are to abide by the law. But a particular section of our society is violating the law with impunity.

About the NTC, I have got some demands. So, I just hurriedly read out and complete.

Modernisation and nationalisation should be carried out in consultation with the unions; there should be no retrenchment; there should be no privatisation; taken-over mills should be nationalised and surplus land may be disposed of and the proceeds should be utilised by the management for modernisation, working capital, etc.

The rest I leave it to the Government.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR: If it goes to the BIFR...

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That is your business. My business is to see that the industrialists grow, the workers grow and the country progresses ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I ask Shri Ram Naik to speak, I would inform you that the hon. Speaker has indicated

that he is having a meeting—I think, Shri Ram Naik also pointed out—on 15th of May and the final decision will be taken at that meeting.

Shri Ram Naik, are you yielding to Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Yes, I am yielding to him because he represents our supporting party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: My name is also there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am trying my best to accommodate as many speakers as possible.

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Sir, I would request you to look at the small parties also to see that they should not be victimised of the time constraint.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am always in favour that the back benchers should get more and more time rather than all the big leaders who are speaking all the time. But I again entirely cannot ignore senior people like Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar and Shri Ram Naik.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: I am a new Member, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. You are a very senior Member.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Sir. Today, the House is discussing about the plight of the labourers in the textile industry and the problems of textile mills in this country under Rule 193.

This problem has become a burning problem in this country today. Why has it become a burning problem, that is an important thing to know. When it has become a burning problem as such, what steps have been adopted by the Central Government to get over this problem and redress the grievances of the labourers? By virtue of questions, this problem was raised in this House on a number of occasions and the concerned Minister, hon. Shri R.L. Jalappa, has tried to give his replies to the queries raised.

My problem is that by merely discussing this problem in the House, whether we will be in a position to find out some remedy and give some relief to the textile mill labourers.

Shri Sanat Mehta, the hon. Member has mentioned the plight of the life of the textile labourers in Ahmedabad. He has gone to the stages of independence as to how the textile workmen had sacrificed their lives and their wages also for achieving the independence in this country. When it has happened in Ahmedabad, it has also happened equally in Mumbai. The mill labourers in Mumbai have struggled for independence. On a number of occasion, the mills were closed. A number of mill workers had gone to

jails and a number of labourers had sacrificed their lives during the struggle for Independence. This being the case, why today this industry is totally neglected by the Central Government? That is the first question that I am going to ask the hon. Minister and the Government.

As you know, in Mumbai, the late Dr. Datta Samant had initiated the strike in 1981 and that strike even today continues. Dr. Datta Samant is no more. But he had not mentioned any time when he withdrew the strike. The strike is still continuing. It has made a pride of life of the labourers and they are facing tremendous amount of problems in our city. There were about 60 textile mills employing 2.85 lakh employees.

Once upon a time, the textile industry continued to be the largest industry in the country accounting for about a fifth of the total industrial output and around one-third of the total export earnings and providing employment to not less than 20 million labourers. This was the picture. What is today's position? Out of 60 textile mills, according to my information, around 25 to 30 mills are working and out of these, only ten to 12 mills are making some profits; the rest of the mills are suffering and sick. The NTC has taken over these mills. My straight question to the Government is: Have you at any time surveyed the working of these NTC mills? How many workers are working? What is the productivity? What wages are you paying? How many workers are actually doing the work? If there is no work, why there is no work? How much work of NTC mills goes outside at Biwandi and other places? All this information one has to collect. Then only, people will come to know as to why NTC mills are incurring losses.

Actually, the other day, as per the information furnished by the Central Government—Shri Jalappa is still here—he said that out of 36 mills, 65000 employees are working and they are getting only wages and they are not doing any job. No job has been provided to them. This information was given to this august House six months before.

My simple question to the Government is that if you go on paying the wages to the workers and labourers without doing any job, how long are you going to pay the public money to the people without output, without returns? Why are you providing all these jobs to all other sundry powerloom workers. You are providing these only because you can get the job done at cheaper rates, because you cannot afford to pay the wages which are now high. And because of that you are playing a double role. Are the officers who are working in such mills really honest to the purpose? Are they really honest to the organisation and the Government?

What are they doing? Why are they paying like that?

Now the intra trade union rivalry has been mentioned. Mr. Basu Deb Acharia is not here. He has mentioned that the Government of Maharashtra is not allowing them to sell the land. What is the reason? Would the Central Government guarantee us that even after selling the land, the mills will work very smoothly and all the employees

will get their regular job and they will not be jobless; and mills will not be closed? Is there any guarantee? Today the approach is like this. Whatever land is there at their disposal, they sell it up. One-third is sold to the housing scheme, one-third to the mills and one-third for re-developing the entire mills. By this method, are you going to really work on a proper basis? Do you really think that if you sell away the land, whatever money you get, you will utilise that money properly? If you are under that impression, my question is, why have these textile mills gone sick. What has the Government done to see that the mills are not getting sick by ensuring whether the machinery which was required was timely put? No development has taken place in the mills. Has any automatic machine been inducted into the industry? If it is not so, why they have not done it?

It is just like taking out juice from sugarcane. Whenever we need the juice, we put the sugarcane into the machine. At the first stage, you get maximum juice from it. Then, again, you put it into the machine and get some juice. Thereafter again, you do the same exercise by putting it in two-fold. Thereafter you fold the sugarcane four times and put into the machine and you get some juice. Thereafter what happens, when there is no possibility of juice coming out, you collect the entire crushed sugarcane and make it in a round shape and put it into the machine by applying maximum strength. Whatever drop of juice one gets, he tries to collect it. Thereafter, what is the exercise? The entire crushed sugarcane is thrown out. As far as the employees of the country are concerned, as far as the employees of the entire world are concerned, this is the universal truth. The employees are utilised in this particular manner. So long as they get anything out of that employee, they go on exploiting him. The moment the employer feels that out of this particular employee, the chances are very remote to get anything, in that case, he has been thrown out.

Now new scheme has come called VRS. Under VRS, not only textile mills but a number of other factories are also getting closed. What is this VRS? Make the workers redundant, make them surplus, keep them idle for two months, three months, six months and one year. Thereafter tell them, see our industry has become sick. Now globalisation and liberalisation has come; we are required to be competitive quantity-wise and quality-wise. Unless we introduce automation, which is not likely to come, we will not be in a position to face world competition, as far as the product is concerned. This is how the entire scenario in this country is getting changed. What is the remedy for that? My question is addressed to Shri Jalappa. Whatever replies you have given here, I have gone through those replies. They are very complex and very controversial ones. I really fail to understand the approach proposed to this problem. By this method, what returns we are likely to get and what relief we are going to render to those workmen who are sufferers today? This is how I look at the problem today. I quote one of the newspapers which was mentioned in the House.

[Sh. Madhukar Sarpotdar]

18.00 hrs.

It says:

"The Union Cabinet is considering a radical proposal by the Finance Ministry to shut down 120 mills of the National Textile Corporation. If accepted, the proposals would render nearly a lakh workers unemployed."

This was the version given to them.

What is the aim? The aim is to make the labourers unemployed first. Whatever money is to be paid, pay them and let them go out of the industry. Then, bring new machines, hire all new labourers, give minimum wage and start the industry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wait for a minute.

If the House agrees, we can extend the sitting of the House today till the conclusion of the speech of Shri Madhukar Sarpotdar.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (BERHAMPORE) (WB): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request you to extend the sitting of the House by one hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, it is agreed. After that, the directions of the hon. Speaker may be taken as to whether how much time he wishes to extend and whether the Minister is to reply tomorrow morning.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (KANPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let him continue his speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already taken 15 minutes. So, let him conclude his speech today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Sir, will this discussion be continued tomorrow? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: As I said, the directions of the hon. Speaker should be obtained as to whether he wishes to extend the sitting of the House. I think, he is favourably inclined to do so.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, I will continue my speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Sir, he can continue his speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE: Sir, I request the Chair to convey the wishes of the House to the hon. Speaker. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already done that by a written note.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (CUTTACK): Sir, he can continue his speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sarpotdar, you have already taken 15 minutes. Kindly conclude your speech.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: Sir, I have taken only seven minutes. I had seen the watch before I started my speech. I will continue my speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I leave it to the desire of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Sir, let him continue his speech tomorrow.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, let him continue his speech tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. The hon. Member from Mumbai North-West is on his feet.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Supported by the Member from Mumbai North ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, May 15, 1997/Vaisakha 25, 1919 (Saka).

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