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Wednesday, July 24, 1991

Sravana 2, 1913 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

First Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, July 24, 1991/
Shravana 2, 1913 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha)

11.02 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Bhakt Darshan and Shri Shankar Dayal Singh.

Shri Bhakt Darshan represented Garhwal constituency of Uttar Pradesh successively for four terms during First, Second, Third and Fourth Lok Sabha between 1952-70.

Educated at Shantiniketan, Shri Bhakt Darshan joined the freedom struggle at an early age and suffered imprisonment for several years.

He was a noted parliamentarian and an educationist as well. As a Union Minister during 1963-71 he held with distinction various important portfolios.

During his long public life, Shri Bhakt Darshan took keen interest in the development of Garhwal and was associated with several organizations connected with the development of the region.

He was deeply involved in the promotion of Hindi and was intimately connected with various social and cultural organisations.

A promoter of healthy journalism, he was founder Editor of 'Karma Bhumi', a Hindi weekly. He had two publications—'Suman-Smriti-Granth' and 'Garhwal-Ki-Diwangat Vibhutiyan' to his credit.

A renowned and dedicated social and political worker, he truly believed in the Gandhian way of life and organised the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Fund. He worked relentlessly for the welfare of ex-servicemen and serving soldiers and also established Azad Hind Fauj Relief Fund.

Shri Bhakt Darshan passed away on 30 April, 1991 at the age of 79.

Shri Shankar Dayal Singh was a member of Eighth Lok Sabha during 1984-89, representing Dhanbad constituency of Bihar.

Earlier he had been a member of Bihar Legislative Council and Bihar Legislative Assembly for several years. He was a member of the State Council of Ministers for several years and held various portfolios with distinction.

An active political and social worker, he vigorously worked for the spread of education and established several educational institutions.

Shri Singh actively participated in the proceedings of the House and his contributions were much appreciated.

He passed away on 14 July, 1991, at the age of 66.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

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

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

11.05 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Atomic power plants

*121. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Atomic Power Plants proposed to be set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent any mishap like that which occurred in Chernobyl?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The Eighth Five Year Plan period and outlays are yet to be finalised. Apart from units already in operation, the second unit at Narora and 2×220 MWe units at Kakrapar will be commissioned and the units 3 & 4 at Rajasthan (2×220 MWe) and Kaiga 1 & 2 (2×220 MWe) will reach an advanced stage of construction during the Plan period. It is proposed to start construction of 4×220 MWe units at Kaiga (Kaiga 3 to 6), 2×500 MWe units at Tarapur (TAPP 3 & 4), 2×500 MWe units at Rajasthan (RAPP 5 & 6) and 2×1000MWe units at Kudankulam during the Plan period subject to

project financial sanction and availability of funds. A clear position will emerge regarding new units after the finalisation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(b) Accident of the type that occurred at Chernobyl, was specific to the RBMK type reactors and due to special circumstances under which it was operated at that time. This cannot happen to our reactors under well regulated operating conditions. In the light of Chernobyl accident, detailed reviews carried out by the Department of Atomic Energy, have established the adequacy of the safety of Indian Nuclear Power Reactors. As a matter of abundant caution, emergency preparedness plans at operating stations have been strengthened.

SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Sir, the statement which is laid on the Table of the House narrates a few projects already under construction and a few projects which are to be undertaken with the clarification that the finalisation of the Eighth Five Year Plan may alter the position of the proposed units. I would like to know from the Minister about the present and the proposed plants and also the plants which are already under way. What is the result up-till now with regard to the cost and the actual output-total generation—of smaller units with a capacity of 200 Megawatts, bigger units with a capacity of 500 Megawatts and still bigger units of a larger capacity? I would also like to know whether or not it would be more expedient to get more and better power from bigger units, smaller units or medium units. I feel that Bihar and other areas have yet been neglected in this regard. Whatever may be the compulsions, why is Bihar neglected? If it is not so, is it proposed to include Bihar also in the category of States for locating nuclear power plants. We have been hearing now and then that a part of the Uranium had been passed on to our neighbours. Will Bihar also be included in that category?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I would like to say one thing. In our present schemes and plans, Bihar is not included. But this does not preclude it from being considered at some other stage, as we go along.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: What is the cause for exclusion?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We have some known reasons for exclusion at present. Commercial production had started in 1969 and at the stage of the Eighth Five Year Plan, we can break them into three categories. First category consists of projects which are already functioning. Second category projects are on-going schemes which are to be completed and as far as new projects are concerned, we have one or two plants which are under negotiation. For example, we have two plants (units) under negotiation with the Soviet Union in Tamil Nadu.

The hon. Member spoke about the capacity that is now available. For various plants, we have various installed capacities. I must say that not all of them are really working at maximum capacity. Some of them are running below capacity due to certain problems which have been faced in running them. In one or two places, the problem is breakdown of some of the equipments. For instance, we have got Tarapur plant which has got 64 per cent utilisation where the installed capacity is 160 MW per unit. Whereas we have got plants like the one unit in Kota in Rajasthan which has got only 15 per cent utilisation due to various problems which have been faced. Therefore, we do not really have a uniform capacity utilisation at the moment. We are trying to augment some of these plants in the Eighth Five Year Plan depending, of course, on the resources which will be made available to us when the Plan will be finalised.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: What about the cost-output ratio? My main question is about the cost-

output ratio in small, medium and bigger plants.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you referring to atomic plants?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Yes, of course.

MR. SPEAKER: There is only one kind of plant...

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Even in the statement, 220 megawatt and 500 megawatt plants are mentioned.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, the costs for 220 megawatt and 500 megawatt plants are comparable. Investment naturally goes up with size and it is not as if a bigger plant is automatically cheaper. It is not so.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Now my second supplement is.....

MR. SPEAKER: You did ask two questions!

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: No Sir. It is not so. She omitted to answer a part of my first question and I repeated it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That is right Sir. He repeated a part of his question.

MR. SPEAKER: You will be able to get more information when you talk to her in the chamber. Please sit down.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker Sir, the hon. Minister of State has done very well in attempting to answer the first question. I am sure she will do equally well now. I have just three clarifications to seek. (a) What is the current status of our declared aim of 10,000 megawatts by 2000 AD? Are we behind or are we going to attain it? Have you given it up? If you have given it up, why? (b) What is the status of

RAPP 3 and 4 and RAPP 5 to 8? Are they on schedule? If they are not on schedule, why not? (c) There are reports of pollution...

MR. SPEAKER: Your question covers so much of area.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The original question also covers pollution. There are reports of pollution on account of discharge of water from the heavy-water plant at RAPP into Bhainsroad Panchayat Samithi which happens to be in my present.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow that last question.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The date of financial sanction for RAPP 3 and 4 was November 1986 and the original time schedules are May 1995 and November, 1995.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Are you on schedule?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: As I said earlier, it depends on the financial resources which are made available at different stages, to actually carry forth the programme which has been worked out. The Eighth Plan has not yet been finalised and negotiations are on. We hope that the Planning Commission will make available what is required for us to be on schedule, as far as these plants are concerned. At the moment, we are hoping to keep to the schedule of May 1995 and November 1995 for RAPP 3 and 4 respectively. With regard to RAPP 5 to 8, we are not quite sure at the moment because it depends on our resource position. I do not think we will be able to rush through unless resources are available as we go along.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: How will you achieve 10,000 Megawatts by 2000 AD? You started by saying that you would achieve 10,000 megawatts.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I did not say that. It depends on the resources which are available in the Eighth Plan. I cannot say what it will be, given the resource crunch at the moment.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: The hon. Minister has just now informed the House that the first reactor of the RAPP has given 15 per cent capacity. Is it in regard to the first reactor which was brought to India from Canada? That was an experimental stage. What about the second reactor which came to Rajasthan? It was originally envisaged that two power plants of 235 M.W. capacity each will be installed during the 7th Plan period. And four plants having a capacity of 500 M.W. each will be installed in 8th and 9th Plan period. So, I would like to know as to what is the schedule of all these plants which were sanctioned and originally thought that they will be commissioned in time.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, as far as the Kota plant is concerned, it is true that the first phase of it was with Canadian assistance. But after the 1974 test, they literally abandoned the project and we had to work it out on our own. We have been able to manage it, but as we went along there was some operating problem and, therefore, we have not been able to—as I said—achieve maximum utilisation at the first Kota plant.

About the other, answer is the same: resources permitting, we will be able to do.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: I am asking about the Reactor I.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The other is working all right. There is no problem with the other. Regarding the first one we did have problem. We have been able to proceed well the next phases which are on schedule.

With regard to RAPP-II, we have achieved 69 per cent utilisation as against 15% of RAPP-I.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, Tarapur is in my North-Bombay constituency. TAPP-I and TAPP-II units were constructed some 25 years ago and TAPP-III and TAPP-IV are under consideration. Problem with these two plants is that the villagers there have a grievance and they say that the land which was acquired 25 years ago, no settlement has yet been reached with regard to that. So, there is a lot of discontentment in giving the land. Will the Minister assure us that in view of this discontentment, the land problems will be settled in a time bound programme of 4 or 5 months so that the land could be made available for III and IV Plant in a convenient way.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I don't think these details I can answer straightaway. You have to give me notice but we will look into anything that is pending.

SHRI RAM NAIK: But the III and IV Plants will require land.

MR. SPEAKER: About the land acquisition, the hon. Minister is not having information. She will look into it. "Look into it" means an assurance.

SHRI K. V. THOMAS: Sir, the power production in Kerala depends upon the hydro-electric projects. So, when there is monsoon failure the power position of Kerala gets affected. So, I would request the Government of India to start an atomic power plant in Kerala. I would like to know whether it will be considered in the 8th Five year Plan or not.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: There was a visit by the Committee to Cannanore in Kerala and we had inspected the site which the Kerala Government had suggested. It is being looked at but I cannot say really that anything has been finalised or anything has been done.

[*Translation*].

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I

would like to know whether Government have fixed some priorities in the matter of setting up Atomic Power Plants; if so, the details thereof and whether Bihar figures in those.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That question has already been answered.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I have answered this before, but I may also tell the hon. Member that Bihar is part of Eastern Electricity region with large reserves of coal and where coal is available it is generally not taken as a priority area.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Are the Atomic Power Plants which are being erected or will be erected in the coming years the same type which were erected at Chernobyl where the mishap occurred? What steps are being taken to prevent such type of a mishap in future?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would assure the hon. Member that no plant of the type that was installed at Chernobyl is being planned.

Industrial Development of Western Maharashtra

*122. **SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL:** Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made during the Seventh Five Year Plan for industrial development of the backward region of Western Maharashtra, particularly Solapur District, and its utilisation upto March, 1991;

(b) whether the allocation has been fully utilised and the developmental targets achieved;

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

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to achieve the targets within the shortest possible time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan allocation for Industrial Development was made for the State of Maharashtra as a whole and no separate outlay/targets was provided specifically for Western Maharashtra or Solapur district.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARMANNA MOND-AYYA SADUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the hon. Minister be pleased to indicate the special measures being taken to achieve the targets fixed for the Seventh Five Year Plan in respect of Maharashtra?

[*English*]

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The objectives of development in the State are decided by the State Government and the allocation is made by the Planning Commission. The State Government has to locate the area which need special efforts in a particular district or a region. In Maharashtra, there is a problem in the Vidarbha region and some of the other areas. The Maharashtra Government had appointed a Facts Finding Committee to go into this question in 1983 to assess the regional backlog in various sectors of development and after the Report was given by the Facts Finding Committee in 1984, it had worked out a backlog of Rs. 3186.78 crores under nine development sectors and in those sectors, the backlog breakup is as follows:

Greater Bombay	— 0.30 per cent;
Konkan	— 9.28 per cent;
Western Maharashtra	— 27.74 per cent;
Marathwada	— 23.56 per cent; and
Vidarbha region	— 39.12 per cent

Against this backlog, interim measures were taken and an outlay Rs. 1,500 crores was earmarked for removing the backlog in the Seventh Five Year Plan. Out of this, an expenditure of Rs. 1,359 crores was incurred.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is about Solapur District and Western Maharashtra.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARMANNA MOND-AYYA SADUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the information given by the hon. Minister, three-four regions of Maharashtra namely Marathwada, Vidarbha, Konkan and some areas of Western Maharashtra have lagged behind in the matter of development. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would pay special attention to the schemes submitted for clearance by the Government of Maharashtra?

[*English*]

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The pointed question was with regard to Western Maharashtra, and I can give the hon. Member the allocation during the Seventh Five Year Plan about the western region and particularly the Solapur District. Out of the allocation of Rs. 657.12 crores, an expenditure of Rs. 477.29 crores had been incurred in the Seventh Five Year Plan out of which Rs. 39.95 crores was allocated for the Solapur District and the expenditure incurred is Rs. 29.85 crores. This is the situation which we have noted from the Report of the State Government.

As I submitted earlier, so far as the State's dispersal of industrial development is concerned, it is entirely the prerogative of the State Government to locate the area. In the State of Maharashtra, five growth centres were allocated for developing infrastructure. Two have gone to western region. So, the State Government is conscious of the under-developed areas and regional imbalances.

Industrial Policy

+

*123. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:**

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether directives have been issued to the Ministry of Industry to undertake an in-depth study of the entire gamut of the existing industrial policy to suggest modifications for achieving rapid growth;

(b) if so, whether the in-depth study has since been conducted in this regard by the Ministry and report submitted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the other steps proposed to be taken to boost industrialisation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) A review of Industrial Licensing Policy and Procedures is presently in hand.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: In the papers circulated to us it has been stated that the new Industrial Policy has been finalised. The hon. Prime Minister has stated in the reply that the Government is formulating a new Industrial Policy to ensure rapid industrialisation.

MR. SPEAKER: May I inform the hon. Members that I have received a letter from the Industries Minister asking for permission for laying the Industrial Policy on the Table of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Within one or two hours you will get that Policy.

Therefore, are you interested in putting a supplementary, because all that you are going to ask will be laid on the Table of the House in two hours' time? He is going to lay the Industrial Policy on the Table of the House within two hours' time. By reading that you will know as to what the Government wants to do in the new Industrial Policy. So, you need not ask the supplementary now. We can go to the next question.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am the second questioner in this question.

MR. SPEAKER: I am saying that we are going to have the new industrial policy soon; it will be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: We are not discussing the Policy now.

MR. SPEAKER: This is about the Policy.

If you are asking something else in this question, then I will allow. My intention is to allow the other Members to ask questions.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: I am asking a small question. whether this new Policy is going to regulate the Indian and foreign investors or would it distinguish between foreign and Indian investors and particularly what the Government proposes to do to control the industries.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not read. Please ask the question. If you are not asking a question, we will allow others to ask questions. Mr. Chandrashekara Murthy.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: I would like to ask one question about the thrust of the coming industrial policy.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Our Congress leadership and the Congress Party right from the time of Panditji, we are wedded to the socialistic pattern of society. And that was the policy being followed by the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi as well as Shri Rajiv Gandhi. In the coming Policy, does the Government propose to raise the assets limits of the MRTP Companies: if so on what reasons and reasons thereof.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Hon. Member has referred to Panditji and the socialistic pattern of society. I am sure that the hon. Member is aware of the 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution with which all of us agree. We have based our new Policy on that. *(Interruptions)* Hon. Members are no doubt aware that the 1956 Resolution itself has undergone modifications in 1973, 1977, 1980 and afterwards, all of which have been endorsed by this House. Some modifications are there. But the policy is not static, the policy is dynamic. *(Interruptions)* We stand by the basic policy. We know that it is in the best interest of the country. No policy is static and if it is static it becomes out-dated. This House endorsed all such modifications. And modifications are necessary sometimes to suit the present day developments, especially the global developments.

With regard to his second question on MRTP, if the hon. Member waits for half an hour, he will get all the details.

[Translation]

Telecast of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Centenary Programmes

*125. **SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current birth centenary year of Bharat Ratan Baba Saheb Bhim Rao-Ambedkar is being observed as the 'Social Justice Year':

(b) if so, the number of times programmes on B. R. Ambedkar Saheb were screened by Doordarshan during 1990-91;

(c) the number of times the programmes relating to Shri Jawaharlal Nehru were screened during his birth centenary year; and

(d) the reasons for the difference, if any?

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 202 programmes on Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar were telecast during 1990-91 by Doordarshan.

(c) 215 programmes on Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru were telecast during his Birth Centenary Year by Doordarshan.

(d) Numerical comparisons are inappropriate in such cases. Doordarshans' effort has always been to do justice to the lives and the contributions of leading Indians.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The hon. Minister has said that 202 programmes on Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar and 215 programmes on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru were telecast by Doordarshan. I have always held that the actual facts and the ones that are projected are at variance. I have no malice towards Panditji.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question. Otherwise, we would not be able to reach the questions put by the other hon. Members.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, usually you give some time to

the Members for introduction. I want that I may also be given time for introduction before I put my question. You would recall that during the birth centenary of Pandit Nehru, his quotations could be seen everywhere, even on aeroplanes and Doordarshan. So far as I know, not even once doordarshan has bothered to show the quotations of Baba Saheb B.R. Ambedkar. Yet the hon. Minister says that 202 programmes have been telecast. When we were in the Government, we tried our best, yet we did not succeed to the extent we desired mainly due to the hindrances created by the bureaucracy. Even today I would say...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make a speech. Please ask your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Is it a fact that after 14th April, 1991, no quotation of Baba Saheb B. R. Ambedkar or documentary film on his life has been shown on Doordarshan? In case any such programme has been telecast, may I know the date thereof?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to say that if we start making such comparisons in these matters and divide our leaders on the basis of class, we shall achieve nothing, howsoever great may be our reverence towards them. Birth centenary of Dr. Ambedkar which we are celebrating in the form of social justice has been extended for another year. 202 coverages relate to the first year alone. You know that elections were held after April and it takes time to produce an episode. Let me tell you that 13 episodes based on his philosophy and social work will be telecast this year from Bombay Doordarshan. Eight episodes will be telecast from Delhi Doordarshan. All the programmes that are produced this year will

certainly be telecast from Doordarshan and A.I.R. A film under the joint collaboration of Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra is also proposed. Therefore all our leaders irrespective of era or class to which they belong are equally important for us. A moment's coverage or non-coverage on television of a leader does not make him great or small. Therefore, I would once again request the hon. Members not to ask such questions.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: My questions was very straight forward that after 14th April, 1991... All leaders are equal but there are no two opinions about the fact that there has been discrimination against Baba Saheb Ambedkar and this discrimination still continues. Do not try to calm down by saying that all leaders are equal. We held Pandit Jawarharlal Nehru in great reverence.

MR. SPEAKER: Paswanji, pointed question...

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I have asked a simple question. I seek your protection. Why don't you ask him to reply?

MR. SPEAKER: Pointed question....

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I had asked whether any programme on Baba Saheb Ambedkar was shown on television after 14th April, 1991, elections or no elections. I want a reply in yes or no.

MR. SPEAKER: In yes or no.

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: Five episodes—

nos. 20 to 24 — have been telecast after 14th April, 1991.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: On this question, Shri Paswan, I allow you for putting a second supplementary question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Secondly, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that during the tenure of the National Front Government a Sub Committee of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Centenary Committee was set up to function as Publicity Committee and that committee had submitted its report soon after? If so, what were the salient features of that report and what steps Government propose to take to implement them?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: The report of the Committee is under consideration of the Government. It does not concern only I and B Ministry. Whatever work we undertake, we have to project it at the national level. The report of the committee is with us and whatever programmes are thereunder the Centenary Year are going to be telecast.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I had asked about the recommendations.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: She says that the report has to be studied by different ministries.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: What are the main recommendations?

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want all the recommendations to be read out?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Two-three. If you ask me, I can tell you about all the recommendations.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Why are you asking them?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Who knows, question is the same.

MR. SPEAKER: If the question you have asked suggests any solution to it.....

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Has media committee been constituted in the ministry? What are its recommendations?

MR. SPEAKER: These matters relate to another Ministry. Mr. Charles.

[*English*]

SHRI A. CHARLES: It is a fact that all of us honour our great national leaders. But quite unfortunately, I find, some of the self-projected leaders are using the national leaders for political gains. Whenever the 'Parliament News' is telecast and displayed on the T.V., all along, this august House—the seat of power of the largest democracy of the world is being shown on the T.V. Along with it, the statue of beloved Ambedkar is being shown. This was started during the Congress regime. It was stopped during the Janata regime for a few days.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you giving the information or asking the question? Please put the question.

SHRI A. CHARLES: May I know from the hon. Minister, whether an enquiry will be conducted as to how the statue of the national leader was not shown during the Janata regime and how it was restarted; whether action can be taken against those who were responsible for showing dishonour to Dr. Ambedkar?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: I will enquire into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the hon. Minister will not be able to answer my question.

Therefore I would like to submit through you, to the Hon. Prime Minister that the Government have decided to celebrate the birth centenary of Dr. Ambedkar as "Social Justice Year" in order to pay tributes to him. Has the attention of the Government been invited to the book by Dr. Ambedkar, "Annihilation of caste system" which is a collection of his views regarding casteism and which is considered as one of his best books? Keeping the book in view is, there any proposal to have a serial produced and telecast from Delhi Doordarshan or Bombay Doordarshan? I would like to submit to the Hon. Prime Minister that his book "Annihilation of Caste System" relates to social justice in a different manner. Therefore merely paying tributes to him would not suffice rather the Government should ensure that the values for which he sacrificed his whole life and struggled, are not ignored. The Hon. Prime Minister may kindly tell us whether any proposal to publish his best work "Annihilation of Caste Systems" through the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting or to telecast a serial to propagate his policies is under consideration of the Government. If so, what are the details thereof?

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): It is very difficult to say whether everybody agrees that a particular book of his is the best. He was such a great writer, he was such a great constitutional pandit, he was such a great social reformer. But I agree that some of his ideals that he espoused have to be perpetuated. We have to take inspiration from them. And I take this suggestion of our revered former Speaker that this particular aspect of the annihilation of the caste system is quite fundamental to the survival of the Indian society. I would certainly personally look into the matter and see if a publication could be brought out. Publication really is not a problem. It will be brought out. But beyond that what

else could be done to project that ideal should also be seen.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in the reply that the Central Government with the collaboration of the Government of Maharashtra propose to produce a film on Dr. Ambedkar in the near future. I would like to know from him that in view of the fact that the Central Government spent crores of rupees to get a film on Mahatma Gandhi produced by a private organisation, whether the Government intends to produce on the same lines a feature film on Dr. Ambedkar of more than three hours duration? If so, how much would it cost to produce a film on Dr. Ambedkar?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this context I had already submitted that when hon. Shri Chandrashekhar was the Prime Minister, he had proposed to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra to get a film produced. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra had given his consent to it. If a proposal to this effect is finalised, the production work of a tele. film would be done by the Films Division and not by a private company.

[English]

Commercial Production at Haldia Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited

*126. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to start commercial production at the Haldia unit of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited; and

(b) if so, the time likely to be taken to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) No decision has been taken by Government to start commercial production at the Haldia unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am rather surprised to read the answer to my question regarding commercial production at the Haldia unit of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation Limited. This unit of Hindustan Fertilizer, which is at Haldia, was conceived in the year 1972 and construction of this unit was to be completed by 1976. It was actually completed in 1979 and the original cost was Rs. 84 crores. The expenditure incurred for the completion of this project is Rs. 684 crores. But, trial production was started only in 1985 ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: You are not asking the question. The difficulty is there are other Members who want to ask the questions. It is no justice to them also. It is in their interest that you may please ask the pointed question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Commission was stopped in 1986. Then, two Consultants were appointed. They had submitted their reports...*(Interruptions)*. They suggested for revamping of this unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the unit is not going to be closed as it was stated by the Government in the last Session that this unit of Hindustan Fertilizer will not be closed down? Then, I want to know whether the Government will consider the recommendations of the two Consultants appointed by the Government to revamp this unit in two phases not in a reduced manner, but also NPK Unit, which is this unit. There is no NPK unit in West Bengal and West Bengal is in deficit in fertilizers.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, the Government had appointed two Consultants one from Japan and another from Germany. They had given their reports. Then, the project will cost about Rs. 502 crores. At that time the Government felt that it was not possible to go for the project. As far as hon. Member's suggestion is concerned, we are examining it in greater detail.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Is there any proposal to reduce this plant to DAP plant instead of NPK plant? There is already a DAP plant in Haldia set up by Hindustan Lever Company.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: The previous Government considered the DAP project. We are seriously considering this proposal also.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Is it not a fact that the Haldia project has come to this pass because of all kinds of uncoordinated collaborations from multinationals of different countries were taken for this project which only drained our exchequer. I want to know whether the Government has gone into it and fixed the responsibility for those who did it?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: We are examining it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: I want to know what was the project cost earlier before commissioning that unit and what are the reasons thereof that the unit did not function?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, as Shri Acharia has said, actually the foundation was laid down in 1971 and it was supposed to be started in 1976. But because of so many reasons, commissioning was started in 1982. Between 1982 and 1986, number of problems came. The ammonia plant started functioning but lot of problems came later.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: What are the reasons that the unit did not function?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: There are number of reasons for that. For starting this project, we had taken components from different parts of the world. Therefore, for the functioning of this unit, all these problems have come.

[*Translation*]

Desert Development Programme

*127. **SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur has identified many areas in Rajasthan which are not covered under the Desert Development Programme;

(b) if so, the details of such areas;

(c) whether non-inclusion of such areas under Desert Development Programme is likely to lead to expansion of the desert area;

(d) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has submitted a memorandum to the National Committee on Drought Prone Area Programme and Desert Development Programme for the inclusion of these areas under the Desert Development Programme; and

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to take appropriate action for inclusion of such areas under the Desert Development Programme?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) At the instance of the Government of Rajasthan the Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur, Rajasthan examined the climatic data of Sirohi, Ajmer and Jaipur districts to find out arid areas not covered under Desert Development Programme

(DDP). The results indicated the following:—

Districts	Percent arid areas of the district
Sirohi	14.15
Ajmer	12.46
Jaipur	3.13

(c) The research findings of CAZRI reveal that the desert is not expanding.

(d) In the Memorandum of the Government of Rajasthan, a suggestion either to include under DDP or take up as a 100% centrally sponsored programme, development of fringe areas to the DDP districts where desertic conditions in lesser or greater extent prevail, has been made. This proposal covers most of the areas identified by CAZRI.

(e) A Committee headed by Shri L.C. Jain, the then member, Planning Commission in its report submitted to Government of India in August 1990 has recommended transfer of DDP to the States for implementation. In view of this suggestion for transfer, the Committee was of the view that the States would themselves identify areas for future coverage of this programme. Comments of concerned State Government on the report of Committee have now been received and the Government of India will take a view in the matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: My first question is whether an area of more than 4,000 km. with deservive conditions in Udaipur, Jaipur, Ajmer and Sirohi districts are not covered under the Desert Development Programme? Similarly, has the provision of drinking water been made in the Desert Development Programme?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: I have already replied to the question the hon. Member has asked. I am ready to give the details of the area in square miles. In these three

districts, if he desires. I have these figures with at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is asking whether the provision of drinking water has been made or not.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: This provision has been made. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please check the information.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per my information the provision of drinking water has not been made. The hon. Minister is giving wrong information...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your second supplementary?

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRIDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the hon. Minister not aware of it? He is giving wrong information. (*Interruptions*)... Mr. Speaker, Sir, how can development take place in a desert area without the provision of drinking water...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, the question that has been put is whether three or four districts have been included in the scope of this scheme. The answer is, they have given the percentages and they have also said that in connection with the spreading of the desert, the finding is that desert is not spreading into these districts. There is another angle to the question; that all these programmes should be made over to the State

Government. The then Planning Commission Member gave a report saying: "Now you do not go into all these things, Let the State Government take care". So we have nothing to say whether the desert is spreading or not spreading in these districts right now, because we are considering whether we should make over the entire programme to the State Government as recommended by the then Planning Commission Member. We will have to take a view on that—if we really want to keep it, as other State Governments seem to recommend, then we will have to go into other details and then we can come up with the answer. But right now the position is whether the whole scheme is to be given over to the State Government in which case we will have nothing to do and we will only be paying the money to the State Government. That is the position. We will have to take a view in the very near future.

MR. SPEAKER: The question was whether drinking water will be provided?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: No. It is said that the drinking water has not been covered. If it has not been covered, it needs to be covered. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Your question has been replied. Shri Digvijaya Singh.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I would like to ask the Prime Minister about the process of verification, that is the process of desert formation is no longer confined to Rajasthan. It is spreading—I personally know it—to Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Harayana also. (*Interruptions*) I would ask the Hon'ble Prime Minister whether he would consider sending a team to examine whether the process of desert formation has been extending in Jhabua, Dhar districts of Madhya Pradesh?

MR. SPEAKER: It is outside the scope. Shri Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir. So far as the question of handing over the entire desert development programme to the Government of Rajasthan on the basis of Laxmi Jain's recommendations, is there any timeframe within which the Government has to take this decision?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Very soon. There is a little hitch there. All the other State Governments do not want this to be done. So the Planning Commission Member wants it to be done and the State Governments do not want it to be done. That is the dilemma in which we are.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Not Rajasthan Government.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, through you, I would like to know when the desert area was examined. Many years have elapsed since the examination then and now the circumstances have changed. I would like the Planning Commission to examine it afresh whether the desert is expanding. The reality is that the desert area is expanding rapidly. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask question.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I would like to know from the hon. Minister when the examination was done? Will the findings of that examination be withdrawn and the whole task handed over to the State Government with the provision of financial assistance?

[*English*]

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: If there is any dispute about the findings of this institute, we will request the institute to have a look at it again. Because there should be no difficulty in finding out as to what is the truth. If the old finding is out of

date or things have changed, circumstances have changed since then, we will go into it.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Sir, through you I want to ask the hon. Prime Minister, since he has said that drinking water needs to be included, whether he would make a statement because drinking water is the most essential thing.

MR. SPEAKER: The statement is not necessary. Mr. Lodha, I am not allowing it. This statement itself is a statement.

Now, Mr. Mathur.

(*Interruptions*).

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: It is surprising to note that the Report has been submitted that the Desert is not advancing. It is definitely advancing towards Delhi. The Report by an expert has clearly indicated that there are 11 gaps. Pushkar gap is a very important and prominent gap through which the Desert is advancing very fast. If this is so and if the Report is presented to the Planning Commission and the Government of India, I think a second look should be given to it.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said, it can be examined again. The hon. Prime Minister said that it can be examined again.

Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

[English]

Quality of rice and wheat available at Fair Price Shops

*124. SHRI MANORANJAN SUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the bad quality of rice and wheat being issued through the Fair Price Shops and Public Distribution outlets all over the country, including Union Territories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Food Corporation of India issues rice and wheat of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) within the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act standards to State Governments and UT Administrations. Procurement of rice and wheat is made at various producing areas in the country. Thus, slight variation within the specified standards in the quality of the foodgrains released simultaneously from different godowns could not be altogether ruled out.

The distribution of rice and wheat to the consumers through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) is administered by the State Governments and UT Administrations. The Central Government has requested the State Governments, UT Administrations to tighten supervision and inspection arrangements to ensure that proper quality of wheat and rice reaches the consumers. Government have not lately received any major complaint regarding bad quality of rice or wheat distributed through the Public Distribution System.

[Translation]

Production of Edible Oils

*128. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of edible-oils produced in the country during 1990-91;

(b) the requirement thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The net edible oil supply in the country from all domestic sources during the year 1990-91 is estimated at 54.0 lakh MTs.

(b) The requirement of edible oils is placed at 60.3 lakh MTs.

(c) (1) Two centrally sponsored schemes, namely, National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production Programmes (OPP). This scheme essentially provides essential assistance to the States for Production and distribution of quality seeds, measures like supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology.

(2) The oilseeds projects of the NDDB.

(3) Setting up of a Technology Mission on Oilseeds established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best of production, processing and management technologies.

(4) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds.

(5) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds.

(6) Increasing the area under non-traditional oilseeds crops like soybean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran, etc.

(7) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

(8) Fiscal incentives in the form of excise rebate for use of certain non-conventional oils in the vanaspati so as to encourage increased exploitation of these sources of oils.

[English]

Development of Refining Catalyst

*129 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun has developed a refining catalyst;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when this is likely to be put into use; and

(d) whether it is proposed to manufacture this for export or local use or whether the Technology will be sold to earn foreign exchange as in the case of Suri-Diesel Transmission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun in collaboration with Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodara has developed a bi-metallic reforming catalyst. The catalyst was thoroughly tested both by Indian Institute of Petroleum and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited in their pilot plants and its performance was found to be at par with that of the imported catalyst.

(c) The know-how for the manufacture of the catalyst has been licensed to Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited who have commenced commercial production at their Bombay unit. The catalyst is undergoing commercial scale trials at the reformer units of (a) Madras Refineries since June, 1990 for production of gasoline and (b) Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited at Vadodara since January, 1991 for production of aromatics.

(d) At present the reforming catalyst is being imported by the petro-refining industry; it is thus proposed to produce the catalyst for use by all the existing as well as new reforming units to be set up in the country as a measure of import substitution. In addition efforts would be to export the catalyst. Later the possibility of exporting the know-how as well, could also be explored.

Losses incurred by the Cement Corporation of India

*130. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

DR. A. K. PATEL.

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the net profit/loss incurred by the Cement Corporation of India (unit-wise) during 1990-91 and in the previous two years, separately;

(b) if losses were incurred, the reasons therefor;

(c) the accumulated losses of the Corporation so far; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Corporation to make its units economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) A Statement showing unit-wise net profit/(loss), cash profit/(loss), operating profit/(loss) during the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Unitwise Net Profit/(loss), Cash Profit/(Loss) and Operating Profit during the year 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91
(After Financial Restructuring)

(Rs. in lacs)

Unit	Profit/Loss				Remarks	
	Net 1988-89	Net 1989-90	Cash 1988-89	Operating 1989-90		
	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Prov.)	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91 (Prov.)
A. OLD PLANTS						
Mandhar . . .	(269.24)	(527.51)	(36.97)	(171.81)	(426.45)	47.03 (59.09) (324.79) 83.71 Nayagaon
Kurkunta . . .	(233.20)	(226.69)	(88.48)	(169.35)	(156.96)	(4.48) (101.41) (62.91) 54.55 Expansion
Bokajan . . .	161.65	504.98	330.58	232.23	592.13	421.08 354.94 592.55 397.37 Plant with
Rajban . . .	(163.44)	101.83	716.34	4.06	252.69	802.81 162.75 252.69 772.22 Grinding
Nayagaon . . .	(491.46)	(632.37)	(210.65)	(245.31)	(354.74)	64.55 (103.62) 11.81 390.19 Unit at
Akaltara . . .	(722.25)	(1295.60)	(793.21)	(459.27)	(1030.60)	(523.21) (207.34) (424.54) (231.46) Delhi has
Yerraguntla . . .	(720.80)	(775.17)	88.26	(470.52)	(513.26)	395.99 (224.17) (204.31) 338.38 come into
Charkhi Dadri . . .	(474.27)	(576.49)	(129.86)	(433.82)	(532.04)	(77.19) (325.47) (266.21) 127.79 commercial
Adilabad . . .	(439.46)	(582.63)	216.30	(118.53)	(248.95)	551.30 131.02 129.55 432.72 production w.e.f.
SUB-TOTAL	(3352.47)	(4009.65)	92.31	(1832.32)	(2418.18)	1677.88 (372.39) (296.16) 2365.47 1-5-1990.

B. NEW PLANTS									
(One Million Tonne)									
Tandur	(1351.39)	(2070.34)	(1344.38)	(442.84)	(769.27)	(65.75)	643.81	461.95	1050.76
Nayagaon Expansion/Delhi Grinding Unit . . . . .	..	..	(2053.04)	..	..	(595.36)	..	..	437.52
Sub-TOTAL	(1351.39)	(2070.34)	(3397.42)	(442.84)	(769.27)	(661.11)	643.81	461.95	1488.28
C. OTHER ACTIVITIES									
40.97 . . . . .	..	(207.59)	..	53.45	(186.64)	..	74.48	(155.66)	..
GRAND TOTAL. (4662.89)	(6287.58)	(3305.11)	(2221.71)	(3374.09)	1016.77	345.90	10.13	3853.75	

(b) The losses are due to infrastructural constraints such as want of coal, shortage of wagons, inadequate power supply and substantial increases in the input costs like power, coal, packing material, transportation, spare parts etc.

(c) The net accumulated losses of CCI at the end of 1990-91 are Rs. 183.95 crores.

(d) A number of steps like better Production Management, Financial Management, Materials Management, Marketing Management and Cost Reduction have been taken by the Company.

Expansion of Public Distribution System to Rural Areas

*131. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether expansion of the Public Distribution System, particularly in the rural areas, helps to control the prices of essential commodities to a certain extent; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to expand the existing system to rural areas and bringing the supply of cereals, pulses and vegetable oils under its purview?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continual process. The Central Government has been advising State Governments/UT Administrations, among other things, to expand PDS outlets in uncovered/undercover-

ed areas, use mobile vans whenever possible in remote and tribal areas, issue ration cards to all families etc. They have also been advised to increase commodity coverage, on their own, by distributing additional items using PDS outlets. Wheat and rice are already distributed on PDS. Imported edible oils are distributed, when available.

Establishment of a Programme Generation Facility Centre at Jammu

*132. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the establishment of a Programme Generation Facility Centre at Jammu for Doordarshan was approved by the Government;

(b) if so, when the scheme was approved;

(c) whether a site for the proposed centre has been allotted; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The scheme was approved in March, 1990.

(c) and (d) Major portion of the site identified for the project was taken over by Doordarshan in December, 1988 and civil works have been commenced. However, the site has not been formally transferred to Doordarshan by the State Government so far.

Samaj Sadans in Government colonies

*133. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3448 on August, 29, 1990 and state:

(a) whether the drawings and sketches submitted by the C.P.W.D. to the Department of Personnel for construction of Samaj Sadans in Sectors V, VII, VIII and XII and for upgradation of Samaj Sadan in Sector I of R. K. Puram to serve as Barat Ghars have been pending with them for years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to accord administrative approval and release of funds expeditiously to enable the taking up of construction work of the Samaj Sadans; and

(d) the details of the Government colonies in Delhi where Samaj Sadans providing the facility of Barat Ghars are not in existence and the steps taken to construct the same on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) Administrative approval and expenditure sanction for the construction of Samaj Sadans in Sector VIII and Sector XII of R. K. Puram were given in 1987. The Government also initiated in March, 1990, a proposal to upgrade phase I of Samaj Sadan of Sector I, R. K. Puram. The plans and designs in this connection are yet to be received from CPWD. There are also proposals for construction of Samaj Sadans in other areas. In 1989, Government constituted an Inter-Departmental Committee for examining the technical feasibility of various proposals and recommend priority among the schemes to be pursued. The Committee in its meeting held in September, 1990, having examined the projects in the

R. K. Puram Sector decided to give priority to the construction of Samaj Sadan in Sector XII and the upgradation of the Samaj Sadan in Sector I. This procedure will facilitate proper budgetary control and timely completion of buildings.

A Statement showing list of Government colonies where *Samaj Sadans* are not in existence is annexed.

STATEMENT

Details of Government colonies in Delhi where Samaj Sadans and Barat Ghars are not in existence

1. MS Flats, Sector XIII, R. K. Puram
2. I. B. Colony
3. Mohd. Pur
4. Sector—V, R. K. Puram
5. Sector—VII, R. K. Puram
6. Sector—VIII, R. K. Puram
7. Sector—IX, R. K. Puram
8. Sector—XII, R. K. Puram
9. Aliganj
10. Sadiq Nagar
11. Kasturba Nagar
12. Prem Nagar
13. Thyagraj Nagar
14. Tilak Lane
15. Tilak Marg
16. Mathura Road
17. Purana Quila Road
18. Aram Bagh
19. Dev Nagar
20. Prasad Nagar
21. Shajahan Road
22. Humayun Road
23. Bapa Nagar
24. Kaka Nagar
25. Lodhi Estate

26. M. B. Road
 27. Vasant Vihar, CPWD Colony
 28. Lodhi Road Complex
 29. Timarpur
 30. General Pool residential Quarters, Mayapuri

Funds to Kerala under Rural Development Programme

*134. SHRI RAMESH CHENNI-THALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Kerala during the last two years under the rural development programmes, programme-wise;

(b) whether the funds are being utilized properly; and

(c) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAM-BHAI H. PATEL): (a) The funds allocated to Kerala during 1989-90 and 1990-91 under the major rural development programmes are as under:—

	<i>(Rs. in Lakhs)</i>	
	1989-90	1990-91
(i) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana	6569.99	6396.19
(ii) Integrated Rural Development Programme	1871.12	1871.12
(iii) Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment	19.94	19.94
(iv) Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas.	14.14	10.10
(v) Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme	1076.00	1076.00
(vi) Central Rural Sanitation Programme	..	25.00

(b) No complaint about improper utilisation of funds in Kerala has been received in this Ministry.

(c) Question does not arise.

Fertilizer Subsidy

*135. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of fertilizer subsidy given during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, separately;

(b) whether the subsidy is being allowed during the current financial year also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and how the affected farmers are proposed to be compensated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The amount of subsidy given both on indigenous and imported fertilizers, during the last three years is as follows:

	<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
1988-89	3,200.70
1989-90	4,542.10
1990 91	4,389 06

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of reply to part (b) above, the question does not arise.

Expenditure on Various expeditions to Antarctica

*136. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred till date on the various expeditions to Antarctica;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the demand being raised in certain international fora for banning of mining in Antarctica for the next 50 years; and

(c) how the Government propose to make good the expenditure incurred on the expeditions in case the ban comes into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Ten Indian scientific expeditions to Antarctica have been launched so far and the total expenditure incurred is Rs. 69.85 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties including India have now agreed to prohibit mineral resource activities in Antarctica for a period of 50 years, with a provision for review at the end of that period.

(c) The main thrust of the Indian Antarctic programme is scientific, aimed at contributing to international endeavour in enlightening our understanding of the various critical processes that determine the environment and climate of our planet, but can be best studied from this unique vantage observatory, as they are especially well projected on this continental polar region. The prohibition on mining in Antarctica does not apply to scientific activities and would, therefore, not affect the Indian Antarctic Programme.

[*Trans'ation*]

Amendment to Essential Commodities Act, 1955

*137. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[*English*]

Artificial Colour/Flavours

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

(a) whether the artificial colours/flavours manufacturing industry is a very highly profit-oriented industry;

(b) whether the Government propose to have a cost-audit done of all these artificial colours and flavours units in consumer interest in view of the fast growing use of these flavours and colours which do not have any food value at all;

(c) if not, the reasons for not undertaking this urgently needed step; and

(d) the number of firms in the organised and other sectors which are manufacturing these products?

* THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Such units are mostly small scale units whose profitability has not been assessed by the Government.

(b) and (c) The Government does not propose at this stage to have a cost audit of this industry as it is not a priority industry. However, if some relevant facts come to the notice of the Government then Government would be prepared to consider the matter further.

(d) There are nine firms in the organised sector engaged in the manufacture of flavours and colours. The exact number of small scale units manufacturing these products is not readily available as small scale units are registered with the State Directorate of Industries.

Electronic Hardware Technology Parks

*139. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to establish "electronic hardware technology parks" in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether one such park is proposed to be established in Hyderabad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) A proposal to set up Electronic Hardware Technology Parks in different parts of the country is under consideration of the Government.

Industrial Development of Rural Areas

*140. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the effective measures being taken by the Government for industrial development of the rural areas and the types of industries being given priority;

(b) the policy adopted by the Government for industrial development of the rural areas and the time by which the policy will be implemented and the details of the rural areas and the number of people likely to be benefited thereby; and

(c) whether the financial institutions are providing the required assistance to make the rural industrial development programme a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) Promotion of industries in rural sector primarily falls within the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government, however, supplements the efforts of the State Governments by way of measures like provision of cheap and easily available finance, transfer of technology, assisting in the provision of scarce and critical raw material and creation of institutional infrastructure at the all India level. In order to disperse industries in rural and semi-urban areas and to provide all the services and support to small entrepreneurs, under a single roof 422 District Industries Centres have been set up covering all facilities to set up industries in rural areas and ensure close linkages with agencies engaged in rural development. Industries based upon local skill, raw material and marketing are accorded priority in rural areas.

During the 8th Five Year Plan the Government proposes to give maximum emphasis on development of rural industries particularly cottage and tiny industries in rural and backward areas. KVIC has proposed to create employment for 2.25 million persons during the 8th Five Year Plan period.

Financial assistance to these industries is extended through the net work of all India financial institutions like National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and also through commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks. During 1989-90, an amount of approximately Rs. 110 crores was made available as bank finance to KVI sector. Under IRDP programme about 200 crores was disbursed by financial institutions to industries in rural areas. Continuous efforts are being made to mobilise increased bank finance to rural industries sector through financial institutions.

Setting up of Industries in undeveloped Districts

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

(a) the names of districts which are industrially undeveloped, State-wise;

(b) whether any scheme is pending with the Government to set up industries in such undeveloped districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) A statement showing list of centrally declared backward Districts is attached.

(b) and (c) The Government in June 1988 announced a scheme for setting up of growth centres throughout the country for industrialisation of backward areas. Under the scheme it is proposed to develop 70 growth centres in the first phase.

STATEMENT

List of Industrially Backward Districts in the Country

Andhra Pradesh (14)	Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Khammam, Kurnool, Mehbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Ongole, Srikakulam and Warangal.
Bihar (18)	Bnagalpur, Champaran, Darbhanga, Muaffarpur, Palamau, Purnea, Saharsa, Santhal Parganas, Saran, Nalanda, Aurangabad, Nawadah, Gaya, Bhojpur, Begusarai, Monghyr, Khagaria and Madhepur.
Gujarat (11)	Amreli, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Broach, Junagadh, Kutch, Mehsana, Panchmahals, Sabarkantha, Surendernagar and Dang.
Haryana (4)	Bhiwani, Hissar, Jind and Mohindergarh
Kerala (7)	Alleppey, Cannanore, Malapuram, Trichur, Trivandrum, Wynad and Iddukki.
Karnataka (11)	Belgaum, Bidar, Bijapur, Dharwar, Gulbarga, Hasan, Mysore, North Kanara, Raichur, South Kanara and Tumkur.
Madhya Pradesh (36)	Balaghat, Bastar, Betul, Bilaspur, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chindwara, Domoh, Datia, Dhar, Dewas, Guna, Hoshangabad, Jhabua, Khargone, Mandla, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsimhapur, Panna, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Rajgarh, Raisen, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Seoni, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Surguja, Tikamgarh, Vidisha and New Sehore District.
Maharashtra (14)	Aurangabad, Bhandara, Bhir, Buldhana Chandrapur, Colaba, Dhulia, Jalgaon, Nanded, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Ratnagiri, Yeotmal and Gadchiroli.

Orissa (8)	Balasore, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Koraput, Mayurbhanj, and Phulbani.
Punjab (5)	Bhatinda, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and Sangrur.
Rajasthan (16)	Alwar, Banswara, Bhilwara, Barmer, Churu, Dungarpur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jhalwar, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk and Udaipur.
Tamil Nadu (9)	Dharmapuri, Kanyakumari, Madhurai, North Arcot, Ramanathapuram, South Arcot, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and Pudukkottai district.
Uttar Pradesh (41)	Almora, Azamgarh, Badaun, Baharaich, Ballia, Banda, Barabanki, Basti, Bulandshahar, Chamoli, Deoria, Etah, Etawah, Faizabad, Farrukhabad, Fathehpur, Ghazipur, Gonda, Hamirpur, Harodoi, Jalaun, Jaunpur, Jhansi, Mainpuri, Mathura, Moradabad, Pilibhit, Pithoragarh, Partapgarh, Rai-Bereli, Rampur, Unnao, Uttar Kashi, Kanpur Dehat, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Dehradun, & Nainital, Shahajanpur, Sitapur and Sultanpur.
West Bengal (13)	Bankura, Birbhum, Burdwan, Cooch-Behar, Darjeeling, Hooghly, Jalpaiguri, Malda, Midnapur, Murshidabad, Nadia, Purulia and West Dinajpur.
Assam	Entire State
Himachal Pradesh	Entire State
Jammu & Kashmir	Entire State
Manipur	Entire State
Meghalaya	Entire State
Nagaland	Entire State
Sikkim	Entire State
Tripura	Entire State
Arunachal Pradesh	Entire State
Goa	Entire State
Mizoram	Entire State
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Entire U.T.
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Entire U.T.
Daman & Diu	Entire U.T.
Pondicherry	Entire U.T.
Lakshadweep	Entire U.T.

NOTE : The district/area would include the district/area as it existed on 1-10-70 prior to its reorganization. Areas carved out of these districts thereafter continued to be industrially backward.

Computer Centres in Kunnamangalam, Kerala

468. SHRI E. AHEMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in completion and commissioning of the Computer centre in Kunnamangalam, Kerala; and

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to convert this Computer Centre as a Centre for training in the Southern Region and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The Government of India has not set up any Computer Centre in Kunnamangalam in the State of Kerala.

(b) Does not arise.

Amount given to Kerala Under J.R.Y.

469. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given to Kerala under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the financial year 1990-91;

(b) the share of contribution of the State Government for implementing the above Yojana;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has contributed its share for implementing the JRY during 1990-91;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any machinery for monitoring the above yojana has been set-up; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) During 1990-91 Central assistance of Rs. 4332.78 lakhs was given to the Kerala State for implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY).

(b) The expenditure under JRY is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 80:20. The state matching share in respect of Kerala for 1990-91 was Rs. 1083.20 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Kerala Government released Rs. 1215.28 lakhs as its matching share under JRY during 1990-91.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The programme is monitored at the Centre as well as State Government level. At the Centre, it is monitored through periodical reports received from the State Governments on monthly, quarterly and annual basis.

It has been laid down in the Central guidelines that for effective implementation of the programme, physical monitoring through field inspections is very important. Officers dealing with JRY at the State headquarters are required to visit districts regularly and ascertain through field visits that the programme is being implemented satisfactorily and that execution of works is in accordance with the prescribed procedures and specifications. Likewise, officers of the district, subdivision and block level are also required to closely monitor all aspects of the programme through visits to work sites in interior areas. Each of the State Governments are required to prescribe a schedule of inspections specifying the minimum number of field visits for each supervisory level functionary from State Government to block level for effective monitoring and supervision of the programme.

Take over of Punalur Paper Mill in Kerala

470. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to take over the Punalur Paper Mill in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government have directed the Hindustan Paper Corporation to consider the take over of the Punalur Paper Mill and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria adopted for re-opening of sick units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) State Government of Kerala had requested the Government of India to consider taking over of the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd. by Hindustan Newsprint Limited (HNL). At the instance of the State Government, HNL conducted a feasibility study which shows that it will not be viable to run the Punalur Paper Mills Ltd. in the present state of its plant and machinery. Therefore, Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited of which HNL is a subsidiary company has expressed itself against the taking over of the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd.

(c) Under the provisions of Section 18A and 18AA of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, Government have authorised the take-over of the management of some industrial units throughout the country. However, take-over of management has not so far proved to be a successful instrument for revival of sick units. The present policy does not, therefore favour such takeover. No unit has been taken over under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 since 1982. The general current policy of the Government which is crystallized over the years is neither to take-over non-viable sick industries not

to nationalise them. The Government is laying more emphasis on preventive rather than curative measures. Also, as a policy, the Government does not favour nationalisation of sick/taken-over units so that the scarce resources of the country can be deployed for setting up viable and efficient new units.

Molasses Distillation as Automotive Fuel

471. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether molasses distillation can be used as automotive fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to take any policy decision to commercialise molasses distillation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Distillate of molasses can be used as automotive fuel either straight or as a blend with gasoline or diesel. Blend of about 10% of Ethanol with gasoline can be used without major modification to fuel systems of vehicle.

(c) to (e) The techno-economic feasibility to use ethanol as automotive fuel commercially in the country, is yet to be established.

[Translation]**Demand and Supply of Fertilisers**

472. SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, demand, supply and import of each type of fertilizer in the country during the last three years, yearwise:

(b) the total production of each type of fertilizer in private and public sector in the country and production cost and sale-price in each sector; and

(c) the target fixed for production of the fertilizers in the country during 1991-92 and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS

AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Nutrient-wise details of production, assessed requirement, supply and imports of fertilizers during the last three years year-wise is given in the statement No. I enclosed.

(b) The total production of fertilizers in private and public sector during 1990-91 nutrientwise is as follows:

(In thousand Metric Tonne of nutrients)	N	P
Public Sector	2,873	511
Private Sector	2,398	1,308

The cost of production of some of the important types of fertilizers, per metric tonne, in public and private sector is as follows:

<i>Name of the Item</i>	<i>Public Sector</i>	<i>Private Sector</i>
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Urea	3,157	3,321
Ammonium Sulphate	2,607	2,131
DAP	5,261	5,719
SSP	2,260	1,853

NOTE: Cost of production excludes capital related charges except in the case of SSP.

The sale prices of various types of fertilizers which are the same in respect of all sectors are given in Statement No. II enclosed.

(c) The nutrient-wise targets fixed for the country as a whole for 1991-92 are 73.50 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen and 26.50 lakh tonnes of Phosphatic fertilizers subject to availability of raw-materials.

The individual unit-wise targets have been laid down for the year 1991-92 and the production is being monitored by obtaining periodical reports from manufacturing units. The manufacturing units are also assisted in obtaining their raw materials, power and coal etc. to enable them to ensure achievement of their production targets.

STATEMENT I*(Figures in Lakh Metric Tonnes)***A. Figures of Fertilizers Production**

Year	Nitrogen	Phosphate
	(N)	(P)
1988-89	67.12	22.52
1989-90	67.47	17.96
1990-91	69.93	20.52

B. Assessed requirement

	(N)	(P)	(K)	Total
	1988-89	71.45	28.65	11.96	112.06
1989-90	77.64	31.92	12.41	121.97
1990-91	82.41	35.32	13.55	131.28

C. Figures of Fertilizers Consumption

	(N)	(P)	(K)	Total
	1988-89	72.51	27.21	10.68	110.40
1989-90	73.86	30.14	11.68	115.68
1990-91	79.66	32.86	13.24	125.76

D. Figures of Fertilizers Imports

	(N)	(P)	(K)	Total
	1988-89	2.19	4.07	9.82	16.08
1989-90	5.23	13.11	12.80	31.14
1990-91	4.14	10.16	13.28	27.58

STATEMENT II*Current retail prices of Fertilizers*

Sl. No.	Name of Fertilizer	(Price Rs./MT)
1.	Urea (46%N)	2350
2.	Ammonium Sulphate (20% N)	1650
3.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (25%)	1700
4.	Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (26%)	1770
5.	Muriate of Potash (60%K)	1300
6.	Sulphate of Potash (50% K)	2100
7.	Di-ammonium Phosphate (14-45-0)	3500
8.	NPK (17-17-17)	2600
9.	NPK (15-15-15)	2100
10.	NPK (19-19-19)	2950
11.	Ammonium Phosphate Sulphate (20-20-20)	2600
12.	Nitro-phosphate (20-20-0)	2400

Sl. No.	Name of Fertilizer	(Price Rs./MT)
13.	Ammonium Phosphate (16-20-0)	2300
14.	Urea Ammonium Phosphate (24-24-0)	3050
15.	Urea Ammonium Phosphate (28-28-0)	3600
16.	NPK (14-28-14)	3050
17.	NPK (14-35-14)	3400
18.	NPK (10-26-26)	2950
19.	NPK (12-32-16)	3250
20.	Triple Super Phosphate (46% P) (Granular)	2600
21.	Triple Super Phosphate (Powder)	2400
22.	Single Super Phosphate (Powder) (14% P ₂ O ₅)	820
23.	Single Super Phosphate (Powder) (16% P ₂ O ₅)	950
24.	Single Super Phosphate (Granular) (16% P ₂ O ₅)	1100
25.	Ammonium Chloride (25% N)	1700
26.	Anhydrous Ammonia	3770
27.	Nitro-phosphate (23-23-0)	2930

[English]

Import of Fertilizers

474. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizer imported during the financial year 1990-91; and

(b) the total foreign exchange involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) A total quantity of 44.90 lakh tonnes of finished fertilizers involving foreign exchange of Rs. 1335.82 crores was imported during the financial year 1990-91.

Monitoring of Public Distribution System

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

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a board to monitor the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to associate the village Panchayats in Public Distribution System; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir There is, however, already an Advisory Council on PDS comprising Food and Civil Supplies Ministers of States/Uts, representatives of Central Ministries, MPS etc.

(c) and (d) On the advise of the Central Government, most of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have set up vigilance/advisory Committees at various levels including Fair Price Shops (FPS)/village levels in which representatives of various local organizations and elected representatives are generally associated.

Secretaries Posts

476. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the year of allotment of the junior most officers of each All India and Central Service who has been promoted to the post of Secretary to the Government of India or equivalent thereof;

(b) the number of relatively senior officers in each service who has been passed over for each selection/posting, allotment year-wise;

(c) the total number of posts of Secretary to the Union Government or

equivalent thereof under the Union Government as on April 1, 1991; and

(d) the break-up by service to which the incumbents as on April, 1, 1991 belong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The year of allotment of the Junior most officers of each All India and Central Service who has been promoted to the post of Secretary to the Govt of India equivalent thereof is as follows:

ALL INDIA SERVICE

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|------|
| 1. Indian Administrative Service | . . . | 1960 |
| 2. Indian Police Service | . . . | 1958 |

CENTRAL SERVICES

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Indian Revenue Service
(Customs & Central Excise) | . . . | 1957 |
| 2. Indian Revenue Service
(Income-tax) | . . . | 1955 |
| 3. Indian Defence Accounts Service | . . . | 1956 |
| 4. Indian Postal Service | . . . | 1956 |
| 5. Indian Railway Accounts Service | . . . | 1957 |
| 6. Indian Railway Traffic Service | . . . | 1957 |
| 7. IRSE | . . . | 1957 |
| 8. IRSME | . . . | 1956 |
| 9. IRSEE | . . . | 1957 |
| 10. Indian Economic Service | | (Lateral entry : Year not relevant) |
| 11. Indian Statistical Service | . . . | There is no such officer. |
| 12. Indian Foreign Service | . . . | 1960 |
| 13. Central Power Engineering Service
(Lateral entry) | . . . | 1963 |
| 14. Central Water Engineering Service | . . . | There is no such officer. |
| 15. Indian Legal Service | . . . | 1967 (lateral entry) |

(b) the number of relatively senior officers in each service who has been passed over for each selection/posting is given as under:

S. No.	All India/Central Service	Allotment year-wise break-up					
		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. IAS	Nil	11	20	26	23	34
2. IPS (Police)		10	26	5	..	..
3. IRS (C & CE)			Nil			
4. IRS (IT)			Nil			
5. IDAS			Nil			
6. IPS (Postal)			Nil			
7. IRAS			Nil			
8. IRTS			Nil			
9. IRSE			Nil			
10. IRSME			Nil			
11. IRSEE			Nil			
12. IES			Nil			
13. CPES			Nil			
14. ISS			Nil			
15. IFS (Foreign)	1	2	2	2	3
16. CWES			Nil			
17. ILS (Legal)			Nil			

(c) the total number of posts of Secretary to the Union Government or equivalent thereof under the Union Government is 124 as on 1 April, 1991.

(d) The break up by service to which the incumbents as on 1 April 1991 belong is given as under:

S. No.	Service	Secretary level
1.	IAS	78
2.	IA & AS	1
3.	IRS (C & CE)	1
4.	IRS (IT)	1
5.	IDAS	1
6.	IPS (Police)	4
7.	IPS (Postal)	1
8.	IRAS	2
9.	IRTS	2
10.	IES/ISS	2
11.	Indian Foreign Service	3
12.	IRSE/IRSM/IRSEE etc.	4
13.	CPES	1
14.	ILS	4
15.	Others*	19
	Total	124

*This includes officers who do not belong to any organised Central Service.

Drinking Water Crisis in Saurashtra, Gujarat

477. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme involving an amount of Rs. 650 crores for providing drinking water to Saurashtra area in Gujarat submitted by the State Government of Gujarat was approved by Union Government;

(b) if so, when and the amount likely to be provided by the Union Government for this scheme; and

(c) the stage at which the scheme stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat has approved the scheme in principle and Gujarat State Construction Corporation has been assigned to work as nodal agency for inviting tenders.

Investigation into Assassination of Former P.M. Shri Rajiv Gandhi

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

(a) the terms of reference of the Special Investigation Team going into the assassination of former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi at Sriperumbudur; and

(b) the progress of the investigation made till date and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The case has been entrusted by Government to the Central Bureau of Investigation. No terms of reference for investigation are required in such cases because the investigation is conducted under the relevant provisions of Law i.e. Criminal Procedure Code.

(b) The investigation is in progress and divulging information at this juncture may not be in the interest of further investigation.

Permission to Multinational Companies for Manufacture and Distribution of Soft Drinks

479. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of multinational companies allowed to manufacture and distribute soft drinks in India;

(b) their annual turn-over;

(c) the terms and conditions of these companies to manufacture and distribute soft drinks in India;

(d) whether these terms and conditions have been honoured by these multinational companies; and

(e) if not, the action taken against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) There is no accepted definition of multinational company. However, for practical purposes, a company having more than 40% Non-Resident interest (Popularly known as a FERA Company) is treated as a Multinational Company. Presently no multinational company is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of soft drinks in India.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Funds Provided by KVIC to Sericulture Producers

480. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to make Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) a more responsible and people oriented organisation to meet its commitments to the growing demand of the millions of poor sericulture producers;

(b) the funds in the form of working capital provided by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission to the institutions and Boards for procuring their raw materials from existing cocoon and yarn markets which could be classified under the public/private sector/private sector lending programme or both; and

(c) the details of such institutions/Boards with their addresses, financial position, business progress and commitments to the producers particularly in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Sericulture is essentially an activity under the purview of State Govt. However, KVIC has a khadi silk programme which covers 7% of the total silk sector. The KVIC is making continuous efforts at modernising and developing this industry. It has introduced improved cottage basins in reeling of cocoons, conducting experiments for spinning of yarn on Ambar charkha and introducing semi-automatic loom.

(b) During 1989-90 the KVIC has provided working capital funds of Rs. 47.12 lakhs from its budget and Rs. 731.05 lakhs from its bank finance scheme at a concessional rate of interest of 4% to the directly assisted institutions and State KVI Boards. There is no yarn market as such in the silk khadi sector as the yarn produced by these institutions is meant for self consumption to produce silk khadi.

(c) There are about 450 directly aided institutions under silk programme of KVIC in the country.

[*Translation*]

Import of Colour TV Picture Tubes

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

(a) whether colour TV picture tubes are being imported at present;

(b) if so, the details of imports made during the year 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) the names of the indigenous companies which are manufacturing and exporting colour TV Picture Tube?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The demand for picture tubes is being met indigenously at present. However, in case of any shortfall in indigenous production due to unforeseen circumstances, Government may consider the possibility of permitting import of picture tubes to bridge the gap between demand and supply. Based on the data available on production/export of Colour TVs/Colour Picture Tubes, the import of Colour Picture Tubes is estimated as 3.2 lakhs and 4.2 lakhs during 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively.

(c) The names of the indigenous companies which are manufacturing & exporting colour TV picture tubes are given below:—

1. M/s. JCT Electronics Ltd.
2. M/s. Uptron Colour Picture Tubes Ltd.
3. M/s. Samtel Color Ltd.

Projects of Bihar pending for clearance

482. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects of Bihar which are pending before the Planning Commission for its approval; and

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No project of Bihar is pending with the Planning Commission for investment approval.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Chandigarh Villages

483. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the villages of the Chandigarh Union Territory has been selected for development Under the rural development schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) For the development of all the villages in Chandigarh, the centrally sponsored Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the scheme of strengthening of revenue administration and updating of land records are being implemented in Chandigarh.

(b) Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, a sum of Rs. 28.14 lakh was released to the administration of Chandigarh for an envisaged employment generation of 1.08 lakh mandays in rural areas during 1990-91. Against the target, employment of 0.11 lakh mandays has been generated. An allocation of Rs. 38.81 lakh has been made for the year 1991-92. Under the scheme of strengthening of revenue administration and updating of land records, an assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakh was provided to administration of Chandigarh during 1990-91 for strengthening the revenue machinery of the territory of Chandigarh.

Export of Maruti Cars during 1990-91

484. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of actual export of Maruti cars as against the target for 1990-91;

(b) the impact of short supply of Maruti cars on export commitments;

(c) the percentage of shortfall in export earnings as a consequence thereof as against the estimated earnings; and

(d) the main causes for shortfall in export target and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) Maruti Exported 4,908 vehicles against its original target of 10,000 during 1990-91. All export commitments were, however, met.

(c) and (d) Against the target of US \$ 40 million during 1990-91 Maruti earned about US \$ 41 million (provisional and un-audited). This includes earnings from deemed exports and other sources.

Expansion and Improvement of Broadcasting Facilities

485. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a time bound programme for the expansion and

improvement of broadcasting facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrangements have been made with some foreign countries for exchanging of programmes and news facilities of mutual interest; and

(d) if so, which are the countries and the details of such arrangements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Expansion and improvement of broadcasting facilities of All India Radio and Doordarshan is a continuous process, and is done on the basis of regular Five Year Plans;

(c) and (d) India has Cultural Exchange Programmes with 58 countries and Radio and TV Protocols with 21 countries (listed in the Statement I and II), which provide for exchange of programmes on the basis of mutual interest.

The Cultural Exchange Programmes and Protocols generally provide for the following:

(i) Exchange of programmes

(ii) Exchange of personnel

(iii) Observance of National Day of each other's country by putting out special programmes on such occasions; and

(iv) Provision of technical facilities to visiting Radio and TV teams from each other's country.

STATEMENT I

Name of the countries with whom India has Cultural Exchange Programmes

S. *Name of the Country*
No.

1. Afghanistan

2. Algeria

3. Angola

4. Australia

5. Argentina

6. Baharain

7. Bangladesh

8. Belgium

9. Bulgaria

10. Cuba

11. Cyprus

12. Czechoslovakia

13. China

14. Egypt

15. Ethiopia

16. Finland

17. France

18. Germany

19. Ghana

20. Greece

21. Hungary

22. Indonesia

23. Iran

24. Iraq

25. Italy

26. Jordan

27. Kenya

28. Korea (DPR)

29. Korea (ROK)

S. *Name of the Country*
No.

30. Kuwait

31. Mauritius

32. Mexico

33. Mongolia

34. Morocco

35. Maldives

36. Norway

37. Nigeria

38. Netherlands

39. Pakistan

40. Phillippines

41. Poland

42. Portugal

43. Qatar

44. Romania

45. Syria

46. Spain

47. Somalia

48. Sudan

49. Sychelles

50. Tunisia

51. Turkey

52. U.A.E.

53. U.S.S.R.

54. Uganda

55. Yemen

56. Yugoslavia

57. Zimbabwe

58. Peru

STATEMENT II

*List of countries with whom we have
Radio and TV Protocol*

S. *Name of the country*
No.

1. Afghanistan
2. Bulgaria
3. China
4. Cyprus
5. Czechoslovakia
6. Germany
7. Hungary
8. Iran
9. Iraq
10. Italy
11. Korea (DPR)
12. Oman
13. Poland
14. Seychelles
15. Syria
16. Tanzania
17. Turkey
18. U.S.S.R.
19. Vietnam

S. No. *Name of the country*

20. Yemen
21. Yugoslavia

**Time given to Political Parties in
News Coverage**

486. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time given to political parties, party-wise in news coverage of Hindi and English Bulletins on National Network during the last six months; and

(b) the time given to political parties, party-wise in news coverage in Marathi on Bombay Doordarshan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The information is given in the attached Statement I.

(b) The information is given in the attached Statement II.

STATEMENT I

Details of time given to political parties partywise in the news coverage of Hindi and English Bulletins on the National Network during January to June 1991

<i>Name of the Parties</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>
SJP	18 Min.	66 Min.	58 Min.	61 Min.	28 Min.	15 Min
CONG. (I)	26 ..	41 ..	44 ..	46 ..	24 ..	41 ..
JANATA DAL	05 ..	23 ..	17 ..	36 ..	20 ..	21 ..
BJP	08 ..	15 ..	21 ..	32 ..	18 ..	31 ..
CPI (M)	02 ..	14 ..	11 ..	25 ..	08 ..	16 ..
CPI . . . . .	..	09 ..	07 ..	22 ..	04 ..	08 ..
NATIONAL FRONT	06 ..	05 ..	14 ..	21 ..	..	12 ..

<i>Name of the Parties</i>	<i>January February March April May June</i>					
DMK	03 Min.	04 Min.	07 Min.	..	03 Min
AIADMK	02 ..	04 ..	03 ..	..	07 ..
LOK DAL	02 ..	..	40 .. seconds
TELUGU DESHAM	02 ..	50 ..	..	03 .. seconds

STATEMENT II

Details of time given to Political Parties, partywise in the news coverage in Marathi Telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay during April-June, 1991

<i>Name of the Parties</i>	<i>(Months)</i>		
	<i>April, 91</i>	<i>May, 91</i>	<i>June, 91</i>
CONGRESS (I)	118 Min.	61 Min.	143Min.
BJP	94 ..	47 ..	54 ..
SHIV SENA	14 ..	..	..
JANATA DAL	72 ..	35 ..	17 ..
CPI	33 ..	..	04 ..
CPM . . . . .	..	..	16 ..
SJP	130 ..	93 ..	29 ..
OTHERS	56 ..	06 ..	21 ..

Seniority of Deputationists Working in Public Sector Undertakings

487. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 279 on February 25, 1991 and state:

(a) whether BHEL has not protected seniority and pay of its officials on deputation under the ITEC programme;

(b) the number of persons registered with the panel of experts of Department of Personnel in whose cases BHEL has not followed the prescribed procedure for protecting the seniority of its officials who have gone abroad;

(c) the reasons for not following the prescribed guidelines of Department of Personnel by BHEL in each case separately;

(d) the number of cases in BHEL in which some officials joined foreign assignment of their own and got the benefits of seniority protection on their return from abroad; and

(e) the reasons thereof and the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) As per the policy in BHEL, employees seconded for foreign assignments on the basis of their selection/nomination made through the Department

of Personnel & Administrative Reforms/other Ministries of the Government of India, are allowed to retain lien in BHEL, which bestows on them the privilege to come back to BHEL on the same position with regard to their status, grade and rate of pay which they may be holding at the time of their release.

The benefit of the period of foreign assignment for promotion is not ipso facto available and is allowed only if experience in the foreign assignment is assessed to be directly relevant for the company's purposes.

(d) There is no such case.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Check on Foreign News and Broadcasting

488. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to check the unfavourable news and broadcasts received in our country from abroad through a powerful domestic satellite;

(b) if so, the outlines of the schemes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Fast changing technology has virtually broken down the national barriers rendering any attempt to contain the international flow of information largely irrelevant. However, the foreign broadcasts are monitored to

the extent possible within the existing constraint of financial resources and programmes are put out to counter adverse propaganda, if any, contained in such broadcasts.

[English]

New Industries in Public Sector in Kerala

489. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to set up new industries in public sector in Kerala during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) There is no proposal at present to set up any new Central Public Sector Enterprise in the State of Kerala during the current financial year.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of AIR, Nagercoil

490. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to increase the coverage of AIR Nagercoil in Kanyakumari district; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, with the commissioning of a 200 KW MW transmitter under establishment at Tuticorin, the service in a large part of Kanyakumari district is expected to further improve.

Quantity of Sugar etc. Supplied to Gujarat

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

(a) whether the Gujarat State is being supplied foodgrains, edible oils and sugar according to their requirements;

(b) whether the quantity of these items are being supplied on the basis of population census figure of 1986 instead of 1991;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase their quota as required by the State Government on the basis of census figures of 1991; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) The allocations of the rice, wheat and imported edible oils from Central Pool to States/UT's including Gujarat for distribution through PDS are made on a month to month basis taking into account factors like the stock position in the Central Pool, market availability of these commodities past off-take and inter-se requirements of the States/UTs.

Allocation of levy sugar to States/UTs is made on a uniform norm of 425 grams per capita monthly availability for the projected population as on 1-10-1986.

Allocation from Central Pool is only supplemental in nature, and is not intended to meet the total requirements of the States/UTs.

Setting up of Public Corporations

492. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up public Corporations in addition to Prasar Bharati; and

(b) if so, the justification thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The Government are committed to offer to public Corporations, which conform to parameters to be laid down by law, broadcasting and telecasting rights and to allow them to compete with Prasar Bharati. This is considered imperative because of the growing information needs of the country and in the backdrop of the technological advancements which have made irrelevant the existing monopoly over the electronic media.

*[Translation]***Setting up of pollution free industries in Agra**

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under the Government's consideration to set up pollution free industries in Agra for industrial development and to check the rising unemployment; and

(b) if so, by what time the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) With a view to promoting the economic development of ecologically sensitive regions like Agra-Mathura region, Government encourages setting up of non-polluting industries, such as Electronic Industry. Several

promotional measures have been initiated by the State Government for setting up of such industries in Agra, which include provision of training facilities in entrepreneurship, reservation of plots in industrial area at Sikandara for Electronic Industry, exemption from power cuts, etc. Apart from schemes registered under the delicensed/exempted category, three letters of intent have been granted since 1986 for setting up new undertakings at Agra for manufacture of PCA Tubes for Burners (for sodium vapour lamps), Digital Multiplexing Equipment, etc. These are under various stages of implementation.

[English]

Allocation of Funds to Orissa

494. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether while finalising the annual plan of Orissa for the year 1991-92, the Planning Commission had also approved a special allocation of Rs. 150 crores for the State to be provided during the current financial year;

(b) whether this amount has since been given to Orissa, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Special provision made as plan loan, vide suggestion of the Ninth Finance Commission was subject to approval of the Finance Ministry. This has not materialised due to the resource constraint of the Centre.

Bonus Bonanza to Personal Staff of Ministers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that most Ministers in the former caretaker Government gave a bonus bonanza to their personal staff prior to leaving office as a token of gratitude for their four month help, as reported in the Calcutta 'Business Standard' dated April 22, 1991;

(b) if so, the total amount thus given as parting gift, Minister-wise and the particulars of these beneficiaries; and

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance was consulted before the payment of such bonus; if so, their reaction thereto and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) There is no scheme for payment of Bonus Bonanza to Central Govt. servants by the Ministers of any Ministry/Department. However, for work of occasional and intermittent nature Govt. servants can be paid honorarium subject to certain conditions prescribed by the Govt. Ministries/Departments have been delegated powers vide Orders dated 23-12-1985. They are not required to obtain the approval of Ministry of Finance if the amount of honorarium to be sanctioned falls within the delegated powers. Information regarding the amount of honorarium paid to various categories of staff in the Office of the Ministers in the previous Govt. will be collected and laid on the table of the House.

*[Translations]***Capacity on Broadcasting Transmitter at Darbhanga**

496. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to increase the capacity of the broadcasting transmitter at Darbhanga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The transmitting facilities at Darbhanga are not due for augmentation.

*[English]***Production and demand of iodised salt**

497. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the production and current demand of common and iodised salt separately in the country;

(b) the number of salt production units upto December 1990 permitted by the Salt Commissioner to commence commercial production of iodised salt and the corresponding installed capacity of salt production per annum; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure that the process of iodisation of common edible salt conforms to specified standards in view of the reported adhocism in iodisation process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) The production of common salt is 110 lakh tonnes per annum as against the demand of 100 lakh tonnes, while both production and demand of iodised salt is 26 lakh tonnes per annum.

(b) Upto December, 1990, 439 units with an installed capacity of 56.88 lakh tonnes per annum have been permitted to commence commercial production of iodised salt.

(c) Primarily it is the responsibility of manufacturers to adhere to the standards of iodised salt as prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. The Salt Department is also taking following measures to ensure proper iodisation of edible salt:—

(a) guidance and training in quality control;

(b) checking at random, consignments of iodised salt at manufacturing end in the quality control laboratories;

(c) deductions in claims of subsidy in respect of sub-standard iodised salt besides suspension of permission to manufacture iodised salt in case of regular defaulters; and (d) surprise checks at regular intervals.

Setting up of granite industry

498. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent granted for setting up granite industry upto the end of 1990;

(b) the number of units in production at present, state-wise;

(c) whether export of granite is being done mostly in cut blocks; and

(d) if so, the reason why fully finished granite products are not being manufactured for export promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Granite is a non-scheduled industry and does not require any industrial licence. As such, letters of intent are not issued. To promote export of cut and polished granite, entrepreneurs are being granted letters of permission under the 100% Export Oriented Unit Scheme. In other cases the units are

being registered by Directorate General of Technical Development. There are 283 units who hold valid letters of permission under the 100% E.O.U. Scheme and about 45 units which have been registered with DGTD, up to the end of 1990.

(b) There are forty-one (41) units in production as per details below:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>States</i>	<i>No. of 100% EUOs</i>	<i>No. of DGTD Regd. Units</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	2
2.	Orissa	1	..
3.	Goa	1	..
4.	Karnataka	5	2
5.	Tamil Nadu	13	—
6.	Pondicherry	2	..
7.	Rajasthan . . . . .	..	5
8.	Gujarat . . . . .	..	1
9.	Maharashtra . . . . .	..	2
TOTAL		29	12

(c) and (d) About 70—78% of the exports is in the shape of rough blocks; the remaining being of cut and polished granites. As several units for processing granites are at various stages of implementation, export of processed granite would pick up once the units become operational.

(b) the progress, if any, made in the implementation of these licences; and

(c) whether the Government propose to review all these cases to ensure that there was no irregularity in the issue of these licences?

Issue of industrial licences

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

(a) the particulars of the licences issued by the previous Government stating the names of the parties concerned, location of the industry, name of product and capacity:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) A total number of 253 industrial licences were granted during Nov. 1990 to June, 1991. Particulars such as name of Undertaking, location, item(s) of manufacture and capacity in respect of all industrial licences issued are published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly

Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

(b) An industrial licence is issued with an initial validity period of two years within which the entrepreneur is expected to commence commercial production. Since the above said licences have recently been issued, it is too early to state their actual implementation position. These would be at various stages of implementation.

(c) At present, there is no such general proposal. However, it is open to Government to review decisions on merits.

Public Grievances Redressal Machinery for Civil Bodies in Delhi

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that the existing Public Grievances Redressal machinery at the level of Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking and the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking is most inefficient and ineffective;

(b) whether thousands of the aggrieved residents in the capital have to deal with these authorities daily/particularly highlighting the havoc played by the computer, over-billing etc.;

(c) whether letters written to the higher authorities in DESU and Water Supply Undertaking are not even acknowledged;

(d) whether the genuine grievances of the public remain unattended due to the total apathy and callousness of the officers in these Civic bodies; and

(e) whether the Government propose to bring these bodies under the central control or designate some authority to deal with the redressal of these complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (e) The machinery for attending to public grievances has been operative at different levels of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking (DESU) and the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking. The grievances relate to a wide variety of services rendered by these organisations. Some of the grievances are such as can be and are attended to immediately. Some others require, in the nature of things, time for investigation, approval for financial sanctions and eventual implementation. Apart from their diversity, the number of grievances too being attended to by these organisations is also very large, running into thousands every year. While a substantial number get attended to immediately, many in the nature of things remain unattended to and take time to be disposed of.

In order to expedite disposal of grievances and give greater satisfaction to the public, a large number of steps like simplification of procedure, computerisation, introduction of modern office equipments have been taken. Despite all these efforts, room for some dissatisfaction undoubtedly remains. The organisations are fully alive to the situation and try to take steps for meeting this.

There are no proposals at present to bring these organisations under the central control for purposes of redressing public grievances.

Setting up of a Station in Antarctica by Pakistan

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

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan is also setting up its Station in the Antarctica;

(b) whether it will in any way hamper Indian team's research operations there; and

(c) the conditions laid down by the Antarctica Treaty Nations for setting up of such stations there particularly the avoidance of any adverse impact of human activities on Antarctica?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. The first Pakistani scientific expedition to Antarctica was launched in December 1990. Reportedly, there are plans for a follow up expedition.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Activities by any Governmental or non-Governmental agency undertaken in the Antarctic Treaty area pursuant to scientific research are required to be planned and conducted in such a manner so as not to adversely affect the Antarctic environment and its dependent and associated ecosystems.

Revision of Service Rules

502. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to revise and update the existing service rules and orders/instructions by the Government to bring these in tune with the present environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Revision and updating of the rules and orders/instructions relating to the conditions of service of the Central Government employees are done on an on-going basis, whenever the Government finds

the need for the same or proposals are received in this regard. Such changes cannot be brought about as a one-time measure only.

Employment in IFFCO

503. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers/employees estimated to be employed in IFFCO fertilizer Factory Aonla, Barcilly, Uttar Pradesh at the time of its commissioning;

(b) the actual number of labourers/employees presently working therein; and the number of local people out of them;

(c) whether employment facility has been provided to all those families whose land was acquired for the factory; and

(d) if not, the time by which they are proposed to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) There were 689 employees at the time of commissioning of IFFCO fertilizer plant at Aonla.

(b) There are 986 employees at present out of which 308 are from Barcilly, District where the plant is located.

(c) and (d) IFFCO has given direct employment to all those land losers who sold excess of 60% of their land for the Aonla Project. It may be possible to provide employment to other land losers subject to availability of vacancies and acquiring of necessary skills by them. The potential of employment for unskilled jobs is very limited.

Heavy Water Plant in IFFCO

504. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration to set up heavy water plant in IFFCO Ferlitizer Plant, (Aonla) Bareilly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said plant is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Aonla is one of the sites recommended by the Site Selection Committee for setting up of a Heavy Water Plant. However, Government is yet to take a decision in the matter.

Re-introduction of central subsidy scheme for industrialisation in backward areas

505. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to re-introduce the Central Subsidy Scheme for industrialisation in backward area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) The Central Investment Subsidy Scheme 1971, was discontinued on 30-9-1988. Government in March, 1990 announced that a new Investment Subsidy Scheme would be introduced for small Scale units set up in rural and backward areas. However, the proposed Scheme has so far not been introduced.

Per Capita Income of Maharashtra

506. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita income of Maharashtra during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) whether per capita income varies from State to State;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to raise the per capita income of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ):

(a) The per capita income of Maharashtra (i.e., per capita Net State Domestic Product) during 1988-89 and 1989-90 was Rs. 5363 and Rs. 6184 respectively. Estimate of per capita income for 1990-91 is not available.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The per capita income varies from State to State due to a variety of reasons, some among them being the differences in the levels of infrastructural development, development of entrepreneurship, trade, commerce and industry.

(d) The State of Maharashtra has been implementing the development plans for increasing the per capita income of the State. The plans include investment/outlays for the development of infrastructure, industry, agriculture, irrigation, rural development, education and health, etc. and also for implementation of direct employment generating programmes.

[*Translation*]

Production/consumption of chemical fertilizers

507. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise production and consumption of various types of chemical fertilizers during each of the last three years in the country and the steps proposed to be taken to meet the increasing fertilizer requirements of the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the steps being taken to provide fertilizers to marginal and small farmers at low prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) State-wise figures of production of various types of che-

mical fertilizers during each of the last three years in the country is given in Statement I enclosed.

The State-wise consumption of various types of chemical fertilizers during each of the last three years in the country is given in Statements II, III and IV enclosed.

To meet the increasing fertilizer requirements of the country during the 8th Five Year Plan, the steps proposed include completion of fertilizer projects initiated during the 7th Five Year Plan, revamping/modernisation of existing fertilizer plants, and setting up of new fertilizer plants. The gap between the anticipated normal demand of fertilizers and the expected production will be bridged by imports.

(b) The fertilizers are made available to all the farmers including the small and marginal farmers at concessional consumer prices applicable at the uniform rate throughout the country.

STATEMENT I

Statewise Figure of Production of Fertilizers

(*'000 MT*)

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>1988-89</i>		<i>1989-90</i>		<i>1990-91</i>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>P</i>
SOUTH ZONE						
Andhra Pradesh	194.3	189.1	185.1	188.6	182.6	229.7
Kerala	276.9	135.4	198.1	109.1	237.6	120.3
Karnataka	152.2	60.9	104.2	30.6	134.7	42.5
Tamil Nadu	572.0	318.6	517.9	268.7	514.3	291.7
Total (S Z)	1195.4	704.0	1005.3	597.0	1069.4	684.2
WEST ZONE						
Goa	205.4	118.1	194.3	71.3	208.9	75.2
Madhya Pradesh	284.2	52.9	379.8	65.0	396.0	72.4
Maharashtra	993.2	169.7	838.7	188.3	909.1	186.3
Gujarat	1701.2	559.1	1664.1	421.7	1690.0	477.2
Rajasthan	142.0	68.8	164.8	44.0	169.8	45.4
TOTAL (W Z)	3326.0	968.6	3241.7	790.3	3373.8	856.5

(000 MT)

Name of the State	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	N	P	N	P	N	P
EAST ZONE						
Bihar	207.5	21.0	150.1	30.3	168.4	44.4
Orissa	195.0	294.1	165.5	120.8	179.7	161.4
West Bengal	57.3	93.7	30.4	67.8	56.6	99.9
Assam	147.3	1.0	185.0	1.1	120.9	1.0
TOTAL (E Z)	607.1	409.8	531.0	220.0	525.6	306.7
NORTH ZONE						
Haryana	206.1	21.0	219.7	14.0	217.4	19.2
Punjab	388.4	42.4	427.9	71.2	393.8	80.1
Uttar Pradesh	989.4	105.8	1321.7	103.3	1413.1	105.2
TOTAL (N Z)	1583.9	169.2	1969.3	188.5	2024.3	204.5
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	6712.4	2251.6	6747.3	1785.8	6993.1	2051.9

STATEMENT II*State-wise figures of consumption of Fertilizers*

YEAR : 1988-89

(Tonnes)

Sl. No.	State Name	Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potash	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	903608	345686	106033	1355327
2.	Karnataka	438035	230200	131617	799852
3.	Kerala	80238	50884	82805	213927
4.	Tamil Nadu	416349	149251	202987	768587
5.	Andaman and Nicobar	170	137	119	426
6.	Pondicherry	10033	3259	4896	18188
7.	Gujarat	434738	164456	44273	643467
8.	Madhya Pradesh	386659	258401	39071	684131
9.	Maharashtra	533070	234002	124029	891101
10.	Rajasthan	211931	89748	3696	305375

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State Name</i>	<i>Nitrogen</i>	<i>Phosphate</i>	<i>Potash</i>	<i>Total</i>
11.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	346	241	23	610
12.	Goa, Daman & Diu	2624	1768	1661	6053
13.	Haryana	303610	119618	5944	509172
14.	Himachal Pradesh	22219	4672	3407	30298
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	38412	11859	3245	53516
16.	Punjab	795541	301829	19542	1116912
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1600504	434157	101208	2135869
18.	Chandigarh	1339	211	22	1572
19.	Delhi	7013	1918	200	
20.	Assam	13697	6206	5577	2548
21.	Manipur	5179	1928	197	7304
22.	Meghalaya	1603	1233	226	3062
23.	Nagaland	173	120	6	299
24.	Sikkim	1072	663	64	1799
25.	Tripura	4789	2775	1355	8919
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	201	110	47	358
27.	Mizoram	130	138	54	
28.	Tea Board (N.E.)	21315	5636	17376	44327
29.	Bihar	456557	111713	39759	603029
30.	Orissa	114190	28910	18590	161690
31.	West Bengal	365667	158957	110324	634948
	ALL INDIA	7251012	2720686	1068353	11040051

STATEMENT III

State-wise figures of consumption of fertilizers

YEAR : 1989-90

(Tonnes)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State Name</i>	<i>Nitrogen</i>	<i>Phosphate</i>	<i>Potash</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1018792	401681	111949	1532422
2.	Karnataka	391935	248999	138170	77910
3.	Kerala	78638	47252	86564	212454

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State Name</i>	<i>Nitrogen</i>	<i>Phosphate</i>	<i>Potash</i>	<i>Total</i>
4.	Tamil Nadu	400088	158630	223407	782125
5.	Andaman and Nicobar	177	98	55	330
6.	Pondicherry	8682	3242	5025	16949
7.	Gujarat	434395	213864	47118	695377
8.	Madhya Pradesh	372588	263728	38372	674688
9.	Maharashtra	681000	326000	175000	1182000
10.	Rajasthan	194353	86387	4851	285591
11.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	387	297	90	774
12.	Goa Daman and Diu	2502	1789	1426	5717
13.	Haryana	402595	129067	3822	535484
14.	Himachal Pradesh	23620	5272	3819	32711
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	32609	11757	3146	47512
16.	Punjab	817558	314777	12538	1144873
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1547683	455416	88613	2091712
18.	Chandigarh	1306	297	22	1625
19.	Delhi	6972	1981	127	9080
20.	Assam	12802	6511	4315	23628
21.	Manipur	5594	1161	149	6904
22.	Meghalaya	1573	1089	196	2858
23.	Nagaland	299	328	65	692
24.	Sikkim	986	484	196	1666
25.	Tripura	5857	1868	1376	9101
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	230	110	50	390
27.	Mizoram	201	218	82	501
28.	Tea Board (N.E.)	16069	5628	38274	51971
29.	Bihar	411959	106655	45481	564095
30.	Orissa	132867	43894	27974	204735
31.	West Bengal	381625	175756	113714	671095
	ALL INDIA	7385942	3014236	1167986	11568164

STATEMENT IV

State-wise figures of consumption of fertilizers

YEAR : 1990-91

Sl. No.	State Name	(Estimated)			(Tonnes)
		Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potash	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1085801	417017	132378	1635196
2.	Karnataka	407527	251355	152446	811328
3.	Kerala	99396	59220	96302	254918
4.	Tamil Nadu	445537	178782	255034	879353
5.	Andman & Nicobar	177	98	55	330
6.	Pondicherry	10974	4097	5978	21049
7.	Gujarat	412263	213039	63516	688818
8.	Madhya Pradesh	460600	288093	43637	792330
9.	Maharashtra	726000	360000	200000	1294000
10.	Rajasthan	254398	128929	6928	390246
11.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	559	379	133	1071
12.	Goa, Daman & Diu	3735	2654	2121	8510
13.	Haryana	448479	150516	5622	596617
14.	Himachal Pradesh	25320	5780	4098	35198
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	29620	9606	3839	43065
16.	Punjab	863822	345212	15047	1224081
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1682298	492226	99867	2274391
18.	Chandigarh	1306	297	22	1625
19.	Delhi	8024	2345	205	10574
20.	Assam	19365	8186	7646	35197
21.	Manipur	6353	2865	488	9706
22.	Meghalaya	1579	1037	164	2816
23.	Nagaland	496	469	148	1113
24.	Sikkim	1081	588	189	1858
25.	Tripura	6197	2783	2749	11729
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	246	149	47	442
27.	Mizoram	299	414	112	825
28.	Tea Board (N.E.)	20732	5882	26771	53305
29.	Bihar	444241	120833	47729	612803
30.	Orissa	133578	42177	24468	280215
31.	West Bengal	373818	191000	119109	684002
ALL INDIA		7965816	3286143	1324832	12576791

Film on Baba Saheb Ambedkar

508. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to produce a film on the life of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Ambedkar by engaging an internationally renowned producer; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) It is proposed to produce a feature film on Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Ambedkar in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra and the National Film Development Corporation.

[English]

Increase in Upper Age limit for Entry into Government Service

509. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the upper age limit for entry into Government service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the extent of opportunity to enter into the Central Government service has diminished over the years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide more employment opportunities to youngsters registered with the employment exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The available data do not suggest any decline in employment opportunities under the Central Government. Government efforts to generate more employment opportunities under the various development programmes will continue.

[Translation]

Distribution of paper by Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.

510. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. is not distributing subsidised paper meant for distribution in educational field, in spite of taking advance for 1989-90;

(b) whether thousands of industries using the said subsidised paper for making note books have fallen sick and lakhs of labourers have been rendered unemployed; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) could not complete supplies against the advances for 1989-90 because the subsidy scheme was not extended beyond 31-3-90. It, however, took steps either to refund the amount of advance or to supply without Government subsidy.

(b) and (c) The Government have not received any such reports. Besides, supply of paper by HPC to the education sector continues, although without any Government subsidy.

[English]

Expansion of VSSC, Trivandrum

511. SHRI RAMESH CHENNIHALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allot additional funds for expansion of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Suitable augmentation and restructuring of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) are underway to meet the requirements of the challenging Project to develop Geo-stationary Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) capable of launching 2.5 tonnes INSAT-2 Class satellites into a geo-stationary orbit in the course of next five years and necessary funds as required are provided for this purpose. This will enhance the capability of the country to meet most of its required needs in rocket launching.

Public Sector undertakings

512. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the list of public sector undertakings and the capital investment in each;

(b) the names of the public sector undertakings which made profit during the last three financial years, year-wise; and

(c) the action being taken in respect of the chronically loss-making public sector undertakings and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) List

of Central Public Sector Undertakings and capital investment as on 31-3-90 in each case is available respectively at pages S-188 to S-197 and S-121 to S-133 of Volume-I of the Public Enterprises Survey 1989-90 placed on the Table of the House on 27-2-1991.

(b) Lists of profit making Central PSEs during the last three years i.e. 1989-90, 1988-89 and 1987-88 are given in Volume-I of the respective Public Enterprises Surveys at page S-48 to S-51 (Statement 7(a)), page 183 to 186 (Statement 7(a)) and Page 53 to 56 (Statement 2.7(a)) respectively which were placed on the Table of the House on 27-2-1991, 15-3-1990 & 27-2-1989 respectively.

(c) Improving working of the Central PSEs is a continuous process. Enterprise specific action is taken by the concerned administrative Ministry/ Department and Enterprises to improve the performance. Some of the important measures taken are financial, managerial and organisational restructuring, change in product-mix, technological upgradation, energy conservation, modernisation and rehabilitation, etc. A new concept of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been introduced which clarifies the mutual obligations of the Public Sector Enterprises and administrative Ministries in achieving improved performance.

Export of Electronic Goods

513. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the value of exports of various electronic goods during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 respectively.

(b) the steps taken to explore the export-market and the results achieved; if any;

(c) the total value of production of electronic goods in the country during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(d) the names of the indigenously manufactured electronic goods which can compete in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The value of exports of electronic goods during last 3 years is as follows:

(Rs. Crores)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Electronics Hardware Exports</i>	<i>Computer Software Exports</i>	<i>Total Exports</i>
1988-89	405	115	520
1989-90	700	165	865
1990-91	690	220	910

(b) Major steps to explore the export markets are participation in specialised international trade fairs by the electronics industry; Seminars/Conferences to create greater awareness about the Indian electronics industry and Contact Promotion Programmes sponsored by the promotional agencies to establish contacts

with potential buyers in target countries.

The above promotional steps have resulted in growth of export of electronic goods.

(c) The total value of production of electronic goods during last 3 years is as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Production (Rs. Crores)</i>
1988-89	7030
1989-90	9010
1990-91	9540

(d) A list of electronic items having export potential is given in the attached statement.

STATEMENT

Electronic Items having Export Potential

(a) Computers, Computer peripherals and Related Items

Personal Computers (PC, PC/XT, PC/AT)

Printers
Floppy Disk Drives
Monitors
Keyboards
Mother Boards, Memory Modules

(b) Components and Materials

Capacitors
Resistors
Semi-conductor Devices

Monochrome Picture Tubes (36 cm and 51 cm screen size)
 Colour TV Picture Tube
 Deflection Components (for Monochrome & Colour TV applications)

TV Tuners

Printed Circuit Boards

Magnetic Tapes (audio/video)

Floppy Diskettes

Audio/Video Tape Housing

Switches

Audio Tape Deck Mechanism

Ferrites

Permanent Magnets

Transformers

Telescopic aerials

Copper Cladlaminates

Hybrid Micro Circuits

Silvered Mica Plates

Connectors

(c) *Communication and Broadcasting Items*

Antennas

Satellite Communication Equipment

Telephone Instruments

Electronic Private Automatic Branch Exchange (EPABX) System

RAX (Rural Automatic Exchange)

2MB Primary PCM

Two way Communication equipment

TV Broadcasting Equipment

(d) *Consumer Items*

Monochrome & Colour TV sets

Audio systems/Audio Cassette Recorders

PA Systems

Radio (FM/AM) and its combinations

Watches/Clocks/Modules thereof

Pre-recorded Audio/Video Cassettes

(e) *Computer Software and Consultancy Services*

(f) *Electronic Instruments*

Uninterrupted Power Supplies

Milk Analyser

Oscilloscopes

Telecom Test Equipment

Electromedical Equipment

Office Equipments

[Translation]

Proposals for setting up sugar mills in U.P.

514. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Uttar Pradesh for which proposals for setting up sugar mills are under consideration and the details thereof;

(b) whether the State Government has recommended the requests of some private parties for setting up sugar mills at Nawabganj and Meeraganj in Bareilly; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by what time licences are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As on 30-6-1991, 184 proposals have been received for setting up of new sugar mills in the State of Uttar Pradesh District-wise list of applications is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The following proposals for establishment of new sugar factories at Nawabganj and Meeraganj in Bareilly have been recommended by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(1) Keshav Mathur
 Sugar Unit at Nawabganj,
 Distt. Bareilly.

(2) M/s. The Simbhaoli Sugar
 Mills Ltd., At near Meeraganj,
 Distt. Bareilly.

The Licensing Policy guidelines for Sugar Industry for the VIIIth Five Year Plan are presently being reviewed by the Government. These applications would be considered as per the policy formulated after the aforesaid review.

STATEMENT

List of pending new proposals in Uttar Pradesh
As on 30-6-1991

S. No.	Name of the Factory	Sector
1	2	3
DISTT. MUZAFFARNAGAR		
1.	Shri Gautam R. Morarka Place & Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
2.	M/s. Babri Paper Mills Ltd., Babri, Chausana Khador, Place—Kadar Gath, Tihar or Beghra, Teh. Kairana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
3.	M/s. Gulshan Sugars & Chemicals Ltd., Place Lamrajor Miranpur or Khasanpur or Kholi or Kilerpur Junior or Jansath or Chetora or Sekhora, Teh. Jansath, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
4.	M/s. Nupur Professional Aid (P) Ltd., At—Babri or Chausana Khador or Kador Garh, Tihari or Bhaghra, Teh. Kairana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
5.	B. D. Jain, At/Teh. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
6.	M/s. Charisona Investment (India) Ltd., Place (i) Budhana, Teh. & Distt. Muzaffarnagar, Place (ii) Knarar, Tal. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
7.	M/s. Continental Pumps & Motors Ltd., Place—Knarar, Teh. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
8.	M/s. H. S. Bhartia, Place & Teh. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
9.	Shri Shailendra Mohar, New Unit At Burhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
10.	M/s. Ratan Lal Parasrampur Sugar Unit at Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
11.	Alimuddeen Rana Sugar Factory at Sahapur, Teh. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
12.	M/s. Shri Jagdamba Estates Pvt. Ltd. Sugar Unit at Chausana, Teh. Kairana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
13.	M/s. Babri Straw Products Pvt. Ltd., Sugar Unit at Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
14.	M/s. The Engineering & Technical Services Ltd., Shivpuri, Teh. Jansath, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
15.	Shri Chandra Kumar Jain At—Parkaji, Teh. & Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
16.	Mr. K. K. Luther, At—Shahpur, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
17.	Shri Yogesh Kumar, At—Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
18.	M/s. Flex Industries Ltd., At Teh. Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
19.	M/s. Vishvijyoti Trading Ltd., At—Mirapur, Teh. Jansath, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.

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20.	M/s. Spencer & Co. Ltd., At—Sisoauli, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
21.	M/s. Indodan Industries Ltd., At—Muzaffarnagar, Teh. & Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
22.	Sh. Suresh Pal Singh, At Block UON, Teh. Kairana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
23.	Sh. G.P. Goenka, At—Budhana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
24.	Sh. Bhaskar Banerjee, At—Chausana, Distt. Muzaffarnagar	Pvt.
DISTT. MEERUT		
25.	K. R. Narang, Place—Chhaprauli, Teh. Bagpat, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
26.	U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd., Maukhas, Distt. Meerut	Coop.
27.	Dr. Ranjit Kumar Niyogi, Place—Khekra, Teh. Bagpat, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
28.	Shri Devi Prasad Hazra, At—Barhawa, Teh. Baraot, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
29.	Sh. V. S. Dewan, At—Village Mau-khas, Teh. & Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
30.	M/s. Colts Industrial Investment Ltd., At—Barnawa, Teh. Sardhana, Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
31.	M/s. Shree Acids & Chemicals Ltd., At—Barnawa Teh. Sardhana Distt. Meerut	Pvt.
DISTT. MAHARAJGANJ		
32.	K. R. Narang, Place—Bathulia, Teh. Nichlaur, Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
33.	Kuldeep Raj Narang, At—Ratanpur, Teh. Nantanva, Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
34.	M/s. J. B. Roy, At—Misrauli, Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
35.	M/s. Shri U. K. Bose, At—Jham Jham Pur Chowak, Teh. & Distt. Maharajganj	Pvt.
DISTT. SAHARANPUR		
36.	M/s. Jamuna Sugar Mills, Place—Ahirana, Teh. Nakul, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
37.	M/s. U. P. Sugars & Organics Ltd., Nagal, Teh. Deoband, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
38.	M/s. Rajpal Singh Nagal Sugar Mills Ltd., At—Nagal, Teh. Deoband, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
39.	M/s. WIN—Medicare Ltd., Place Lakhnauti-Gangoh, Teh. Nakur, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
40.	M/s. Napur Professional & Pvt. Ltd. Proposed Unit at Lakhnauti (Gangoh), Teh. Nakur, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
41.	M/s. India Ceroils Ltd., Sugar factory at Lakhnauti, Teh. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.

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42.	Shri Harbhajan Singh. At—Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
43.	Mr. Suresh Mittal, for a Sugar factory at Nangal. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
44.	M/s. U. P. Co-op. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd., Ramgarh. (Nakur-Gangoh). Teh. Nakur. Distt. Saharanpur	Co-op.
45.	Shri G. P. Goenka. At Nagal. Teh. Deoband. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
46.	Shri G. P. Goenka. At Lakhnauti (Gangoh). Teh. Nakur. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
47.	Shri H. V. Kanoria, At Near Gangoh. Teh. Gangoh. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
48.	Shri Rakesh Kumar. At Near Nagal. Teh. Deoband. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
49.	Shri Arunesh Kumar. Near Gangoh. Teh. Nakur. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
50.	M/s. Rai Bahadur Narainsingh Sugar Mills Ltd., Unit at Nagal, Teh. Deoband. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
51.	Shri Vimlesh Jaju. Near Gangoh Town, Taluk Gangoh. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
52.	Dr. G.S.C. Rao, At Chhalauli. Teh. Deoband. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
53.	Shri Sangat Singh, At Chhalauli. Teh. Deoband. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
54.	M/s. Rai Bahadur Narain Singh Mills Ltd., at Gangoh (Lakhnoti), Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
55.	M/s. Wimper Trading Ltd., At Gangoh. Teh. Saharanpur. Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.
56.	Sh. O. P. Aggarwal, At Nagal (Between Deoband & Saharanpur) 20 kms from Saharanpur City, Distt. Saharanpur	Pvt.

DISTT. MATHURA

57.	Shri Mahesh Chaturvedi. Teh. Mant, Distt. Mathura	Pvt.
58.	M/s. Suzuki (India) Ltd., Proposed at Baldeo. Teh. Sadabad. Distt. Mathura	Pvt.
59.	M/s. Shri Murli Dhar Aggarwal, Sugar Factory at Raya—Maat Road, Teh. Gokul, Distt. Mathura	Pvt.
60.	Shri Arunesh Kumar, Near Jarara. Teh. Mant., Distt. Mathura	Pvt.
61.	Shri S. N. Chaturvedi, At Kosikalan. Teh. Chatta, Distt. Mathura	Pvt.
62.	H. K. Chadha, at—Baldeo, Teh. & Distt. Mathura	Pvt.

DISTT. LAKHIMPUR KHERI

63. M/s. U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn., Ltd., At Sardanagar, Teh. Nighasan. Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Coop.
64. M/s. WIN-Medicase Ltd., Place-Shardanagar, Teh. Lakhimpur, Distt. Kheri Lakhimpur Pvt.
65. Vimal Jain, Sugar Factory proposed at Shardanagar, Teh. Nighasan, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
66. M/s. Krishna Khanna, Sugar Factory proposed at Mitauli (Near Mohamdi), Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Coop.
67. M/s. U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd., Unit at Mitauli (Near Mohamdi), Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Coop.
68. N. K. Mathur Sugar factory at Mitauli (Near Mohamdi), Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
69. Shri O. P. Shukla, Sugar Factory at Shardanagar, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
70. Shri Pawan Agarwal. Sugar Unit at Mitauli, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
71. M/s. Shree Acids & Chemicals Ltd., New Sugar Factory proposed at Bijwa, Teh. & Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
72. M/s. Sharda Sugar & Industries Ltd., Sugar Unit at Shardanagar, Teh. Nighasan, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
73. Mr. J. S. Negi, New Sugar factory at Mohamdi (Near), Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
74. M/s. Siddharth Sugars Ltd., at Shardanagar, Teh. Nighasan, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
75. Shri Arvind Singh. Place — Jang Bahadurganj, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
76. Shri Siddharth Singh, Place Jang Bahadur Ganj, Teh. Mohamdi Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
77. M/s. Cannon Finance & Investments Ltd., Mitauli, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Kheri Pvt.
78. M/s. WIN-Medicare Ltd., At Shardanagar, Teh. & Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
79. Mr. O. P. Srivastava, Near Mitauli/Jangbahadurganj, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri Pvt.
80. M/s. Pradeshiya Indl. & Investment Corpn. of U.P. Ltd., At Mitauli, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri P.S.
81. M/s. Oswal Fats & Oils Ltd., At Mohampur, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Kheri Pvt.
82. M/s. Gannon Finance & Investment Ltd., At Shardanagar, Teh. Lakhimpur Kheri, Distt. Kheri Lakhimpur Pvt.

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83.	M/s. Gannon Finance & Investment Ltd., At Bijua, Teh. Gola Gokaran Nath, Distt. Kheri Lakhimpur	Pvt.
84.	M/s. Balaji Leasing & Industries Co. Ltd., at Shardanagar, Teh. Lakhimpur Kheri, Distt. Kheri, Lakhimpur	Pvt.
85.	Shri Mahendra V. Doshi, At Mitauli, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Kheri	Pvt.
86.	Sh. Mamdooh Ahmed, At-Mitauli, Teh. Mohamdi, Distt. Kheri	Pvt.
87.	M/s. Straw Products Ltd., At-Jang Bahadur Ganj, Distt. Lakhimpur Kheri	Pvt.

DISTT. ALIGARH

88.	M/s. Associated Sugar Mills Ltd., Place & Teh. Khair, Distt. Aligarh	Pvt.
89.	Sh. Karun Raj Narang, At & Teh. Khair, Distt. Aligarh	Pvt.

DISTT. MORADABAD

90.	M/s. United Sugars Ltd., Place & Teh. Chajlat, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
91.	Inderveer Singh, Place & Teh. Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
92.	Shri Amar Singh, At-Fazalpuramahi, Teh. Hasanpur, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
93.	M/s. Ganga Sugar & Agro Industries Ltd., Unit at Village Dhamara, Teh. Dgauora, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
94.	M/s. Swadeshi Industrial Development Corpn. Ltd. Unit at Agwanpur, Teh. & Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
95.	Shri T. P. Bansal, Place Around Chhabra, Teh. Chandausi, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
96.	Shri Pawan Kumar Choudhary, At-Fatehpur Bishnoi, Teh. Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
97.	M/s. Binaguri Tea Co. Pvt. Ltd., Place-Ghanaura, Teh. Gajraula, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
98.	M/s. Shri Anand Holdings Ltd., At-Fatehpur Bishnoi, Teh. Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
99.	M/s. Flex Industries Ltd., At-Matlabpur, Teh. Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
100.	Mr. Zia Kadri, At Matlabpur, Teh. Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
101.	M/s. Chajalait Sugar Mills, Ltd., At Chajlait, Teh. Amroha, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.
102.	Sh. Arun Kumar Rathi, At Village Ratupura, Teh. Thakur Dwara, Distt. Moradabad	Pvt.

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DISTT. ETAWAH

- 103. M/s. Shri Tilak Dhar, (C/o. DCM Shriram Industries Ltd., At-Jaswantnagar, Teh. & Distt. Etawah Pvt.
- 104. M/s. Mantri Udyog Ltd., Place-Jaswantnagar, Teh. & Taluk Etawah Pvt.
- 105. Shri Manoj Syngle, At ; & Distt. Etawah Pvt.
- 106. M/s. Ellora Overseas Pvt. Ltd., At Distt. Etawah Pvt.
- 107. M/s. Sunrise Distilleries Ltd., At Etawah, Teh. Etawah, Distt. Etawah Pvt.

DISTT. BIJNOR

- 108. AvJesh Kumar, Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 109. S.ari Vipin Goel, Sugar Factory, near Kiratpur, Teh. Nejobabad, Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 110. Shri Avdesh Kumar, At-Village Haboolpur, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 111. M/s. Chandak Sugar Mills Ltd., At-Chandak, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 112. Shri Davinder Singh, At-Chandak, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 113. Shri Piyoush Kumar, At-Haldaur-Nahtaur Road, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 114. Sh. Rakesh Kumar, At-Haldaur, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 115. Sh. Bali Ram, At-Chandak, Teh. & Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 116. Sh. Pramod Kumar, At Near Village Kotwali, Teh. Nagina, Distt. Bijnor Pvt.
- 117. Sh. Udayan Vira, At Chandok Teh. Najibabad, Distt. Bijnor Pvt.

DISTT. FATEHPUR

- 118. R. Vijai Kumar, Place-Dhata, Teh. Khaga, Distt. Fatehpur Pvt.
- 119. M/s. Maharshi Heaven on Earth Development Corpn. Ltd. Sugar Factory at Unnao, Teh. & Distt. Fatehpur Pvt.

DISTT. AZAMGARH

- 120. Rajesh Kumar Gupta, Near Neori-Atrauliya, Distt. Azamgarh Pvt.
- 121. Sh. Satish Kumar Singh, At-Atraulia-Neori, Teh. Phulpur, Distt. Azamgarh Pvt.

DISTT. GORAKHPUR

- 122. M/s. U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd., Misrauli, Distt. Gorakhpur Coop.

DISTT. GHAZIABAD

- 123. M/s. Presteege Fibres Ltd., Sugar Unit at Dadri/Jarcha/Dhaulana, Teh. Dadri, Distt. Ghaziabad Pvt.

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124.	Sh. Om Prakash Parsurampuriah, Sugar Unit at-Dhaulana, Teh. Hapur, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
125.	M/s. Mahavir Exports & Imports Co. Pvt. Ltd., Unit at Dholana Teh. Hapur, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
126.	M/s. Sh. Ajay K. Swarup Sugar Factory at Dhaulana, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
127.	M/s. Ashoka Mercantile Ltd. Place-Dhaulana, Teh. Hapur, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
128.	M/s. Midland Merchandiles Ltd. Near Pilkhua Town, Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
129.	M/s. Shri Sanjeev Agrawal. At-Pilkhua, Teh. Hapur. Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.
130.	M/s. Shri R. K. Aggarwal At-Mandola. Teh. & Distt. Ghaziabad	Pvt.

DISTT. VARANASI

131.	Sh. A. K. Srivastava, At-Chakia-Chandauli, Teh. Chandauli, Distt. Varanasi	Pvt.
132.	U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Fedn. Ltd., Chakia Chandauli, Distt. Varanasi	Coop.

DISTT. KANPUR

133.	M/s. Amrapali International, At-Biljaur (Nearby area) Teh. Bilhaur, Distt. Kanpur (Dehat)	Pvt.
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DISTT. BAREILLY

134.	Keshav Mathur Sugar Unit at & Teh. Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
135.	M/s. The Simbhaoli Sugar Mills Ltd., at near Meeraganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
136.	M/s. Synthtics & Chemicals Ltd., At Fatehganj West, Teh. & Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
137.	M/s. Oswal Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd., at Aurangabar, P.O. Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
138.	M/s. Amrapali International, At & Teh. Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
139.	Shri D. K. Srivastava, At & Teh. Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
140.	Shri N. K. Srivastava, At & Teh. Nawabganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.
141.	M/s. J. K. Industries Ltd., At Mirganj, Distt. Bareilly	Pvt.

DISTT. SITAPUR

142.	M/s. Gobind Sugar Mills Ltd., Airaestate, Distt. Kheri, New factory at Behta-Reusa, Teh. Biswan, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
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143.	M/s. The Seksaria Biswan Sugar, At Behta-Reusa, Teh. Biswan, Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.
144.	M/s. Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd., At-Shah Maholi, Teh. & Distt. Sitapur	Pvt.

DISTT. HARIDWAR

145.	M/s. K. M. Sugar Mills Ltd., Sugar factory at Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
146.	M/s. Narsan Distillery & Sugar Mills, At-Narsan, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
147.	Mr. Rajneesh Agarwal, At-Gurukul Narsan, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
148.	M/s. Gaylord International Ltd., Near Narsan, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
149.	Shri Dharmveer Singh. At-Sakauti, Teh. Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.
150.	Shri Pawan C. Sawhney, At-Sakauti, Teh. Roorkee, Distt. Haridwar	Pvt.

DISTT. RAMPUR

151.	M/s. Dhanam Traders & Agencies Ltd., At-Melak, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.
152.	Sh. Sudhir Kumar Parasrampur Place Milak. Meerganj, Teh. Milak, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.
153.	Raza Buland Sugar Co. Ltd., At-Milak, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.
154.	M. s. Shiva Paper Mills Ltd., At-Dhaulti. Teh. Milak, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.
155.	M/s. Sitani Finance & Leasing Co. Ltd., At-Rampur, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.
156.	M. s. Varinder Agro Chemicals Ltd., at-Village Kiramcha, Teh. Milak, Distt. Rampur	Pvt.

DISTT. NAINITAL

157.	Shri Deepak Singh, At-Kashipur, Distt. Nainital	Pvt.
158.	M/s. Thapar Agro Mills Ltd., Village Chorgalia, Teh. Sitarganj, Distt. Nainital	Pvt.
159.	M. s. Kumaon Pharmacaps & Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., Bell Parrow, Distt. Nainital	Pvt.

DISTT. HARDOI

160.	Shri Pratap Narain Pandey, At-Darapur, Mallawan, Teh. Bilgram, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.
161.	M/s. Mudit Verma, At-Jahani Khera & Adjoining Villages, Teh. Shahabad, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.
162.	Sh. Anand Swarup Agrawal. At-Phihani, Teh. Shahabad, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.

1	2	3
163.	M/s. Shree Acids & Chemicals Ltd., At-Malliwana, Teh. Bilgram, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.
164.	M/s. Shree Acids & Chemicals Ltd., At-Kachhona, Distt. Hardoi	Pvt.

DISTT. SHAHJAHANPUR

165.	Sh. Ch. Balwant Singh, Place Jalalabad, Distt. Shahjahanpur	Pvt.
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DISTT. GONDA

166.	Sh. Sudhir Kumar Parasrampur, Place & Teh. Manakapur, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.
167.	Mr. I. Ahmed, At-Near Devariya/Mankapur, Teh. Manakapur, Distt. Gonda	Pvt.

DISTT. DEORIA

168.	Mr. Subarata Roy, At-Near Hata, Teh. & Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
169.	Mrs. Swapna Roy, Near Pathardeya/Taruuanwa, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
170.	M/s. Chemcrown (India) Ltd., At-Fazilnagar, Teh. Fazilnagar, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
171.	M/s. Shri M. G. Goel, At-Dhora-Bazurg, Teh. Hata, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
172.	M/s. Mr. U. K. Bose, At-Near Domat/Tariasuzan, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
173.	M/s. Pratappur Sugar & Industries Ltd., At-Domath, Hata, Distt. Deoria	Pvt.
174.	M/s. U. P. Coop. Sugar Factories Federation Ltd., At-Tinpheria, Teh. Tamkuhi Raj (Seorahi), Distt. Deoria	Coop

DISTT. ALLAHABAD

175.	M/s. Khoday Eshwara & Sons, At-Pratappur, Teh. Handia, Distt. Allahabad	Pvt.
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DISTT. BULANDSHAHR

176.	M/s. Gannon Finance & Investments Ltd., Agota, Teh. Sayana, Distt. Bulandshahr	Pvt.
177.	Sh. Yogesh Saraf, At-Bulandshahr, Teh. & Distt. Bulandshahr	Pvt.

DISTT. FAIZABAD

178.	Sh. Amar Singh, At-Akbarpur, Distt., Faizabad	Pvt.
179.	M/s. Yash Papers Ltd., Akbarpur, Distt. Faizabad	Pvt.

1	2	3
DISTT. BARABANKI		
180.	M/s. Shri J. B. Roy, At-Kotiva Dham, Teh. Ram Snehighat, Distt. Barabanki	Pvt.
DISTT. MAINPURI		
181.	Shri Pramod Shrivastava, At-Noner Mainpuri, Teh. Mainpuri, Distt. Mainpuri	Pvt.
182.	M/s. Harrisons Malayalam Ltd., At-Bhugaon, Distt. Mainpuri	Pvt.
DISTT. FARUKHABAD		
183.	M/s. Spencer & Co., Ltd., At-Rajaipur, Distt. Farukhabad	Pvt.
DISTT. BADAUN		
184.	Sh. Abdul Dabeer, At & Teh. Bisauli, Distt. Badaun	Pvt.

[English]

Introduction of Panchayati Raj Bill

515. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the Panchayati Raj Bill in the Parliament during the current Session; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b) Steps will be taken to introduce Panchayati Raj Bill in Parliament after the Government examines various aspects of the legislation and has consultation with all concerned.

Effect of T.V. Advertisements on Price structure of consumer items

516. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the effect of the Television advertisements on the price structure of the consumer and daily-need items;

(b) whether there is any proposal to safeguard the interests of the consumers in the matter of reducing the prices to the extent the money is spent on advertisements by manufacturers;

(c) if not, the reasons for the consumers being taken for a ride by the manufacturers; and

(d) the amount spent by the manufacturers/companies/producers on the Television advertisements during 1990-91 and how does the same compare with the preceding three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (d) advertisement of a product over Doordarshan is a legitimate means to promote sales of goods/services. The price of consumer goods are decided on the basis of production costs, market forces, demand and supp'y, etc. and the commercial advertisements are not an instrument to control/regulate the prices of consumer goods.

Commercial advertisements are produced by the advertising agencies on behalf of their clients and the Government does not have to bear any cost on their production. Since the advertisements are produced for the manufacturers by advertising agencies, the

information on the amount spent by the manufacturers on such advertisements is not available with the Government. However, the telecast of commercial advertisements over Door-darshan is regulated by the Code for Commercial Advertising to protect the interests of the consumers.

Non-availability of medicines in Super Bazar

517. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to financial constraints the Super Bazar is unable to keep all kinds of medicines at its Stores including life saving drugs;

(b) if so, whether a study of the financial position of the Super Bazar has been carried out; if so, when and the results thereof; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to improve the financial position of the Super Bazar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Every effort is made by Super Bazar to make commonly demanded medicines of reputed manufacturers available in the store. It is not possible for reasons of inventory control and commercial viability to keep each and every medicine produced by very large number of manufacturers in the country. However, Super Bazar makes every effort to keep life saving drugs and commonly demanded medicines of reputed manufacturers. At times one or the other medicines may not be available in Super Bazar on account of its non availability from the supplier or the medicine being in short supply or for reasons beyond the control of Super Bazar. Super Bazar not being a direct importer has to depend for its requirement of imported medicines/life saving drugs on the local sources. Imported medicines when not available with the local sources cause

stock-out. However, if a demanded medicine is not available, Super Bazar offers a substitute medicine of the same therapeutic value.

Whereas the tight funds position may at times disturb timely payments to the suppliers by Super Bazar including those of drugs department, it will not be correct to say that stock-out of medicines, if any, is attributable to financial constraints. Super Bazar is taking steps to augment its share capital and to improve its financial position by internal generation of funds.

A sum of about Rs. 70 lakhs is due from the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) authorities on account of medicines supplied to different CGHS dispensaries by Super Bazar. Necessary steps for recovery of the outstanding dues from the CGHS are being taken. With the payment of the above outstanding dues, the liquidity position of the store would improve.

Appeals to Commissioner, Food and Supplies, Delhi

518. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appeals under Edible Oil Licensing Order, 1977 received by the Commissioner, Food and Supplies, Delhi during the last 12 months and the action on each appeal; and

(b) the reasons for delay in taking action on the appeals and the number of appeals still pending action/reply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Three appeals were received by the Commissioner, Food and Supplies, Delhi under the Edible Oils Licensing Order, 1977 during the last 12 months. One has already been decided by the Appellate Authority. The second Appeal is scheduled for hearing on 13-8-91. The third Appeal is pending at the

admission stage and will be taken up for consideration shortly. There is no fixed time for the disposal of Appeals under the provisions of this Order.

Supply of imported palmolein oil to Gujarat

519. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of imported palmolein oil allotted to Gujarat in the current oil year beginning from November 1, 1990 to June 1991 vis-a-vis Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu during the same period;

(b) the basis on which the allotment is being made to the State; and

(c) whether the Government are taking into account the food habits and the consumption pattern before making the allotment of edible oil to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) During the current oil year beginning from 1st November, 1990 to June, 1991 quantity of imported Palmolein that was allocated to Gujarat vis-a-vis Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu under PDS is given below:—

(i) Gujarat	14,200 MTs
(ii) Maharashtra	20,600 MTs
(iii) Uttar Pradesh	6,000 MTs
(iv) Tamil Nadu	7.575 MTs

(b) The allocation of imported edible oils to States/UTs is made keeping in view factors, such as, local availability of indigenous oils, realistic demand of the State/UT, availability of imported edible oils with the Government, pace of lifting etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Import/Export of Sugar

520. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any allotment of sugar quota on the basis of the tentative population projection as on January 1, 1991 instead of sticking to the old standard of October 1, 1986.

(b) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Union Government to import/export sugar in near future;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal under consideration for import of sugar in the near future. However, the Government of India has decided to allow export of 5.61 lakh tonnes of sugar this year as per details given below:—

	<i>Lakh tonnes</i>
(i) Commercial Export	5.00
(ii) Export under Preferential quota to USA/EEC	0.25
(iii) Export to Nepal	0.27
(iv) Other Misc. Export	0.09
	5.61

[Translation]

Capacity of TV Relay Station, Surat

521. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of TV Relay Station, Surat (Gujarat) from 100 Watts to one Kilowatt; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The augmentation of the existing transmission facility at Surat in Gujarat depends upon the availability of adequate financial resources.

[English]

Procurement of Wheat

522. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of wheat this year has been more than that of the last year but the procurement has been less and the farmers are withholding the wheat for selling in the open market where the prevailing rate is more;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to see that in times to come the food stock position does not deteriorate thereby smashing the entire public distribution system;

(c) whether the farmers are required to sell a particular stock to the Government; if so, whether that much stock has been procured; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) The production of wheat during crop year 1990-91 has been estimated to be around 54.5 million tonnes as against 49.6 million tonnes of the previous year. A quantity of 7.7 million tonnes of wheat has been procured as on 12-7-1991 during the current rabi marketing season 1991-92 as compared to 10.9 million tonnes in the corresponding period last year. The minimum support price (MSP) of wheat was fixed at Rs. 225 per quintal for 1991-92 Rabi Marketing Season which was higher by Rs. 15 per quintal than the M.S.P. for wheat for 1990-91 season.

The procurement of wheat, under price support operations, is totally on a voluntary basis and all the stocks of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) offered for sale by the farmers are

purchased by FCI/State agencies. The farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market at prices higher than the support price fixed by the Government.

(b) As on 1-6-1991, the total availability of wheat stock in the central pool is 11.31 million tonnes, which is considered sufficient to meet the requirements of PDS and other welfare schemes for the remaining part of the wheat year ending on 31st March, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Radio Stations

523. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the new radio stations set up in the country during 1991 so far;

(b) the criteria laid down for starting a new radio station;

(c) whether Government propose to start new FM radio stations in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) During 1991, 18 new Radio Stations have been set up so far. These are at Alvar, Tirupati, Batripada, Godhra, Ahmednagar, Bhatinda, Kathua, Be'ul, Bilaspur, Sasaram, Chitradurga, Shivpuri, Hassan, Cannanore, Jorhat, Nanded, Anantpur and Kurukshetra.

(b) Such factors as the need to provide service to the areas not hitherto covered and extend service to hilly, backward, tribal and border areas; technical feasibility extent of resultant coverage to rural and urban population; availability of programme production and linkage facilities; the linguistic and cultural needs; and the availability of financial resources are

mainly taken into account while selecting locations for setting up radio stations in the country.

(c) and (d) Radio Stations with FM Transmitters and multi-purpose studios, one each at Cochin and Cannanore in Kerala, were recently commissioned into service. Besides, a new Radio Station with 2 × 3 KW FM Transmitter, multi-purpose studio and staff quarters is nearing completion at Idukki.

Industrial Growth Centres

524. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Industrial Growth Centres;

(b) the number of Industrial Growth Centres set up/proposed to be set up during the current year.

State-wise with locations thereof; and
(c) the amount spent or proposed to be spent on these centres during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) The Government in June, 1988, announced a scheme to set up growth centres throughout the country to promote industrialisation of backward areas. It is proposed to develop 70 growth centres in the first phase out of which locations of 61 growth centres have been identified and announced. A list of growth centres announced so far is given in the attached statement. Each growth centre would be developed at a cost of approximately Rs. 25-30 crores. A sum of Rs. 50 crores has been included in the Statement of Budget Estimates for 1991-92 for this scheme

STATEMENT

Growth Centres Selected

<i>Name of Growth Centre</i>	<i>District</i>
1	2
ANDHRA PRADESH (4)	
1. Vijianagaram-Bobbili	Vijianagaram
2. Ongole	Prakasam
3. Khammam (Vemsoor Mandal)	Khammam
4. Hindpur	Anantapur
BIHAR (5)	
1. Jasoria	Aurangabad
2. Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur
3. Purnea Kasba	Purnea
4. Muzzafarpur	Muzzafarpur
5. Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh
GOA (1)	
1. Electronic City	Verna Plateau
GUJARAT (3)	
1. Palanpur	Banaskantha
2. Vagra	Bharuch
3. Gandhidham	Kutch

1

2

HIMACHAL PRADESH (1)

1. Shimla Shimla

JAMMU & KASHMIR (2)

1. Sambha Jammu
2. Ganderbal Sri Nagar

KARNATAKA (3)

1. Dharwad Dharwad
2. Hassan Hassan
3. Giliesugar Raichur

KERALA (2)

1. Shertalai Alleppey
2. Tellicherry Cannanore

MADHYA PRADESH (6)

1. Kheda Dhar
2. Ghirongi Bhind
3. Siltara Raipur
4. Chainpura Guna
5. Borai Durg
6. Satlapur Raisen

MANIPUR (1)

1. Kanglatongbi Senapati

NAGALAND (1)

1. Dimapur Kohima

ORISSA (3)

1. Choudwar Cuttack
2. Chatrapur Ganjam
3. Chiplima Sambalpur

PUNJAB (2)

1. Bhatinda Bhatinda
2. Pathankot Gurdaspur

PONDICHERRY (1)

1. Karaikal Pondicherry

1

2

RAJASTHAN (4)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Bhilwara | Bhilwara |
| 2. Jhalawar | Jhalawar |
| 3. Bikaner | Bikaner |
| 4. Abu Road | Sirohi |

TAMIL NADU (3)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Mayiladhuthurai Poompuhar | Thanjavur |
| 2. Erode | Periyar |
| 3. Tirunelveli
(Gangai Kondan Nanur Block) | Tirunelveli-Kattabomman |

UTTAR PRADESH (6)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Sahjanwa | Gorakhpur |
| 2. Mungra-Satharia | Jaunpur |
| 3. Banthara | Shahjahanpur |
| 4. Shivrajpur-Padampur | Pauri Garhwal |
| 5. Bachauli-Buzurg | Jhansi |
| 6. Chaudharpur | Moradabad |

WEST BENGAL (3)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. Jalpaiguri | Jalpaiguri |
| 2. Malda | Malda |
| 3. Dubrajpur | Birbhum |

TRIPURA (1)

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Champamura-Joginder Nagar Moley Nagar | West Tripura |
|--|--------------|

HARYANA (2)

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. Julana | Jind |
| 2. Bawal | Mohindergarh |

MAHARASHTRA (5)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. Dhule | Dhule |
| 2. Ratnagiri | Ratnagiri |
| 3. Nanded | Nanded |
| 4. Akola | Akola |
| 5. Chandrapur | Chandrapur |

ASSAM (2)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Rangjuli | Goalpara |
| 2. Jagnalabandha | Nageon |

Food Processing Industry in Ratnagiri District

525. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the famous 'HAPUS' mango is being produced on a large scale in the Ratnagiri district of Konkan area and due to lack of food processing industries, the farmers are not able to get adequate profit;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a food processing industry at Ratnagiri district of Konkan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) It is a fact that 'HAPUS' or 'Alphanso' mango is produced in large quantities in Ratnagiri district of Konkan area of Maharashtra State. A number of mango processing units have come up in Ratnagiri district including 5 units in large scale. This variety of mango besides being sold in the country for table purposes, is also being exported. There is no report of any distress sale of this variety of mango.

(b) No, Sir. The Government does not have any proposal for setting up a food processing industry in the Ratnagiri district of Konkan region.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Telecast of Marathi Feature Films

526. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Marathi feature films telecast on Doordarshan during the last six months in comparison to other regional feature films; and

(b) the steps being taken to increase the telecast of Marathi films?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) During the last six months, only one Marathi feature film was telecast on the National network of Doordarshan because no other Marathi feature film fulfilling the eligibility criteria had been offered for telecast by the producers/right holders. The comparative figures for other languages are given below:

(i) Assamese	1
(ii) Bengali	4
(iii) Gujarati	1
(iv) Kannada	2
(v) Malayalam	3
(vi) Marathi	1
(vii) Oriya	1
(viii) Punjabi	1
(ix) Tamil	2
(x) Telugu	3

Besides the national telecast, Marathi films are telecast regularly once in every week on the Maharashtra regional network from Doordarshan Kendra, Bombay.

[Translation]**Sale of packed edible oils**

527. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sell edible oils in packs;

(b) if so, the objective thereof;

(c) whether the Government have noted that there is a great difference between the prices of oils sold in loose and that of packed oil; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Government is already selling packed edible oil (imported RBD Palmolein) in 2 kg. tin and 1 kg. pouches through PDS outlets.

(b) The main objectives for selling packed edible oils under PDS are:

(i) to ensure good quality and correct quantity for consumer; and

(ii) to prevent leakage of edible oils supplied under PDS to unauthorised channels.

(c) and (d) The prices of packed oils are higher than loose oil due to additional cost of packing materials, higher filling losses, packing charges, etc. As and when major quantity or entire quantity of PDS oils is supplied in small packs, the cost of packing is expected to be reduced per unit.

[English]

Import of consumer electronic goods

528. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether electronics consumer items are proposed to be allowed to be freely imported as a part of new policy package;

(b) if so whether this new policy package is likely to help domestic electronic industry of these products and the consumer as well; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no proposal to allow import of Consumer Electronic items freely.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sending of an Indian to Moon

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

(a) whether the Government propose to send an Indian to moon with the help of American or Russian Government; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal, at present, to send an Indian to the Moon.

[Translation]

Applications from Private Sugar Mills for increasing production capacity

530. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from private sugar mills for increasing their production capacity, State-wise;

(b) the names of the Sugar Mills, which have sent in such applications; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As on 30-6-1991, 20 applications are pending consideration from Private Sugar Mills for increasing their production capacity. State-wise names of these mills are given at the attached statement.

(c) The Licensing Policy guidelines for Sugar Industry for the VIIIth Five Year Plan are presently being reviewed by the Government. These applications would be considered as per the policy formulated after the aforesaid review.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Factory</i>
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UTTAR PRADESH

1. Mawana Sugar Works, Mawana, Distt. Meerut.
2. R. B. Narain Singh Sugar Mills Ltd., Lhaksar, Distt. Haridwar.
3. The Simbnaoli Sugar Mills Pvt. Ltd., Simbhaoli, Distt. Ghaziabad.
4. Swarup Vegetable Products Industries Ltd., Mansurpur, Distt. Muzaffarnagar.
5. Daurala Sugar Works, Daurala, Distt. Meerut.
6. The Seksaria Biswan Sugar Factory Ltd., Biswan, Distt. Sitapur.
7. The Dhampur Sugar Mills Ltd., Dhampur, Distt. Bijnor.
8. The Mahalakshmi Sugar Mills Co. Ltd., Iqbalpur, Distt. Saharanpur.
9. Hindustan Sugar Mills Ltd., Golagokaranath, Distt. Kheri.
10. Gangeshwar Ltd., Deoand, Distt. Saharanpur.
11. Balrampur Chini Mills Ltd., Balrampur, Distt. Gonda.
12. L. H. Sugar Factory Ltd., Pilibhit, Distt. Pilibhit.
13. Kesar Enterprises Ltd., Baheri, Distt. Bareilly.
14. M/s. K. M. Sugar Mills Ltd., Motinagar, Distt. Faizabad.
15. M/s. Upper Ganges Sugar and Industries Ltd., Seohara, Distt. Bijnor.

KARNATAKA

16. M/s. Godavari Sugar Mills Ltd., Sameerwadi, Distt. Bijapur.

ANDHRA PRADESH

17. M/s. K.C.P. Ltd., Vuyyuru, Distt. Krishna.
18. M/s. Sarvaraya Sugars Ltd., P.O. Chelluri, Tal. Ramachandrapuram, Distt. East Godavari.

TAMIL NADU

19. M/s. Aruna Sugars & Enterprises Ltd., Pennadam, Tal. Thiltagudi Distt. South Arcot.

MADHYA PRADESH

20. M/s. Jaora Sugar Mills, Jaora, Distt. Ratlam.
-

[English]

Exploitation of non-living resources of the sea bed

531. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of exploitation of non-living resources of the sea-bed in our Exclusive Economic zone in the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean;

(b) the names of minerals, deposits of which have been identified in the zone in commercial quantities;

(c) the projects in operation, if any, for the mining; and

(d) the details of the Indian agency and foreign collaborators involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Exploration for non-living resources of the sea bed in our Exclusive Economic Zone has revealed the occurrence of ilmenite, rutile, zircon, monazite and calcareous sands. However, these mineral resources within the Exclusive Economic Zone do not appear to be commercially viable under present economic conditions and available technology.

(c) There are no projects in operation for mining of such minerals.

(d) Does not arise.

Garbage as fuel

532. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Science and Technology has evolved a scheme whereby Garbage collected from the cities can be converted into bricks for fuel;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and how far it has succeeded;

(c) the names of the cities in India where these pilot projects are presently working; and

(d) whether Pune City is also being considered for setting up of such a project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. A scheme to process municipal garbage into fuel pellets (not bricks) has been evolved.

(b) A pilot plant to produce fuel pellets from municipal garbage is being set up at Deonar, Bombay. Most of the civil works and erection of equipment is complete and now load trials are in progress.

(c) Deonar, Bombay.

(d) No, Sir.

Application for new industries in Kerala

533. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for issue of new licences for industries in Kerala during 1991; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) Upto 15-7-1991, 19 applications were received for setting up of new industries in the State of Kerala. Out of these, Letter of Intent has already been issued in one case while two applications have been rejected. The remaining 16 applications are at various stages of processing.

[Translation]

Income from advertisements on Doordarshan

534. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the income from various advertisements telecast on Doordarshan during 1990 and upto June 1991; and

(b) the name of the advertisement which provided the maximum income?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The gross revenue earned by Doordarshan from telecast of advertisements during 1990 was Rs. 249.17 crores and from January to June 1991 was Rs. 143.02 crores.

(b) The advertisement of "Close Up" generated the highest revenue to Doordarshan.

Setting up of Doordarshan Kendras

535. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the location of the new Doordarshan Kendras proposed to be set up during 1991 for providing television facility to the people of the rural areas of the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of Doordarshan Kendras installed during 1990 but have not started operating yet; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The State/Union Territory-wise locations of Doordarshan Kendras targeted for commissioning during the remaining part of the current financial year (1991-92) are given in the enclosed statement. These Kendras would serve rural as well as urban population in their respective areas.

(b) and (c) Whereas installation of a number of TV projects was completed during 1990, it has not been possible to operationalise nine of these projects because of non-availability of the required manpower.

STATEMENT

Doordarshan Kendras targeted for commissioning during the remaining period of 1991-92 (July, 1991 to March, 1992)

<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Doordarshan Kendra</i>
1	2
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	PGF, Port Blair
2. Assam	PP&FC, Guwahati Studio, Guwahati (Pmt. set up) Studio, Dibrugarh Studio, Silchar

1	2
3. Andhra Pradesh	HPT (10 KW), Anantapur (Augmentation of power) HPT (10 KW), Tirupati.
4. Bihar	PGF, Muzaffarpur PGF, Daltonganj HPT (10 KW), Daltonganj (Augmentation of power)
5. Jammu & Kashmir	Transposer, Surankot Transposer, Nagrota
6. Karnataka	PGF, Gulbarga HPT (10KW), Dharwad HPT (10KW), Shimoga
7. Madhya Pradesh	PGF, Raipur Studio, Bhopal HPT (1KW), Jagdalpur
8. Maharashtra	HPT (10KW), Ambajogai
9. Manipur	Studio, Imphal
10. Meghalaya	Studio, Shillong Studio, Tura
11. Mizoram	Studio, Aizawl
12. Nagaland	Studio, Kohima
13. Orissa	Studio, Bhubaneswar HPT (10KW), Bhawanipatna
14. Pondicherry	PGF, Pondicherry
15. Sikkim	HPT (1KW), Gangtok
16. Tripura	Studio, Agartala
17. Uttar Pradesh	PGF, Bareilly HPT, (10 KW), Bareilly Transposer, Mussoorie
18. West Bengal	Transposer, Tiger Hill

- Legend :*
1. PP & FC Programme Production-cum-Feeding Centre
 2. PGF Programme Generation Facility
 3. HPT High Power Transmitter

Reduction in period for resumption of commuted value of pension

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

(a) whether there is a provision in the Central Pension Rules that the payment of commuted value of pension be resumed after 15 years of retirement;

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the period from 15 years to 12 years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Under the existing orders the commuted portion of pension is restored after completion of 15 years from the date of commutation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Pesticide poisoning

537. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that pesticides were first developed as patent poisons for chemical warfare and are highly poisonous;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the occupational health hazards for workers, sprayers, and if so, the details of such cases recorded every year for past three years;

(c) whether there are over 50 pesticides factories and 800 formulation plants in the country and if so, the details of illnesses reported/recorded from them. State-wise;

(d) whether pesticide poisoning is proposed to be made notifiable through an ordinance; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Safety of pesticides to man and environment is first scrutinized before allowing its safe and judicious use. Details of occupational health hazards and illnesses are, however, not reported/recorded under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Already suitable provisions exist under Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

Development of safe pesticide substitutes

538. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Indian firms are now investing in developing safe pesticide substitutes to replace the pesticides already available in the Rs. 1200 crore pesticide market in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of plant pesticide products available in the market; and

(d) the details of biological pesticides available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Several Indian Research Institutions both in private and public sector have made investments aimed at developing and manufacturing safer pesticides and bio-control agents. Amongst the public sector institutions the Indian Institute for Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad, and

R&D Laboratories of Hindustan Insecticides Limited are prominent. In the private sector a number of companies have taken steps to replace conventional pesticides with new and safer ones. Some examples are: Thiadiazuron (Weedicide), Chlorsulphur (Weedicide), Lamba Cyhalothrin (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-senadalerate (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-fluopyphrinat (Synthetic Pyrethroid), S-flucalinate (Synthetic Pyrethroid), & Glyphosate (Weedicide). Some of the Industries concerned are Lupin Laboratories, Aurangabad, Gujarat Insecticide Ltd., Indophil, Gujarat, Ranbaxy-Montari Industries, Chandigarh, Nophil Company Ltd., Pune and others. The Ministry of Agriculture through its Integrated Pest Management Programme (IPM) and the Department of Biotechnology through its National Biological Control Programme are developing and evaluating a number of biological pest control agents against some major crop pests.

(c) A few neem based products (Botanical Pesticides) have been developed for marketing by Indian Companies. Examples are Neemark, Nemocide, Repellin, Nemex, Crop-guard, Azabin, Margoside, Neem-guard, Margosal, Kemisal, Neemplus, Biosol, and Nimbecidine.

(d) Except for the neem based products there are no other botanical pesticides available in the market. A private commercial insectory "Bio-control Research Laboratories" located at Bangalore has been supplying in a very small scale parasites and predators as beneficial insects for biological control of agricultural, Horticultural, plantation and other pests.

Pollution-oriented Industries

539. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the industries which have been declared as pollution-oriented in the country;

(b) the policy of the Government towards expansion of such units;

(c) whether the Government have decided not to allow or grant licences for expansion of such industries within city limits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (d) List of industries which have been identified as highly polluting industries is given in attached statement. Letters of Intent granted for these industries are converted into Industrial Licence only after the following three conditions are fulfilled by the industrial undertakings:—

- (i) The Director of Industries of the concerned State Government confirms that the site of the project has been approved from the environmental angle by the competent state authority.
- (ii) The entrepreneur commits both to the State and Central Governments that the appropriate equipments will be installed and the prescribed measures for the prevention and control of pollution will be implemented.
- (iii) The concerned State Pollution Control Board certifies that the proposal meets with the environmental requirements and that the equipments installed or proposed to be installed are adequate and appropriate to the requirements.

As per the existing locational policy of the Government, exemption from licensing is not available for locating projects within specified distance of Cities with population of 7.5 lakhs and above and Standard Urban area or municipal limits of other Cities and towns. Exemption from locational restrictions within this area, is permitted only for

establishing projects which are of locational policy for setting up industries within the restricted zone is certain conditions. Relaxation of examined on merits.

STATEMENT

List of Identified Highly Polluting Industries

1. Primary metallurgical producing industries viz., zinc, lead, copper, aluminium and steel.
2. Paper, Pulp and Newsprint.
3. Pesticides/Insecticides.
4. Refineries.
5. Fertilizers.
6. Paints
7. Dyes.
8. Leather Tanning.
9. Rayon.
10. Sodium/Potassium Cyanide.
11. Basic drugs.
12. Foundry.
13. Storage Batteries (lead acid types).
14. Acids/Alkalies.
15. Plastics.
16. Rubber-Synthetic.
17. Cement.
18. Asbestos.
19. Fermentation Industry.
20. Electro-plating Industry.

Soling and Pitching of Kuchha roads

540. SHRI SYED SHAHABUD-DIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the programme of construction of rural roads by the Government finalised for 1990-91 and 1991-92, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the amount allotted, released to and actually spent by various States/Union Territories during 1990-91;

(c) whether the programme envisages soling and pitching of kuchha rural roads in the immediately following years; and

(d) if so, the length of rural roads soled and/or pitched during 1990-91 and the estimated length of kuchha rural roads which remain to be soled and/or pitched as on 1-4-1991, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (d) The construction/development of rural roads forms part of the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) in the State sector and outlays for this programme are provided in the plans of States/UTs. Under this programme all weather roads are constructed for connecting all villages by roads. Further, construction of roads is an admissible item of works under Jawahar Rojgar

Yojana (JRY) and gram panchayats can take up this item as per their priority and availability of funds. However, no separate allocation of funds for construction of rural roads is made under JRY. A statement showing outlay and expenditure incurred under MNP and JRY during 1990-91 is attached. The programme has not yet been finalised for 1991-92. The Ministry has no separate information on soling and pitching of kuccha rural roads.

STATEMENT

Financial performance under MNP and JRY for construction of rural roads during 1990-91

(Rs. In crores)

State/UT	M.N.P.		J.R.Y.
	Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	Expenditure
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	10.00	10.00	13.89
2. Arunachal Pradesh	7.00	7.00	0.37
3. Assam	12.40	15.70	19.85
4. Bihar	75.00	38.22	57.49
5. Goa	0.15	15.00	0.35
6. Gujarat	7.02	7.00	23.42
7. Haryana . . . . .	..	..	7.28
8. Himachal Pradesh	11.45	11.45	3.56
9. Jammu & Kashmir	4.78	6.88	4.26
10. Karnataka	15.62	15.62	9.88
11. Kerala	12.50	14.50	32.73
12. Madhya Pradesh	13.28	11.70	4.53
13. Maharashtra	13.80	10.73	9.03
14. Manipur	4.50	6.00	NR
15. Meghalaya	2.15	2.15	..
16. Mizoram	7.00	7.00	3.08
17. Nagaland	0.65	0.65	0.78

	1	2	3	4
18. Orissa		16.80	17.17	18.13
19. Punjab	0.10	0.07
20. Rajasthan		17.00	16.10	3.30
21. Sikkim		4.89	4.15	0.10
22. Tamil Nadu		23.00	23.30	40.55
23. Tripura		7.70	7.70	0.82
24. Uttar Pradesh		128.00	162.94	80.65
25. West Bengal		12.00	7.95	13.17
26. A & N Islands		2.50	2.70	NR
27. Chandigarh
28. D. & N. Haveli		0.16	0.16	0.22
29. Daman & Diu	0.06
30. Delhi	0.05
31. Lakshadweep	0.02
32. Pondicherry		1.10	1.05	0.14
TOTAL		410.45	422.92	347.84

*[Translation]***World Bank report on Development of Industry**

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

(a) whether the World Bank in its latest report of 1991 has stated under the heading 'Challenges of Development' that excessive restrictions did not help industries in India to develop fully;

(b) if so, the details of the study made by the World Bank on the development of industries in India; and

(c) the corrective steps contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes Sir. This has been stated, inter-alia in Chapter 4 of the 1991 Edition of the World Bank's World Development Report entitled "The Challenge of Development".

(b) and (c) The relevant reference under sub-section "Industrial Regulation" is enclosed in the statement annexed.

Government policies for industrial development are reviewed in the context of Indian conditions and appropriate measures are initiated from time to time.

STATEMENT*The payoffs from regulatory reform:
India and Indonesia*

India's strategy for industrialization has been based on import substitution and an unusually comprehensive and restrictive regime of regulation in domestic markets. In eleven subsectors that produce about 50 percent of Indian manufacturing output, the main results of this strategy have been that: (a) A few large firms dominate, while medium-size producers are "squeezed out". (b) Average plant sizes are below economic scales of production for most products. (c) Protected firms have captive markets and thus garner high rents: net pretax profits in India's manufacturing sector were on average 20.8 percent of value added in 1982, compared with 3.5 percent in the Republic of Korea in 1981. (d) Technological innovation is slow. Total factor productivity in these industries fell by more than 1 percent a year between 1966 and 1980.

Unsurprisingly, India's international competitiveness has suffered. Its manufactured exports as a share of developing countries' manufactured exports has declined, and its share of manufacturing in GDP has not increased since 1978. Other results are harder to quantify: transaction costs are high; and resources are diverted by excessive administration, by unproductive rent-seeking, and by uncertainty and delays.

In Indonesia, the private sector has also been hindered by regulation. Until 1988, domestic and foreign investment was restricted to certain areas; there were capacity limits and ceilings on the number of permitted projects. Before starting operations, even approved indigenous firms had to obtain import and export licenses, a domestic trading license, land rights, a permanent operating license, and storage and location permits. All this often took two years. Total factor productivity fell by 2.5 percent in the mid-1980s.

In India, recent partial reforms proved successful. Industrial licensing has been eased since the mid 1980s, as have some import controls on some raw materials and intermediate goods. These changes, though modest, have nonetheless had a positive effect. Competition has squeezed the profits of large firms (the top 100 firms reported a drop of about 24.3 per cent in 1986-87 despite a 9 percent rise in sales), and many new, smaller firms have been created.

In Indonesia reforms has been more comprehensive: foreign investors are now able to acquire firms in priority areas as long as 20 percent of the equity is domestically owned; rules on domestic investment have been significantly relaxed. Private investment grew in 1989; the growth of total factor productivity has been positive in recent years; and the average rate of return on investment increased from 13 percent in the period 1982-85 to 22 percent in 1986-88.

[English]

Standing Committee on Agriculture

542. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to wind up the Standing Advisory Committee on Agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Standing Advisory Committee has been wound up w.e.f. 16-5-1991 after it had given its views on the formulation of Agriculture policy.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Sir, I beg to draw the attention of the Government towards the report which has appeared in The Sunday Observer dated the 21st July. It says that "the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) funnelled CIA money to Indian politicians and bureaucrats".

Sir, this is a front page report and I think it is a very serious matter and all of us are very much concerned. Such reports have been appearing in the press time and again. Many times such reports have been false, but such types of allegations have been made again and again. So, I would like to know from the Government whether it is aware that the U.S. Senate Sub-Committee on Terrorism, Narcotics and International Operations is investigating into this matter wherever the BCCI was operating and it is also investigating the BCCI's Bombay office which has reportedly funnelled money to as many as 17 bureaucrats and some politicians. If this report has come, I would like to know whether the Sub-Committee or the U.S. Administration has contacted the Government of India or has consulted the Government of India and if it has not done, whether the Government of India after going through the report contacted the U.S. Administration. We would like to know whether these reports are true or false. If the reports are true, we would like to know who are the politicians and who are the bureaucrats. If it is false, we would like this to be set right immediately.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUHDHURY (Katwa): We want the response from the Government. (Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chhedi Paswan. We are taking one after the other.

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Paswan says goes on record.

(Interruptions).*

*Not recorded

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a heavy responsibility has fallen upon the Central Government in view of the present economic condition of Bihar. Perhaps the Central Government is very much concerned about the condition of farmers, labourers and the unemployed. As such, it should pay serious attention to Bihar immediately.

Before the impending drought situation breaks the backbone of the farmers and the labourers and the cries of their groans reach the powers that be, the Central Government should prepare itself for extending help.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I demand that a large amount of special assistance should be sanctioned to Bihar Government immediately so that the State could grapple with the problem of poverty and unemployment.

[English]

DR. DEVI PRASAD PAL (Calcutta North-West): Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House one important thing that supply of milk is one of the essential supplies and in Calcutta it appeared in the press that for some time because of the dispute between the workers and the Mother Dairy 60,000 litres of milk have been spoilt and this has been wasted. Every day 8,000 litres of milk has been wasted. What steps are being taken to prevent this sort of dispute between the workers and the Mother Dairy authorities? For years together this sort of thing is happening.

Why has it not been done earlier when 60,000 litres of milk was wasted? I want to know what steps they have taken regarding this matter. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please see the photograph which has appeared in this newspaper. This is a very serious matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Manoranjan Bhakta, Shri Ram Naik, Shri M. R. Janarthanan, Shri P. G. Narayanan, Shri Madhukar, Shri Ram Singh, Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Chandra Jeet Yadav and Shri Kishore Lal want to raise the issue relating to the reported death of Shri Shanmugham. I have received a letter from the Home Minister. He is going to make a statement within 10 or 15 minutes.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Your name is also there.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Home Minister has written to me that he is going to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated in Tamil Nadu. ... (Interruptions) ... There should be discussion on it so as to unravel the mystery as to who is behind the assassination..... (Interruptions).....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please hear what I have to say. If all of you want to make small statements, I will allow you one after the other. Please take your seats now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar): Sir, it is a very serious matter. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a suggestion to make. A discussion should be allowed after the Home Minister makes a statement. Let everybody get a chance to speak. There is no use giving an opportunity to speak before hon. Minister makes a statement. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: All of you, please take your seats: As I said, the Home Minister has informed me that *suo motu* he is going to make a statement on the floor of the House within 10 or 15 minutes. He is in the other House and he is going to come here now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I am on my legs. If you are so agitated about it and you want to have some clarifications I shall give you time. But then there would be no discussion thereafter. Let the hon. Home Minister make a statement. Thereafter, if you give a proper notice and if I feel that discussion can be allowed, I can consider it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would rather request you to allow him to make the statement. We will see what can be asked later on and not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. R. JANARTHANAN: Parliament is not hearing the voice of the people of Tamil Nadu. You see the photo. (Interruptions)

12.10 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Escape from the Custody and Subsequent Death of Shri Shanmugam, one of the Accused in Rajiv Gandhi Assassination Case

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):
Sir, I rise to apprise this House of the escape from custody and subsequent death of Shri Shanmugam, an accused in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT).

In pursuance of the consent given by the Government of Tamil Nadu for C.B.I. to investigate the case of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's assassination, a Special Investigation Team was formed on 24-5-1991. It has made significant progress in the case and 14 accused have been arrested so far.

One of those arrested was Shri N. Shanmugam, S o Nagaraja Pillai of Kodiakkadu of Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu. As per the information received fro C.B.I., Shri Shanmugam was a well-known smuggler and was found to have been helping LTTE elements with shelter, concealment of materials like explosives, transmitters, POL, etc. Further, his men reportedly helped to arrange for reception, accommodation and transport on the day of landing of the killer group including Thanu. Shri Shanmugam was arrested by the SIT on 17-7-1991 after he had surrendered himself to the local police. He was produced before the Special Additional Session Judge, Madras on 18-7-1991 and 30 days of police remand obtained.

While in the custody of the SIT, Shri Shanmugam volunteered to disclose the place where transmitters, high explosives and other materials of LTTE were hidden. He was accordingly taken by a small group of CBI

officers to Vedaranyam on 18-7-91 and at his instance buried and concealed material was recovered which included wireless sets of LTTE, huge quantities of explosives, cans of petrol etc. The recovery was a night-long operation at Kodiakadu reserve forest from 5.00 PM on 18-7-91 to 9.00 AM on 19-7-91. Shri Shanmugam was brought to the inspection bungalow, Vedaranyam at 3.00 PM on 19-7-91 and the investigation was continued. At 9.45 PM Shri Shanmugam was given food, after which he went outside to wash his hands. While washing hands he ran and escaped under cover of darkness. At that time, 2 local police Constables were guarding Shanmugam, while 1 Dy. S.P. and 3 Inspectors of the C.B.I. were present in the room from where he went out. The 2 Constables raised an alarm and everyone present there went out at once to chase the accused. The DIG and S.P., CBI, who were present in the adjoining room also joined the chase. The local police and CRPF also took part in the search, but in vain. At 10.45 PM on 19-7-91, a case was registered at Police Station Vedaranyam under Section 224 IPC and investigation was taken up.

The white Dhoti and white Baniyan of Shri Shanmugam were found abandoned in a dry canal a little away from the Inspection Bungalow.

On 20-7-91, the body of Shri Shanmugam was found hanging from the branch of a tree by means of a rope with saliva dripping from the corner of the mouth. There was also fresh stains which looked like semen stains on the underwear and a blue lungi was found around the feet. The body was first seen by Shri Raj Kumar, Village Administrative Officer and was reported to the Inspector of Police, Vedaranyam at 0600 hours on 20-7-1991. On his report, Vedaranyam Police Station registered a case vide No. 451/91 under Section 174 of Cr. P.C. No marks of injury were found on the body during the inquest

held by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Mannargudi. The inquest was conducted in the presence of local Panchayatdars, the Uncle of the deceased and two of his lawyers. The postmortem was conducted by a team of doctors at Government Hospital, Nagapattinam where the body of the deceased was brought from Vedaranyam. The inquest report and the postmortem report are still awaited. The report of the postmortem examination has been reserved, pending Chemical Analysis of Viscera. After postmortem, the body was handed over to the relations. It was cremated on 21-7-1991 at Vedaranyam around 4.07 P.M.

Government views this incident with concern and is determined to get at the root of this incident on the one hand, and on the other to ensure that the main investigation into the assassination of Shri Rajiv Gandhi continues to be pursued vigorously and taken to its logical conclusion. With these ends in view, I personally visited Madras and Sriperumbudur on the 22nd and 23rd July, saw things for myself, held discussions with all concerned in Tamil Nadu.

A Magisterial inquiry has been ordered under Section 176 Cr. P.C. CBI has ordered an inquiry by an Additional Director into the circumstances leading to this escape from custody and to fix responsibility. Action would be taken on receiving the report.

The State administration has been directed to expedite the report of post-mortem and examination of the viscera by the Chemical examiner, which are necessary to determine the cause of death.

I would like to assure this honourable house that all that is possible will be done to reach the final conclusion in investigation as early as possible.

SHRI P. G. NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): I want one clarification from the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: I had already said that a statement would be made. Please take your seat. You take your seat when I am standing. If you want to have more information on this, we will see as to how it can be done and all of you will have the opportunity. The report is with you. You can see it also and if you want, we will organise your putting the question but not at this point of time.

SHRI S. B CHAVAN : I would like to add one point to my statement. Just now I got the information.

"The Forensic Science Laboratory, Madras has given its finding that the viscera of Shanmughma did not contain any poisonous substance.

This report is being sent to the Thanjavur Medical College where the post-mortem was conducted by a panel of three doctors. These three doctors are to now submit their verdict on the post-mortem."

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): At what time will you allow us?

MR. SPEAKER : I will fix the time. The proper method will be followed.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We should have a discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : I will fix the time. I will look into it and fix the time. Now Mr. Joshi.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI (Saidpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was announced that the hon. Minister would make a statement and we would be given time to speak on this issue. But a new point has come to my mind which I want to place before the House so that it could be covered in the second statement.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If you start speaking like this, the time will skip further. You take your seat. Yes Mr. Joshi.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat I have called Shri Joshi's name.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What Shri Joshi is speaking alone will go on record. I have not called your name. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that the price of newsprint both indigenous and imported is increasing day by day, as a result of which the price of Indian newspapers and magazines have risen $2\frac{1}{2}$ times. For instance, 'India Today' which was priced Rs. 4 a year back is selling @ Rs. 7-8 per copy. My submission is that the quota of indigenous newsprint for small and medium newspapers should be fixed. Otherwise, the newspapers in India will go out of reach of the common man. In this connection, the President of the All India Newspapers Guild, Shri Vishwabandhu Gupta has submitted a proposal to the Central Government suggesting that quota of indigenous newsprint for the small and medium newspapers should be fixed. This is all I have to say.

[English]

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Sir, I want to raise an important issue. I would like to state that in January, 1991 the price of 360 Kgms—one *Kandi*—of Cotton was costing in between Rs. 8,500.

and Rs. 9,000/- only. But now the cost of the same cotton is about Rs. 16,000/- So, a very dangerous situation is prevailing now. So many textile mills are facing closure resulting in unemployment of innumerable labourers of the textile mills. Therefore, a very serious problem is prevailing in my constituency. Hence I request that this matter has to be discussed elaborately in this House.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is present in the House. 8-10 days back, when I raised the question of kidnapping of the Executive Director of Indian Oil Corporation, Shri Doraiswamy who is in the captivity of Kashmir extremists, he had assured that he would keep the House informed about the developments and the House would be taken into confidence in the matter. But the news that came from the Valley suggested that he could be released any moment. Then came the news that the extremists have set fresh conditions. The entire country is worried about it. The people have an apprehension that the Government is hiding facts from the nation. Last time, when the daughter of the then Home Minister was kidnapped, the country's honour was put at stake to secure her release. My submission is that such compromise should not be done again. Through you, sir, I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister as to what is the latest position in this case? Is Shri Doraiswamy being released? Is he alive? What are their conditions and who is acting as middle-man? The House should be taken into confidence in all these matters.

[English]

SHRI N. MURUGESAN (Karur): Sir, I would like to bring to your notice the Tamil Nadu people's reactions to the Centre's silence on the immediate implementation of the interim Award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal by observing a one-day State-wide Bandh on the coming Friday, the 26th. We are always crying for water, water, water on seeing the drying Cauvery. Everytime we are crying for water. Without solving the water issue, I think, there should be no matter to be discussed in Lok Sabha.

Sir, it is obligatory on the part of the Union Government to issue directions to the State of Karnataka under Article 256 of the Constitution.

We, therefore, expect the immediate intervention of the Hon. Prime Minister in this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV (Shahjahanpur): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards growing terrorism in Uttar Pradesh. One S.H.O. and three Constables were killed in Shahjahanpur. A police constable was killed and two SHOs were injured by terrorists in Bijnore. There were two bomb blasts in Gadarpur Bazar in Nainital in which three persons were killed and dozens of people were injured. Terrorism is growing in Uttar Pradesh and it is because the number of terrorists is on the increase there. Yesterday, I had been to Pilibhit. 150 sikhs are locked up in Bareilly jail, and neither they are put on trial nor anybody is allowed to meet them. This shows the inaction of the administration and the Government. There is no trial against them for the last 4 or 5 years. So when the Police calls the sikhs, they prefer to become terrorists rather than to come under the purview of T.A.D. Act. There is a Sikh Federation there. The Secretary of the Sikh Federation, Shri

Lakhveer Singh has declared that if no action is taken against the culprits of Pilibhit incident, there would be reprisals which would create a wave of terror in Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*... The Sikhs are not in favour of judicial inquiry, because in that process there is always delay. They are demanding C.B.I. enquiry....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Parshuram Gangwar...*(Interruptions)*...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Gangwar speaks will go on record.

.....*(Interruptions)**.....

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Parshuram Gangwar.

.....*(Interruptions)**.....

MR. SPEAKER: This is not going on record.

[Translation]

DR. PARASHURAM GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am an M.P. from Pilibhit constituency. Some people are mixing up the terrorist incident directly with politics to serve their political ends. Entire Vilsanda area falling under the Terai region is affected by terrorism. In Pilibhit area, modern arms and vehicles must be made available to the police so that it could deal with the terrorists effectively. Some people have made this incident so complicated that it is necessary to know some other facts to understand the reality of the incident.....*(Interruptions)*.....

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir a very sad incident has taken place in last Friday, that is, on the 19th July, 1991 at Hirakund in my constituency.

*Not recorded.

The Hirakund Power Company Limited is constructing a captive power plant for the Indian Aluminium Company. While the work inside the chimney in this plant under construction was going on, due to sudden collapse of scaffolding inside the chimney, 13 persons—all of whom belong to West Bengal—have died and seven are injured out of whom five are still under treatment in the VSS Medical College Hospital.

When the reasons and circumstances leading to this accident are not yet known conclusively, it is definitely the outcome of a negligence on the part of the management and the construction agency. What is more unfortunate is the lack of their seriousness towards the rescue and relief operation including treatment. (*Interruptions*). It took about three days to find out the dead bodies. (*Interruptions*) This is a very serious matter. There is an attempt to suppress it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Therefore, I demand that there should be a judicial enquiry by a sitting judge of the Orissa High Court to enquire into this incident in cooperation with the technical expert to find out the reasons and circumstances leading to this incident so that there is no recurrence of it again. (*Interruptions*). This company should be restrained from going ahead with the construction. Otherwise, it will be further complicated. Therefore, *ex-gratia* payment may be made as also the proper treatment of the injured be made. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur) : The President of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad has announced and it was reported in the press also that they will start the construction of the temple at the disputed place of Ram Janmabhoomi. He has also said that the Government

of Uttar Pradesh will remove all obstacles in the way of construction. He has told that the U.P. Government has assured him that they will enable him to construct the temple. This will create a serious situation in the country. If the VHP goes in this way, it will create again a communal carnage in the whole country and strike at the unity of the country. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to immediately try for an amicable settlement of the issue, and also to see that such things do not happen which will affect the unity of the country. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Only what Shri Guman Mal Lodha says goes on record.

.....(*Interruptions*).....

[*Translation*]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Since the adoption of Constitution to this day, gross injustice is being done to four crore people of Rajasthan. Recognition has not been accorded to Rajasthani language under the Constitution. A massive agitation will be launched against gross injustice in not giving recognition under the Constitution to a language spoken by 4 crore people in and out side India. I would, therefore, request the Government to dispense justice to the people of Rajasthan by including Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution....(*Interruptions*)....

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a person from my constituency is working in Assam (*Interruptions*)... He left his home at 10 a.m. for office after taking food. While on his way to the office, ULFA extremists abducted him and

took him to an unknown place. His family members came to me and narrated their woeful tale to me.....
(Interruptions).....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. When I am standing you have to take your seats.....(Interruptions).....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): You agree that this is a matter of serious concern to all of us. We would like to know what is the reaction of the Government. It is not a matter in which there can be procrastinations by the Government. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): We have got mandate in U.P.

MR. SPEAKER: Be seated please.....(Interruptions)..... whatever you want to say has already been said by your leader very clearly and it is on the record. Later on you jointly....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Loknathji, please resume your seat.

[English]

You cannot speak when I am standing. Why do you do like this? When all of you are talking, nothing is being recorded and it goes on that when you are speaking others also talk. What I am saying is that whatever you say, each word is being recorded. You should be content with that and if you have any point your leader can.....

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): *(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Amal Datta, this is derogatory to the Parliament and you should not have spoken those words. They will not form part of the record. Parliament record is a very important record. It is not for you, the hon. Members, to say this thing. This will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concern and anxiety expressed on the Floor of the House is shared by all sections of the people in the country because issues like this—it is a stated position of this Government—must be settled peacefully and by mutual consent. I can only say that the same concern should be shared by every one who is interested in constructing the temple. I can only say this much at this moment and I am quite certain, what has been said by all sections of the House will be given its due importance by all those who are concerned in this matter. (Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I share the concern of all sections of the House that everything should be done peacefully. But I would also like to point out that this is an issue on which there have been different opinions as to what should be done in Ayodhya and what should not be done. I am sure that in a democracy, no political party can disregard a mandate and the UP Government has the mandate. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the last two Fridays, we have been discussing this issue. (Interruptions) I am not yielding. (Interruptions) We are going to

*Not recorded.

debate this on Friday—day after tomorrow—once again. That inconclusive debate on the resolution moved by Mr. Zainal Abedin is to continue. And we can certainly debate what is the mandate and what is not the mandate. *(Interruptions)* What I want to say is that this anger is not against my party. It is against the people of U.P. *(Interruptions)* On coming Friday, we can discuss what is the mandate. *(Interruptions)* No political party can afford to disregard a mandate. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, the statement of Mr. Advani should not go on record. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is totally wrong. What is mandate?.... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Please be seated first.....

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: When I am on my legs, you must resume your seat.

.....*(Interruptions)*.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Joshi, please sit down. All of you sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sonkar, be seated, please. I am on my legs. You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Be seated, please. Why do you stand up time and again. Why are you adding to the confusion? If everybody starts

speaking, it will be difficult to transact the business.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Khurana, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: What is the matter? Why do you stand up again and again? I am on my legs. You, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Not in this manner, first listen to me.

...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sonkar, sit down, please.

...*(Interruptions)*...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like this.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Mr. Sonkar Shastri, it is not correct to stand when I am standing.

...*(Interruptions)*...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: If you will continue to speak in this manner one after the other, how long shall I keep standing here and how long will you go on doing this? Everybody will give due regard to your feelings, the House will also do so.

...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Sonkar, this is not proper.

...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sonkar Shastri, this is not correct. All the time you are jumping up.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Why are you adding to it. Let me say what I want to say. Everybody has heard what you have said. The sentiments expressed by the Members from both sides.....

...(Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER: My throat has got parched and a glass of water is beside me but you are not even allowing me to take a sip. I was saying that those Members who want to express their views on this subject...

...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you get up next time, it is not good for you. I am standing.

...(Interruptions)...

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I was saying that all the hon. Members of the House will be given an opportunity to express their views but they should bear in mind that this is not the only

issue on the agenda. There are a few more important issues. The statement on Industrial policy is to be presented and after that the Budget is also to be presented. Every opportunity will be given to express the views on this subject also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you get up like this, it is not good. If you want to show that you can speak something, I will give you enough opportunity to speak. But please do not stand up like this. I cannot go on talking to like this to each and every Member who stands up. Please cooperate with me.

I will give an opportunity to all the Members to speak on this topic on a proper occasion. The proper occasion is that there is a resolution before this House and you will be speaking on that resolution and not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, let this issue not end on the basis that we have accepted what Mr. Advani has said. According to us, that is not the mandate of the people there. Therefore, you should not be under the impression that we have accepted that proposition. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I want to draw the attention of the House towards my constituency. This Government has become synonymous with kidnappings. When a person wake up in the morning, he is worried about kidnappings. Recently, a family from village Konhara in Deoria district came to me and told me that Shri Dev Kishore of Konhara who was working as a Commissioner in Assam, was going from his residence to the office on 1st July at 10 A.M.....

MR. SPEAKER: You need not go into details. There are others who want to speak.

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was saying that he was kidnapped by ULFA terrorists on his way to office and his whereabouts are not known so far. His family members are worried about him. I, therefore, request the leader of the House, through you, to get the whereabouts of Shri Dev Kishore Tiwari and secure his release from the terrorists.. *(Interruptions)*...

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention and the attention...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I would like to draw your attention, the attention of the House and the attention of the Government to the anger, frustration, resentment and demoralisation in the ranks of the UP Police, at the recent surrender of the Government of UP to the dictates of an organisation called the Bharatiya Kisan Union...*(Interruptions)*...

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Sir, how can this matter be discussed here. How can U.P. be discussed here. Is this U.P. Legislative Assembly?...*(Interruptions)*... If U.P. is discussed here then Bihar and other States would also be discussed...*(Interruptions)*....

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't stand there like that. Please sit down. It is not necessary to talk like that. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: We all speak about the morale of police force. Here, a policeman was killed and four were kept under de-

tention for a number of days. Then the BKU leader arrived on the scene and he said that they would be released only after the culprits of the previous attack on the police force are released *en masse*. The Government of Uttar Pradesh not only bargained with this self-assumed leader, and thus allowed mob rule and they released the culprits who were in detention...*(Interruptions)* I would like to know whether there is rule of law under the U.P. Government, the biggest State of the Union. Surely, it is going to affect the rest of the country. The Home Minister should speak to the U.P. Government. Such incidents of mob rule against the police force and such incidents of surrender to mob rule should not be permitted. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to a serious matter. Bihar is a backward State, though it is rich in resources. The economic condition of Bihar is very miserable and even the royalty on coal which is very little is not received in time. The most unfortunate thing is that the Chief Minister of Bihar has threatened to go on a fast unto death if the royalty on coal is not increased by the Centre. I feel that if things are neglected to such an extent there would be serious consequences. The Hon. Prime Minister is not here. I wanted to make this submission in his presence. The Finance Minister and the leader of the House are present here. I want that they should take the matter seriously. If immediate decision is not taken on the royalty issue, the Bihar Chief Minister would carry out his threat which may lead to serious consequences. I, therefore, urge the Government to think over it seriously before there are any serious consequences.*(Interruptions)**.....

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you are saying is not going on record.

12.55½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I request the hon. Finance Minister to look into this aspect.

[English]

Annual Report of and Review on the working of the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation, Chandigarh, for 1989-90 etc.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to say that the issue of Ayodhya... (Interruptions).....

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you an opportunity at that time.

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: If you do not allow me, I will sit down. You know I am not in the habit of troubling you. Now that an issue was raised here by my friend Shri Advani... (Interruptions)... you first listen to me... (Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): I beg to lay on the Table—

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation, Chandigarh, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts under subsection (11) of Section 31 of the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962 read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 11th May, 1987 issued by the President in relation to the State of Punjab.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Punjab State Warehousing Corporation, Chandigarh, for the year 1989-90.

MR. SPEAKER: You will get an opportunity to speak at that time.

...(Interruptions)...

2. A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-116/91.]

SHRI RAM NAIK: If some hon. Members want to speak on it after a ruling has been given, we too would like to speak then... (Interruptions)...

Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Amendment Order, 1991

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Don't reopen it because other Members would also like to speak on it.

...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Amendment Order, 1991 (Hindi and

English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 223(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1991 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-117/91.]

Notifications under All India Services Act, 1951 and Fortieth Report of Union Public Service Commission, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Indian Police Service (Appointment by Promotion) First Amendment Regulations, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 226(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th April, 1991 under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-118/91]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Article 323(1) of the Constitution:—

- (i) Fortieth Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the year 1989-90.
- (ii) Memorandum explaining the reason for non-acceptance of the advice of the Union Public Service Commission referred in the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-119/91]

Annual Report of and Review on the working of Indian Rubber Manufacturers Associations, Thane

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 1989-90.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-120/91]

Statement indicating the activities Essential to setting up of Prasar Bharati

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) indicating the activities essential to setting up of Prasar Bharati and which have not been completed in pursuance of an assurance given by the Minister on the 17th July, 1991 during supplementaries to Starred Question No. 63 and 80.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-121/91]

Statement Re: Industrial Policy

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) on Industrial Policy.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-124/91]

12.57 hrs.

[*English*]

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. PRESENTATION OF GENERAL BUDGET

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to inform the House that House will adjourn at 4.00 P.M. today to reassemble at 5.00 P.M. for the presentation of the General Budget. Instead of giving half-an-hour's time in between we are giving one hour's time so that everybody should be able to take his seat in time.

—————
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, why doesn't the Minister read out the Statement on Industrial Policy? (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): It is a lengthy one. You give him at least one hour's time. (*Interruptions*) You can read it in the one hour break that we have today at 4.00 P.M. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Copies will not be distributed here; otherwise it will become very difficult. None of you will collect copies from here. Please go back to your seats.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is available at the Publications Counter. If necessary, it will be distributed at your seats also. Please don't come here.

12.58½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Second Report

[*English*]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th July, 1991."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is: "That this House do agree with the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th July, 1991."

The Motion was adopted.

—————

12.59 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to send a Central Team to assess the drought situation in Madhya Pradesh, particularly in Chhatisgarh region**

[*Translation*]

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE (Bilaspur): Sir, due to failure of rains, drought conditions have developed in Mandhya Pradesh, particularly in the Chhatisgarh region. Majority of the farmers have sown their crops but in the absence of rains the sprouted plants have dried up. There is a shortage of seeds and fertilizers. The Government is not providing seeds and fertilizers and this has led people to migrate from that region.

Essential commodities such as rice, wheat, oil, sugar and kerosene oil are not available through the public distribution system. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to send a team of observers to assess the situation in order to provide relief from the imminent drought. In order to check people from migrating

[Sh. Khelan Ram Jangde]

from Chhatisgarh region, the State Government should be directed to ensure effective functioning of the public distribution system.

- (ii) **Need to send a Central Study Team to assess the damage caused to crops due to drought in Himachal Pradesh and to take immediate relief measures**

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTAN-PURI (Shimla): Sir, due to drought condition in Himachal Pradesh, fruit, vegetable and foodgrain crops have been destroyed. The maize crop in the upper reaches of Sirmour district has completely dried up. Diseases have struck ginger and other crops. The people are not being provided any relief by the Government. The extent of damage to the crops has not yet been assessed.

I urge upon the Central Government to send a study team to Sirmour district, Solan and Shimla to assess the loss to the farmers and make arrangements to grant adequate compensation to the farmers to make good their loss.

- (iii) **Need to ensure proper functioning of Public Health Centres in backward and Adivasi areas of the country**

SHRI MANKU RAM SODI (Bastar): Sir, public health services are not functioning properly in backward regions particularly in tribal sub-plan areas. Doctors and other necessary medical personnel are not posted in the rural health centres, mini-hospitals and primary health centres. Lack of such facilities have made it difficult for villagers to shed their superstitions. Every year several children die of diarrhoea and malaria. The rate of such deaths has not gone down.

The Central Government is therefore, requested that in order to improve the public health service properly in tribal sub-plan areas all the

posts in health centres of each block should be filled up. Officials working in these difficult areas should be given incentive allowance in addition to their pay so that they may take more interest in working in these remote areas.

- (iv) **Need for early implementation of decision regarding 'one rank one pension' scheme in Defence Services**

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Sir, the Government has made many declarations regarding 'One rank one pension' for ex-servicemen but no action has been taken to implement the decision. The previous Government had given an assurance that a decision had been taken regarding 'One rank one pension' for the Ex-servicemen upto the rank of Subedar-Major and officers and this would benefit 85% of the ex-servicemen while a decision would also be taken soon in case of the remaining 15%. As this decision has not been implemented, there is wide-spread resentment among ex-servicemen throughout the country.

Hence, I request the Government to take steps to implement the decision that has been taken and to take an early decision in respect of those ranks also which were not included in this scheme earlier.

- (v) **Need to take steps to check the environmental pollution being caused by a fertilizer factory at Samastipur, Bihar**

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): Sir, there is a fertilizer factory in Samastipur district of Bihar. The local people had protested against the setting up of the factory as they were apprehensive of the pollution caused by the factory. Many buildings have been damaged due to the vibrations caused by this factory. Representations have been sent to the Department of Environment, Government of India, but nothing tangible has been achieved so far.

I request the Government to direct the Department of Environment to take necessary action against this factory under the Environment Protection Act in public interest and protect the life and property of the citizens of Samastipur.

(vi) **Need to take steps to check the drought situation in Garhwal, Uttar Pradesh**

[English]

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): There is a near drought situation in Garhwal Hills of Uttar Pradesh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you speak extempore will not form part of the record; whatever you have given in writing will form part of the record.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: The drinking water problem has become extremely acute. This is in spite of the fact that the major rivers like Alaknanda, Bhagirathi, Yamuna etc. originate and flow through this area.

The Minister for Water Resources is requested to direct to Central Water Commission to look into the matter and take short and long term measures at the earliest.

(vii) **Need to ensure punctuality in timings of trains between Howrah and Kharagpur**

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): The late running of trains, particularly the local trains, has become a regular feature on the Howrah-Kharagpur suburban section of the South Eastern Railways.

The services of almost all the local trains (EMU Services) have considerably deteriorated and they reach the

destination late causing tremendous hardship to the daily passengers, office-goers, students, small business men etc. The EMU coaches have also become over-aged.

I urge upon the Railway Minister to ensure strict punctuality in running the local trains for the benefit of lakhs of daily passengers in the Howrah-Kharagpur Suburban Section of the South Eastern Railways. The over-aged EMU coaches should also be replaced immediately.

(viii) **Need to take steps to telecast Malayalam Programme relayed from Trivandrum Doordarshan by other T.V. centres in Kerala**

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. Vijayaraghavan (Palghat): The demand for the facility to relay Malayalam programmes from the Trivandrum Doordharshan by other TV Centres including Palakkad in Kerala has been raised during the past many years. In the absence of this facility, the people living in different parts of the State are not able to view and enjoy Malayalam programmes on T.V. Most of the programmes are either in Hindi or in English. Most of the people there do not understand the language and are not even familiar with the socio-cultural background of the programmes shown on T.V. This detracts them from the utility of this medium.

It is understood that this facility could not be introduced due to non-availability of channels. However, since the work on the optical fibre cable has now been completed and channels have become available, the Ministry of Communications can provide the necessary channel. The T.V. Centres in Palakkad and other places in Kerala will be able to relay Malayalam programmes.

I request the Minister for Information and Broadcasting to take immediate steps in this regard.

*Translation of the matter originally raised in Malayalam.

**Not recorded.

13.09 hrs.

**RAILWAY BUDGET, 1991-92—
 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DE-
 MANDS FOR GRANTS (RAIL-
 WAYS), 1991-92—Contd.**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House now shall take up further discussion on the Railway Budget and Demands for Grants for Railways for 1991-92.

Is the Minister of State here? Not present. Shri D. Venkateswara Rao—not present; Shri Shibu Soren—not present; Shri Suraj Mandal—not present; Shri Pius Turkey—not present; Shri Kalka Das—not present; Shri Anantrao Deshmukh—not present.

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Sir, while welcoming the hon. Railway Minister and expressing my support for the Railway Budget, I would like to say that the railway line in Khandwa runs through the centre of the city. The existing overbridges are very old and narrow. As a result, there are frequent traffic jams. During the tenure of Shri Madhavrao Scindia, a survey was conducted to construct an over-bridge 2A but the work has not started so far. What is the reason for this?

13.10 hrs. [RAO RAM SINGH
in the Chair]

An overbridge should also be constructed near village Nimbona on Indore-Amravati section because a number of trains pass through that section and traffic is held up for hours together. I request that immediate action be taken for construction of another over-bridge 2-A with two lanes.

Burhanpur is a pilgrimage centre for the Bohras which attracts pilgrims and tourists not only from India but also from abroad. Burhanpur also has a gurudwara and by many pilgrims pay visit there everyday. It is a tourist

spot and is also important from the historical, social, educational and religious point of view. Burhanpur is a textiles trade centre also where one lakh cotton bales are made every year. A large number of farmers and traders frequent the place. Therefore, it is necessary to provide a halt for the following trains:—

- (1) 2627, 2628 Karnataka Express—
Bangalore-New Delhi.
- (2) 2133, 2134 Pushpak Express—
Lucknow-Bombay.
- 3) 2701, 2702 Goa Express—Niza-
muddin-Miraj.
- (4) 4247, 4248 Shramshakti Ex-
press—Muzaffarpur-Bombay.
- (5) 2161, 2162 Laskar Express
(Central Railway).

Burhanpur railway station is situated at a distance of 5 kilometres from the city. There is no enquiry office at Burhanpur railway station and passengers face many difficulties as they do not get information about the incoming and outgoing trains. A telephone attached to the parcel office is used for answering enquiries also. As the line is engaged for parcel office work, the public has difficulty in contacting the station. Therefore, an enquiry office should be provided there which should remain open for 24 hours. A telephone booth and a retiring room should also be provided at the station.

Trains going towards Bombay and Delhi pass through Burhanpur at night. The berth quota in train nos. 1037, 1038, 4678, 4677 and 3004 should be increased to 4 berths in three tier and 2 berths in first class and A.C. For nearly one year the halting time of 1058 up Amritsar-Dadar Express and 1057 Down Dadar-Amritsar Express has been cut down. These trains halt for just three minutes which is not enough for the several travellers to board or get down from the trains. So the halting time should be restored to five minutes.

People reside on the Eastern and Western side of the railway station. In the absence of an overbridge connecting both the sides, people face a lot of difficulty in crossing the station. There is an overbridge connecting the two platforms but local people using it to cross-over are treated as ticketless passengers and charged accordingly. If an overbridge is provided people from both sides may reach their respective colonies directly through the bridge without coming to the platform. School going children will also be benefited with the construction of this overbridge. During emergency, it is difficult for the vehicles to move from East to West of the railway station. So a railway crossing may be provided either to the North or to the South of the Station to enable vehicles to cross over when the track is clear.

Now, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards reduction of reservation quota in the trains with effect from 1-7-1991. In 1037 Dn, Punjab Mail, instead of 2 AC Second class reservations quota only one first class reservation quota has been provided. In 1093 Dn, Mahanagri train only 1 AC Second reservation quota is provided instead of 2 AC Second reservations quota and in 2133 Dn, the quota of 2 first class reservations has been altogether abolished. All the reservations quota may please be restored

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Oscar Fernandes. I request the Hon'ble Member to speak in English. As we did not inform the office in advance. You may please speak in English. Even though Kannada is a very very sweet language I request you to speak in English.

[Translation]

***SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udipi):** He has come Sir. He is already there. The interpreter is already in the box. Mr. Chairman, Sir, Railways have to play a vital role in the progress of the country. In my opinion it is not enough to keep in mind only the economic situation and the development of railways in the country. We have to keep before us what all we want to achieve in the development of railways for one century. Yesterday, my friend Mr. Mukul Vasnik was mentioning that the State from which Hon'ble Railway Minister hails would get priority for development. This may not be the case.

There is a feeling among the people that there would be substantial development of railways in a particular state if the Railway Minister hails from that State. This is not so at least in the case of Karnataka State. Perhaps Karnataka has the pride of sending more number of railway Ministers than any other state in the country.

We should have a long plan of railways for about 100 years. It would enable the progress of the entire country as a whole. In that case we will be knowing in which States new railway lines would be laid. We will also know the conversion, electrification etc. in each and every State in advance. This is not just a plan for imagination but it is a plan of reality. In this direction my suggestion would be to earmark land in advance for laying the new lines and to grow trees on both the sides of proposed railway line. If this is done then the public cannot construct any building and the question of evacuation also does not arise. The public will be happy to know that industrial development, construction of roads and bridges would take place. Such earmarked land should not be given to the public. If it is given then the Govt. has

[Sh. Oscar Fernandes]

to spend huge money to get the land back. There are cases where the Ministry has spent crores of rupees to get the land back.

Development of railways is the joint responsibility of both Centre and States. There would be floods at some places and drought situation may prevail in many other parts of the country. There may be other problems also. The country spends several crores of rupees every year for relief work. If a portion of this amount is earmarked for the development of railway it would be more useful.

The Hon'ble Minister has increased the freight rates on many items but he has spared most of the essential commodities. I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for this. Here I request the Hon'ble Minister not to increase the rates on milk. Our late lamented leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi is not amidst us today. He had made it clear in our party manifesto that the life of the common man must be made happier if our party comes to power. Hence I hope the Hon'ble Minister would do the needful in this regard.

It has been mentioned in the budget about privatisation. If the Govt. is saving lot of money and the people are benefitted then it is alright. Otherwise, I am opposed to the idea of privatisation, especially privatisation of conservancy services. The people under this category are all from backward classes and weaker sections of the society. Privatisation would affect them adversely. Neither they get permanent assignment nor better payment. Therefore, it is better if the railways keep these services in its own hand.

As I stated earlier many persons became Railway Ministers from my state. But I regret to state that development of railways has not taken place in the same proportion in Karnataka. The people of my State are very much disappointed.

On behalf of the people of Karnataka, Kerala, Goa, Maharashtra and the whole country I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister for sanctioning Rs. 51 crores as equity capital. According to me sanctioning finance is not that important. Completion of the project is much more important. I appeal to the Hon'ble Minister to complete the Konkan Railway project much earlier than the promised time i.e. towards the end of the year 1994. The people in general have some doubts in their minds about the completion of this project. Now a substantial amount has been sanctioned. Next year also some allocation may be made. But people think that this process may not expedite the completion of the project. Hence it has become imminent to release the railway bonds for about 300 crores of rupees at the earliest. Then only we can create confidence in the minds of the people.

To make this project profitable we have to consider the transportation of goods also in addition to traffic facilities.

The development of railway line between Hospet and Ankola via Hubli should be treated as an integral part of the Konkan Railway project. Now iron ore is being sent to Madras port and from there it is sent to foreign countries. This ore can be exported through Karwar port or Mangalore port. It saves huge amount of money and time. Hence this vital line between Hospet and Ankola should be developed completely and immediately. The Hon'ble Minister has given an assurance in this august House that conversion of Mysore-Bangalore metre gauge line would be completed by the end of the year 1992. I thank him for this assurance and I hope it would be completed well in time.

Conversion of Miraj-Bangalore metre gauge line is an important long pending demand of the people of Karnataka. I request the Hon'ble

Minister to include this work in the present Budget itself. In case if he finds it difficult to include in the present budget I want him to give us an assurance to include it in the next year's budget at least.

Mangalore is a prominent port of the country. Konkan Railway project has come to this port as a boon. There is metre gauge line between Bangalore and Mangalore. This has to be converted into broad gauge at the earliest. At present there is night train service between Mangalore and Bangalore. I request the Hon'ble Minister to introduce day service also. An assurance had been given previously by the then Hon'ble Railway Minister. I hope this would be done very soon.

Due to scarcity of time I do not want to go into more details. I only reiterate that the Konkan railway project should be completed in time. Mangalore—Udipi railway line should also be completed at the earliest.

I extend my gratitude to the Hon'ble Railway Minister and the Hon'ble Prime Minister for presenting a very good railway budget for the year 1991-92.

Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this important subject and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are several hon. Members who would like to speak on the Railway Budget. Now, the time is very restricted. Therefore, I would like to appeal to all hon. Members not to take more than five or six minutes, so that maximum number of hon. Members can be accommodated.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman Sir, I must confess, at the very outset, that I am one of the persons who believes that the Ministry of Railways has no right to exist. ...*(Interruptions)*. It is nothing more than a public sector undertaking. It is the biggest in the country no doubt with the largest number of employees. But, I do not see the reason, the rationale, for its having been a Ministry. What policy decision does it take? There has to be a Railway Authority or a Railway Corporation which should deal with the railway transport problem in the public interest and as a commercial undertaking as it was.

While it is a Ministry today and it was a commercial organisation in the days of yore the Railway employees continue to enjoy perquisites which are far above and beyond those enjoyed by the ordinary mortals who are employees of the other public sector undertakings. Perhaps this is a remnant of the past. It is a throw back to the times when the Railway was a commercial organisation and every employee was given certain facilities and privileges. The time has come when this matter should be reviewed because this is eating into the facilities offered by the Railways to the larger public of the country. I often find in the First Class and in the A.C. II that the proportion of the Railway employees of a very low category who are occupying the very scarce accommodation is increasingly high. So, that is one suggestion that I would like to place before the hon. Minister that the perks enjoyed by the Railway employees, if he has the political courage to do so, must be brought down to be on par with those of the other public sector employees—nothing more and nothing less.

The second aspect is this—and, of course, here the hon. Minister is not likely to agree with me—that the Railways function almost like a State within a State. It does not only run

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the Railways, it also runs schools, it runs hospitals and it runs canteens and kitchens, it cultivates lands, it engages in forest and I do not know what else it does. I think this all eats into the efficiency of the Railway organisation. I think we have a Government where there has to be a rational distribution of functions, and in a rational distribution of function, the schools must be run by the Central Schools Organisation. The hospitals, if they are to come under the Central Government even if facilities are to be provided to the Railway employees, must function under the Director General of Health Services and so on. Therefore, the second suggestion I would like to place before the hon. Minister is to cut down on the ancillary and auxiliary activities of the Railway Ministry and, as far as possible, restrict the Railways Department or the Railway Ministry to running the railways which, of course, they are not doing very well. I think almost nearly all the time the trains are unpunctual and I think one of the reasons for this is that the attention of the Ministry is diverted to a very large sector. Therefore, it has to be refocussed back to its primary duty of running the Railways of the country with punctuality and with efficiency.

The third point I would like to make is this that every year they come up with some *ad hoc* increase in railway fare and freight. We are not told on what basis that particular increase has been arrived at. We understand the politics involved. If it is a weak government, then they do not go beyond a certain point; if they are a strong government, they can play more freely and more strongly with passengers and users. But we would like to have some scientific basis for the determination of the fares and freight because we must run, as I said to begin with, the railways as a commercial proposition. And we want to know from the hon. Minister what rationale does he have for the present level of fares and for the in-

crease that he has suggested in the budget. He has not given us the unit cost. He has not told us how he has come to these beautiful figures.

We know that the railway facilities are being outstripped by the rising population. The sight of trains being overloaded with passengers on the roofs, passengers between the coaches is not an uncommon sight. One of the reasons, in my opinion, is the so-called modernisation. In fact, I would like to call it elitisation. The Railways have become more and more an instrument of services to the elite. I would like to propose to the hon. Minister and this House, through you, Mr. Chairman, that we entirely abolish the air-conditioned coaches. After all, we have travelled for hundreds of years without air-conditioning. Surely, the Indian elite and the bureaucracy and the Railway employees can travel like ordinary mortals in ordinary coaches.

Let us just have only two classes— one class for short journey in which there should be sitting accommodation for every passenger and another for long over-night journey in which there should be a uniform type of sleeping accommodation for all passengers. So, we shall really have only two classes—the sitting class and the sleeping class. The facilities shall be uniform—whatever be the status of the individual passenger. I think if this is done, automatically—even keeping the number of trains and coaches constant—the number of passengers, the carrying capacity will increase.

Coming to my fifth suggestion to the Hon'ble Minister, I find that there are growing nodal points. Patna is one of them. It is not a metropolitan city but there is a large growing passenger traffic which flows into the city in the morning and flows out in the evening. Why cannot we have a separate channel—a parallel line—laid out for distances say upto twenty miles on each side of

such nodal points which provide employment to the people? Let that channel be completely independent of the through track. Most of the time, lack of punctuality is being caused and delay are caused because of this local traffic. In fact the local traffic interferes even with the facilities provided to the through passengers. Therefore, I would suggest that for every city, which is a growing nodal point and draws people, and generates traffic which comes in the morning and goes out in the evening, there should be a parallel railway track to cater to the catchment area.

I find that catering in the Railways is absolutely abysmal. The quality is going down. I do not know why the Thali system was abolished. It was replaced by this—I do not know how I should describe it—disgusting dispensation in which you are given an aluminium foil with layers of waxed paper. You cannot eat properly. I would suggest to the Hon'ble Minister that the present system should be abolished, particularly because the kitchen car in the train continues to be a part of the train. It has not been abolished though the idea was that once you have got ready-made food prepared at some important stations then at least one more coach will be available can be utilised for passenger traffic. That is not so. Therefore, I would suggest that let us revert back to the old system and improve the catering.

Finally, there is a lot of talk about corruption. I would like to inform the Hon'ble Minister that particularly in recruitment to the railways, in the functioning of the Railway Board, the odour of corruption is reaching intolerable limits. I think it is time that the Hon'ble Minister and the Government look into it and devise methods so that this corruption in recruitment and booking is, at least, minimised. One way of doing it will be that the clerical staff recruitment can be transferred to the appropriate authorities and

only the recruitment of technical staff should be made by the Railway Commission. I would suggest that the likely number of vacancies for each category must be announced in advance with the scheme of examination and with the marks obtained by the candidates in the written examination and in the interview should be published and each candidate should have access to this vital information.

I would like to make one more point about the railway land. As I travel across the country, I find a lot of land which belongs to the Railways, unutilised, lying fallow. In general there is no intensive agriculture in our country. I would suggest that some arrangement should be made so that the land which is not in immediate use of the Railways although it is possessed and owned by the Railways, is available to the neighbouring cultivators for agriculture, horticulture and forestry—right upto the railway track to the nearest practicable limits. That land will not then be wasted and add to the agricultural production of the country.

I would like to make a point about my own constituency—Kishanganj which lies between Katihar and New Jalpaiguri. A new track is laid between Katihar and New Jalpaiguri. I hope that the situation will be eased with this. In the meantime, the Hon'ble Minister may consider extending the through trains from Delhi which are running only upto Katihar, to New Jalpaiguri. I think an assurance was given on the floor of the House about the Mahananda Express, to extend it from Katihar right upto New Jalpaiguri. This has not been done.

Finally, Sir, I would suggest that in order to cut down railway accidents, a system of incentives and penalties must be introduced. There have been a large number of accidents of late in which clearly the human factor was involved. In order to

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eliminate the human factor, there has to be an effective system of incentives and rewards on the one hand, and of penalties and punishment, on the other, and I would like the hon. Minister to look into this situation.

Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity and I request the hon. Minister to consider the points which I have raised.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the Railway Budget on Saturday and of course today also, and who have given quite valuable suggestions. While thanking them for their participation I would like to just intervene on some of the points made by the hon. Members.

Sir, Railways play a pivotal role in the nation's life both in terms of transportation of goods and in terms of passengers. However, we are all concerned with the fact that punctuality of passenger trains is not satisfactory. Sir, as we have taken over, we have given a strict direction and it is being monitored, and it has also been mentioned in the Budget speech that now gradually the punctuality performance is improved. However, this is not the point where one should get contented, but we must try our best to see that punctuality is much more improved, so much so the travelling passengers will not be subject to unnecessary hardships.

Apart from punctuality, the Government is very keen to see that the safety and security of the passengers is ensured. When we talk about safety, of course some of the Members have also mentioned that we have to take into account the accidents and other types of things. No doubt the trend of accidents on Indian Railways is coming down. Still we cannot be content by that. We have

to contain the accidents and there are certain human failures also which have to be checked and advice has been given to those who are responsible for safety. They are being trained also to check the human failure.

Sir, so far as the security is concerned, the security on Indian Railways also depends upon the State Governments because law and order is the subject which ought to be looked after by the State Governments. However, from the security point of view Railways also provide some escort and other things.

Sir, this is how the present Government with conviction is proceeding further to see that the punctuality of the trains is maintained and safety and security is also dealt with properly.

As we all have been experiencing, manual reservation for a long time, and even now, was one of the problems for the poor travellers on Indian Railways. So, keeping this in view, as early as in 1980, the then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, with her vision, agreed for computerisation of passenger reservations. That is how this project was started and now everyone should be happy to know that computers are made available for reservations in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Hyderabad. Apart from that, in some other important stations these projects are taken up now. In the present Railway Budget itself, some of the stations have been included. They are, Varanasi, Vadodara, Agra, Jodhpur, Coimbatore, Nagpur, Tiruchirappalli and Surat. By completing all these projects in time, I think, we will be able to cover about 70 per cent of passenger reservations through computers. I do not have to lay much emphasis on computerisation because in the modern world, it has become one of the essential ingredients for the proper administration and other related matters.

Then, we are taking up a trial programme for freight movement. It will commence by the end of this year. When I speak about computerisation, I cannot forget Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who was instrumental not only for computerisation in Indian Railways but for advancement in Indian economy also through science and technology. So, by promoting computerisation in Indian Railways, I once again salute Shri Rajiv Gandhi for his foresight. I hope within 10 years or so, even the freight operation information system will be computerised. As far as passenger reservation is concerned, it will be covered within five or six years.

Sir, the hon. Member Shri Ram Naik, while speaking about computerisation, made an enquiry about computerisation in Borivilli. I want to inform him that the work is in progress and the facility is expected to be made available before December this year.

Sir, through this House, I want to appeal to the people in reducing the ticketless travelling in Indian Railways; they should be patriotic in the sense that none should prefer ticketless travelling because it is an offence. Now, we have increased the fine for ticketless travelling from Rs. 10/- to Rs. 50/-. All these things are secondary; the primary thing is that the citizens should be conscious and for a little thing if a citizen indulges in such type of things, it will affect the functional integrity of the Railways. In 1990-91, we could recover an amount of Rs. 25 crores from ticketless travellers compared to the previous year's figure of Rs. 23 crores. Then, ticketless travelling becomes an interruption to the bonafide travellers because the ticketless travellers come and occupy the seats of bonafide passengers.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): You have no idea as to how much money is lost to the Railways because of ticketless travel.

Nobody has got any idea. No survey has ever been conducted.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: That is what I am telling. If the Railways have got the recovery of Rs. 24 crores in a year, it would be more.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: That is neither here; nor there. You are getting thousand crores of rupees from the passengers. How much money is lost due to ticketless travel? It may be Rs. 250 crores, Rs. 300 crores or even thousand crores. I would like you to be able to explain why is it that the Railways had not at least carried out survey so that we can know the extent of loss to the Railways due to ticketless travelling. I have myself brought this question up with many Railway Ministers but nobody has taken any effective step so far.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: If the survey has not been done. I do not know what exactly has been done. We will take the suggestion of the hon. Member.

We are so strong on this point that drives against ticketless travel are going to be conducted and we will see that ticketless travels get reduced and recovery will be more and window selling will also go up. That is a kind of indirect revenue to the Railways.

Initiating the debate, hon. Member, Shri. Anna Joshi emphasised on electrification. The Government is very conscious that electrification is essentially required on Indian Railways both in terms of energy conservation and for other performance reasons. As we all know, already 10083 route kms. have been electrified and in the Eighth Plan, we propose to electrify another 3,000 route kms.

Now the hon. Member, who is also my good friend, Shri George Fernandes is not here. Still I feel I must make a reference to what he

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said. He mentioned that just a meagre amount of Rs. 607 crores has been allocated for rolling stock compared to Rs. 680 crores in the previous year. Here, I have to bring to the knowledge of the august House that we have the Indian Railway Finance Corporation. This year, this Corporation is going to create about Rs. 1500 crores bonds. The laid-down policy of the Railway is that whatever the finances which the Indian Railway Finance Corporation provides will be put in for the rolling stock. That is how Rs. 1500 crores is added to Rs. 607 crores and it comes to Rs. 2107 crores. Last year, it was just Rs. 1850 crores.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: The Budget speech delivered by the hon. Railway Minister does not indicate that the entire sum of Rs. 1500 crores which is to be raised by issue of Railway bonds will be put in the rolling stock.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I am committing it before Parliament in the intervention. If it is not in the Budget speech, it makes no difference. Whatever amount which the Indian Railway Finance Corporation is raising will be put in the rolling stock.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a policy matter and the hon. Minister must take the House into confidence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is shortly going to take the House into confidence.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: The hon. Minister is stating it before the House now. Why did he not do so earlier.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The actual position is that in the current year, the Railways have provided altogether a sum of Rs. 2107 crores

for the rolling stock. Our production units in particular are doing very well.

CLW produced 110 EMUs last year. Last year, it has produced 147 diesel locomotives. [at a cost of Rs. 40 crores.]

So also the Integral Coach Factory.

The Railway Coach Factory at Kapurthala made a record production of 600 coaches during the year. 1990-91 which is beyond the imagination and expectation. That is how we also applaud the workers who have been employed in these production units. Even otherwise railway employees deserve all appreciation for their alertness and duty consciousness.

This is how we have to view the rolling-stock. In spite of all this, the Indian Railways is short of the required rolling-stock. We have to take care of it in future with different types of innovations on Indian Railways.

Hon. Member Shri George Fernandes referred to the staff quarters. He has mentioned that about Rs. 38 crores only have been allocated in the present Budget for the staff quarters compared to Rs. 40 crores. In this connection, I have to mention that Indian Railway Welfare Organisation is there. Last year, Rs. 8 crores have been given as seed capital to the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation. This Organisation is doing service to the railwaymen in acquiring land and other things. Rs. 8 crores has been given as seed capital to this particular Organisation last year. That is how it has gone up to Rs. 40 crores. This time also, provisionally about Rs. 10 crores are going to the Indian Railways Welfare Organisation. This is the Organisation which is cooperating and that is how the Railways have been associated with them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rs. 10 crores is in addition to Rs. 38 crores.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Yes. Some hon. Members referred to the over-bridges. In all States, a number of over-bridges have been demanded by the hon. Members and it has to take a practical form. But, however, I have to make a mention here. So far as road over-bridges are concerned, the State Government is to take 50% of the estimated cost. I appeal to the hon. Members who are keen for road over-bridges to take up with the State Governments. So far as the Railways are concerned, we have no problem to meet the other 50% portion of the share.

Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik Ji has mentioned about road over-bridge in Haryana. It is lying with the State Government. The moment it is cleared, there will be no problem on the part of the railways to proceed further.

Hon. and good friend Shri Amal Datta Ji has made many references. He placed vital emphasis on research and also mentioned that the allocation of Rs. 5 crores is insufficient for research. We have an Organisation RDSO. This is certainly doing a great job. Shri Amal Datta Ji has mentioned about Rs. 5 crores. It is Rs. 5 crores. But in the Budget itself, we have ear-marked about Rs. 21 crores for recurring expenditure. Research is one of the basic factors which we have to encourage. Now, they are coming out with Plans and I quote:

“...A technology development Plan has been prepared by the RDSO which envisages an investment of Rs. 280 crores under this Plan. It is proposed to develop Railway technology within the country to come at par with the developed countries...”

So, Sir, we are very conscious about all these things. We have taken necessary, required steps for the augmentation of research work and for the encouragement to the research scientists, engineers and others.

One of the most important point which we are facing is about conservation of energy. In any case, we are going to phase-out the steam traction by the end of 2000 AD. This was also raised by hon. Shri Ramaiah. He said that we should phase-out the steam traction. It is a laid down policy. But at the same time, we are concentrating on electric traction and diesel traction so much so there will be conservation of energy in this way.

One hon. Member Shri Ayub Khan made a very good point that in the light of the advancement of science and technology why not we have a communication system among the Guard, Driver and the Control Room. Railways are working on it and shortly it will be introduced between the electrified section like Durg-Nagpur which is on Howrah-Bombay route; between Nagpur-Itarsi or Delhi-Madras route and Itarsi-Bhusawal or Delhi-Bombay route which will be about a distance of 862 Kms. With this approach, the communication among the Guard, Driver and Control Room will be covered. At the same time, work has also been sanctioned on the Delhi-Mugalsari section covering a distance of 750 route Kms. on the Delhi-Howrah Rajdhani route. We are trying to take advantage of the advancement of telecommunication and other scientific aspects of it.

Another hon. Member Dr. Shridharan desired that the Villupuram-Madurai section should be taken up for electrification. This is not possible because of the traffic density and other factors....(Interruptions)

Again, hon. Member Shri Ayub Khan desired Delhi-Ahmedabad conversion. This is a dense trunk route which is really functioning very well and if we go for it, it will need a huge investment, which will disrupt the Metre-gauge location itself because different routes are connected with this.

[Translation]

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda): Will the 'Shatabadi Express' pass through your constituency?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: After passing through my constituency, it will go to your constituency.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I would like them to clarify if they will take a definite stand or whether they are going to convert the Metre-Gauge to Broad-Gauge everywhere or whether they are going to stop it or whether they are going to upgrade the Metre-Gauge or whether they are stopping this conversion altogether. A policy decision has to be taken by the Government. It cannot be postponed anymore. They are not saying anything on that.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: So far as the Metre-Gauge is concerned, for example, the Delhi-Ahmedabad Metre-Gauge was upgraded. (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR (Bhilwara): How can the conversion be alternatively replaced by this upgradation?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: It is not by mixing up. Conversion is different. This has been upgraded in the sense to meet the speeding up of the train. (Interruptions)

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: If it is speeding up of the train, that is all right. But conversion cannot take place with upgradation.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: That is what I am telling. It is not the alternative to convert the Delhi-Ahmedabad section. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government for the last so many years have been giving assurance for the conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad metre gauge into broad gauge, but till date neither the conversion nor the upgradation of the line has been completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't interrupt. The question of conversion of Delhi-Ahmedabad railway line is being discussed.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: This demand is being raised constantly. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: There are eleven gauge conversions in the pipeline and 24 new lines are in the pipeline. It needs, at the moment, Rs. 3,500 crores for its completion. Keeping in view the constraints of funds, we had to take a decision like that. However, the Government has to strengthen the MG lines. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: By when Delhi-Ahmedabad line be doubled (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. This is not Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Is it a policy decision that you are going to upgrade and not convert any more lines?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt. Kindly take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: That aspect will be replied to tomorrow by the Minister.

Dr. Sridharan desired that the Chengalpeta-Madurai section be doubled. Doubling of railway line is carried out as per the traffic needs. Traffic intensive and saturated sections are given priority. Traffic moving in this section does not require doubling for the present. It will be considered as and when the need develops.

As regards more funds for Karur-Dindigal project is concerned, I would like to mention that suitable higher amount of Rs. 18 crores has been earmarked in this year's Budget. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANBARASU ERA (Madras Central): That is a very very meagre sum. This project has been pending for the last fifteen years. When the previous Member Shri K. D. Kothandaraman was there, he fought for this project for a long time. And now you are allocating this paltry sum for this. It is a very meagre sum. Kindly come forward with some more funds. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I do not have to say anything. Whatever amount is allocated by the Planning Commission for the construction of new lines, this is the share that Karur-Dindigal line could get. At the same time, Karur-Madurai parallel broad gauge line is in progress. That will be completed by 1992-93.

Another Member Shri Wasnik desired that the Jalana-Badaun line, for which survey has been carried out should be taken up for construction. The anticipated cost for this 165 kilo metre long line has been estimated at Rs. 133 crores as per the survey report. The rate of return of the project was negative, making the project financially not viable. Due to

constraint of resources the project has not been taken up.

Shri Dharam Pal Singh has mentioned about more trains between Delhi and Sonapat. Already, there are twenty pairs of trains running and out of it ten pairs are the passenger trains. This is the present position.

14.09 hrs. [SHRI P. M. SAYEED
in the Chair.]

Shrimati B. Rajeswari raised the point about the freight payment for coal passage by the Karnataka State Electricity Board. I am glad to inform the hon. Member that with the new augmentation in the transport capacity by the shortest route, coal is now moving by the shortest route and freight charges are being levied accordingly. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: With these words, I conclude my speech with great hope and anticipation from the hon. Members that they will understand the inherent reality. I thank you very much. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister gave an assurance regarding Patna-Gaya railway line. He himself admitted in the house the demand of doubling the Patna line. This railway line is necessary but the work can't be started due to lack of funds. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is a proposal for doubling the Patna-Gaya railway line? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh, tomorrow the hon. Minister will speak in the House. You bring all your points to the notice of the hon. Minister, which will be replied by him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATTYA (Ujjain): I want to draw the attention towards a very important issue of stoppage of coal transportation. (*Interruptions*) Whole of the industry is in danger, due to stoppage of coal transportation, due to shortage of wagons. As the required number of wagons are not available for transporting coal, the entire industry is on the verge of closure.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): At the time of introducing the Railway Budget, we pleaded with the Railway Minister for reinstatement of victimised Railway force. He has to reply for it.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please remain present in the House when the hon. Railway Minister gives reply and then you may seek clarifications.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kankar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Railways play a pivotal role in the nation's life both in terms of transportation and industrialisation. In our country Railways is a vital organisation and is employing approximately 18.5 lakh people. Railway network did expand before independence as well as after independence, but the pace of expansion did slow down after 1947. For the development of backward regions of the country, every effort needs to be made by the Government of India to expand the railway network.

In the budget speech, the hon. Minister of Railways laid emphasis on the replacement of coaches. Railways has 28,000 coaches and the need of replacing 5,500 coaches has been underlined. But how can so many coaches be replaced as the target of replacing coaches is just 500 annually. It will take too many years for completing this work of replacement of coaches. Some steps need to be taken, to expedite the

replacement of coaches so as to improve the functioning of railways. In the annual plan the allocation has been increased by just Rs. 325 crore for 1991-92. I would like to impress upon the Government of India to further increase the size of annual plan, as the increase of Rs. 325 crore is not a modest increase, but only a meagre increase to facilitate the Ministry of Railways in improving the railway facilities in the country.

Sir, through you I would like to highlight the demands of my region and of my constituency. The laying of Dalli-Rajhara-Bailadila line on South Central Railway is under consideration of the Ministry for many years.

Though the railway line was proposed to be constructed from Dalli-Rajhara to Bailadila to meet the requirements of the Ministry of Steel and Mines but as per the latest information the necessity to fulfil the requirements of Ravghat is being considered more important than that of Bailadila. Therefore, my submission is that the Ministry of Railways as well as the Government of India should review the situation and the line should be extended from Dalli-Rajhara to Bailadila rather than to Ravghat so that the backward area of Bastar district can avail the facility of railway line. When good quality of mines are already in operation, there is no need to open other mines. Iron ore can be extracted from the existing mines. It would be useful in two ways—the quality would improve and the railway facility would also be provided to this area. I think that by connecting Bailadila it would become easy to provide iron ore not only to Bhilai Steel Plant but also to other steel plants of the country at the time of emergency.

Therefore, I would like the Government to review the proposal, because it would be a major source to connect Dallerajhara to Bailadila. The project should be expedited so that the work may be started at the earliest and the Bhilai Steel Plant gets the supply of iron ore in time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Raipur-Dhamtari is a narrow gauge line and there has been a long standing demand of converting it into broad gauge. I would urge upon the Minister to take measures to fulfil this demand.

Similarly if one wants to go to Central India from Jabalpur, Gondia via Varanasi, Lucknow, Allahabad etc. one has to move via Itarasi, Raipur to reach Central India. If Jabalpur-Gondia line is connected, it would provide a shortcut to reach the Central India through Grand Trunk route from Allahabad and Varanasi. I would like the Ministry to pay its attention on this point.

A railway line has been constructed from Bechak to Bailadila in collaboration with Japan. Since its construction it is being used to transport iron ore only. I would like that a common train to be used for passenger traffic and transporting goods should be run here so that the things of common use can be transported to the people of this area and the can avail of the railway facilities. The Hon. Minister, in this way your State and our State will have a link with each other.

There are captive mines, a plant and a railway yard in my constituency Dalli-Rajhara. A large tract of Railway land is lying vacant there where the employees working in mines and many other people have built their house on it and still considerable land is lying unacquired there. I would like the people who live on that land at Dalli-Rajhara line may be settled there so that the basic facilities like water, electricity etc. are provided to them and roads are constructed there. Until the concerned Ministry takes initiative in this respect, people of that area would not be able to get the basic facilities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there has also been a long standing demand for the construction of an over-bridge in Bhillai. When Shri Madhavrao Scin-

dia was the Minister of Railways and Shri Vora was the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, an assurance to construct an over-bridge there was given. I would like that the bridge should be constructed immediately so that the traffic bottleneck may be removed.

Similarly, there is a vast scope of improvement in regard to the catering facilities in Railways. I would like the hon. Minister to pay his attention to it.

Today, the feeling of insecurity in the minds of people is increasing day by day. Special attention should be paid towards this also. Attention should be paid to the cleanliness in trains. I hope the hon. Minister will pay his attention towards this.

A train named "Samta Express" has been started from Vishakhapatnam to Delhi via Raipur, Nagpur. I would like to state that this train should be run every day so that people of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh may have some relief. I would like the hon. Minister to pay his attention towards this and take action. Thank you.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Railway Budget of this year is like stale food which is reheated and served.....

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): Perhaps, you are following the same practice, sometimes at your home?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: No, we do not follow it. Give us a chance and we will let you know how it is done. I have merely stated how you do it....(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): Kindly stop giving running commentary, otherwise you will be cutting short your own time.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: As I have already stated that this Budget is very much like old Budget with minor modifications. It neither provide facilities to common people nor proposes any improvement in services.

Sir, though a lot has been said and the Minister of Railways has stated that successful efforts have been made in regard to transportation of goods. The account of goods transported has been shown in tonnes. My submission is that it is true that efforts have been made to transport maximum quantity of goods, but if we review the whole situation it becomes evident that the majority of goods which have been transported are coal, cement, food-grains and petroleum products and the goods which were left include cotton, sugar, edible oil, because 89-90 wagons are available for the coal, cement etc. and no more capacity is left for these things. Every point was considered in respect of transportation of goods but no consideration has been made in respect of industries specially sick industries.

There are sick industries in Madhya Pradesh. My submission is that 40 to 45 per cent transportation is that of coal and even the full quantity of coal cannot be transported through railway wagons. It has to be sent afterwards also. If we take account of the position, we find that a goods train with 30 wagons takes about 1700 tonnes of coal in one trip. If the same quantity of coal is taken through road transport, about 150 trucks will have to be engaged. My submission is that maximum quantity of coal should be transported through trains, and actually it is not being done, particularly in Madhya Pradesh. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Minister that the loading and transportation of coal are not being done properly in Madhya Pradesh, making sick industries more sick, thus creating labour problem.

In case of Indore, there are only 149 wagons or 5 trains provided for the transportation of coal. Thus only 45 per cent of coal in January, 30 per cent in May and 15 per cent in June was transported. In Ujjain coal transportation did not even take place during these two months. The same is the case with Bhopal and Rajnandgaon, Bumpur etc. Thus the whole of Madhya Pradesh remained neglected due to which industries are suffering a lot there. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards it. My submission is that we should make better utilisation of transport capacity. Sometimes unloading takes place at fixed time. The fixed time for unloading coal is 5 hours. But if the unloading is not done in the fixed time, the wagons remain unused even for the next day. They cannot be used elsewhere. During the second world war, unloading was went on day and night with the result the cotton industry never suffered. Therefore, this practice of unloading in a fixed time should be stopped and it should be done day and night, so that the wagons should not remain unused. For loading also, the wagons remain lying unused for two-three days. In this regard, the hon. Minister can say that demurrage charges are taken. But we should not only think of demurrage charges. We should think about the entire industry, about maximum loading and maximum utilisation of wagons. Other items are transported by road. Railway transportation facility should also be provided for these items. In this way, the entire wagon capacity will be available for coal. It has been mentioned that the employees should perform their duties with full enthusiasm and devotion. The coaches of passenger trains are also in worse condition as the wagons of goods trains are. The hon. Minister should go himself and observe the condition of the wagons of goods trains and the coach of the guard. I have myself seen the condition of trains running between Ujjain and Indore in Madhya Pradesh. Since I have to speak,

I have inspected all these things. I was told that both the engine driver and guard have indicator of a particular pressure. But the said indicator was missing from the guard's coach. I asked him how does he come to know about the movement without indicator. He said, he just makes a guess. It seems that the trains are running at the God's mercy. It is different, if we work at the God's mercy...*(Interruptions)*... I have myself seen the condition of the passenger coaches and goods wagons. Some may not believe in God but the trains are running at God's mercy. Indicators are missing from the Guards coaches. Once the necessary nuts and bolts come out, no one bothers to check and replace them. The hon. Minister says that the employees should work with devotion. They fulfil the dream, but it will not be possible in this way...*(Interruptions)*. I need time to express my views.

SHRI RAJNATH SANKAR SHASHTRI: Where is the hon. Minister gone, when discussion is going on on the Railway Budget. This is gross disrespect of the House...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has gone with my permission.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: The hon. Minister has come back. My speech will not go at the God's mercy. The condition of passenger coaches is as worse as earlier. Last year also, I have mentioned it in this House that the train running between Indore and Bilaspur is in a pitiable condition. Besides this, there are other things also, such as non compliance of the railway rules. The coaches meant for military personnel are attached from Bhopal whereas this train starts from Indore. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this train. This train is not regular. The metre gauge line in Indore.....

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): What does the hon. Member mean? Should one depend on God's mercy?

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: I want to say that one should do one's work with faith in God. In fact Indore is an important region in respect of industry, revenue and other things, though the entire Madhya Pradesh is an important region. In spite of all these things, the entire Madhya Pradesh is neglected so far as railway facilities are concerned. Similarly, my constituency Indore is also neglected in this respect. Every year, there is little increase in the Budget allocations for the Maksi-Indore-Dahod line. Although this Project is estimated at Rs. 300 crore, last year the allocation was Rs. 5 crore only and in the current year, an amount of Rs. 11 crore has been provided. How long it will take to complete this project, if the funds are provided in this manner. It will take 30-35 years. I would request that this project should be completed at the earliest. The current allocation in this regard is like a drop in the Ocean.

The Khadwa-Ajmer line from Indore is 108 year old. No attention was paid to it before independence or in these forty years of their rule. This line should be improved. This is an important railway track, but no effort has been made to bring about improvement in it. Last year also, I had mentioned about this track in my speech last year too. But, it appears that due to the continuous change in Government and Ministers, no progress is being made in this regard and the public has to face hardships. I would request the hon. Minister that even if the Ministers change, the papers and the schemes should be maintained and attention should be paid to them and the necessary improvements should be brought about.

Passenger fare and freight rates have also been increased. While announcing this increase, it was said that this is a slight increase. On paper, it appears to be slight, but I would like to draw your attention to this

[Smt. Sumitra Mahajan]

fact that for the last three years, there has been a gradual increase which has totalled to nearby 40 per cent. It has also been said that this increase in freight rates and passenger fare will not affect the people. But, I would like to submit that despite the fact that freight rates on essential commodities has not been increased, it will affect the people, as it would lead to price-rise. It may be so that in comparison to other countries, there might not be much increase in prices in our country. But, actually, the wages of people in our country are very meagre in comparison to other countries. They have provided very negligible relief in comparison to the heavy burden they have imposed on the people. And this is too much for the people of this poor country. I oppose this increase.

Regarding development of Madhya Pradesh, very little attention has been paid to it. Some attention should also be paid to it. A new train, like Rajdhani Express, has been introduced from Bombay. But there is not even a single stoppage in the entire Madhya Pradesh. Rajdhani Express stops at Ratlam. Therefore, there should be a stoppage of this new train at Nagda, if not at Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL (Godda):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Railway—Budget presented by the hon. Minister of Railways truly reflects the saying, penny wise pound foolish. The increase in the IInd class fare is a burden on the poor. I would like to submit before this House that it has no knowledge about the lower levels of the Railways. During 1966 to 1969 I was an ordinary employee in the Asansol division of the Railways with a monthly income of Rs. 52 only. If they really want to improve the Railways, they should check the malprac-

tices that are prevalent in the Railways, such as big contracts for goods transportation. Everything can be set right if malpractices are brought under control.

Secondly, every year, the Ministry has to pay a huge amount in settlement of claims for lost goods at every station. The railway booking staff also have a hand in it. For example ten pieces of an item are booked. One piece is stolen and then the claim is made for all the ten pieces.

Same is the case with the R.P.F. which is known in jest, as “Ration Pani Free”. These people should also be prevented from indulging in such malpractices. Only then, there can be improvement. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a lot to say, but due to the shortage of time, I will only say that it is the corruption which is responsible for losses to the Railways. The suppliers, who supply goods to the Railway Board are in connivance with the employees of the Railway Board and supply their goods at higher rates.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, after independence, there has not been any noticeable improvement in the basic railway facilities in our area and consequently the people are facing a lot of difficulties. Our area contributes 40% of the total coal production in the country. Although coal is transported by rails from our Jharkhand region, not even a single inch of railway track has been laid in this area, since independence. Even today the same passenger train passes through that area which passed through prior to my birth. The condition has not changed even a wee bit. Even today, I travel by that very train to my constituency. New trains are introduced in those areas, where there are already too many trains. While, trains catering to the poor people are almost negligible or nil, the number of

Air Conditioned trains, Superfast trains like Shaabadi Express, is being increased. We have very few trains in our region, but if you go to Calcutta, especially Howrah station, you will see multitude of the people emerging out of the various trains. The Asansol-Burdwan line is yet to be constructed, China-Clay is available in plenty in Paharpur-Rajmahal spread over a 20 Kilometre area and a railway line should be constructed between Nalmatiya and Farakka, for its transportation. What can be worse than this, that to date you have not been able to construct even an 88 kilometre railway line in that area out of which 80 kilometres falls within the Santhal Pargana, while the rest of 8 kilometres are in West Bengal. Even the Railway office has been set up at Malda. Moreover, none of the persons, whose land has been acquired by the Railways, in that 80 kilometre area of Santhal Pargana, has been provided with any kind of employment and whatever meagre facilities were there, have been shifted to Malda. When Shri Ghani Khan Chowdhury was the Railway Minister, he established a Railway Division at Malda. The Loco shed situated in Madhupur in our region too was shifted to Malda, the moment Shri Chowdhury became the Railway Minister. When Shri Scindia took charge as the Railway Minister, he introduced Shatabdi Express upto Gwalior, but when it came to our region, he too turned a blind eye. No Railway Minister, including Shri Jagdish Narayan Mandal, paid any attention towards Santhal Pargana. Earlier our headquarter was based at Dumka. Later on, Santhal Pargana was made a separate district, then a Railway Division and an office of the Divisional Commissioner was also set up, but to date no railway line has been constructed and the existing facilities have not been expanded. You had to lay just 67 kilometres of railway line, at an estimated cost of Rs. 27 crores, but nothing was done. The Railways are earning millions of rupees from transportation of coal and iron ore from our region, but they are reluctant to construct a 67 kilometre rail

strip. You could not arrange an amount of Rs. 27 crores for an area, from where you are minting millions. Thus, railway did not make any contribution towards the development of Santhal Pargana. Much before independence, there was a temple atop Mandar Hill. Lakhs of people used to walk on foot all the way from Bhagalpur to the Mandar hills to pay obeisance to the Deity. A Railway line was constructed upto Mandar Hill for the convenience of the devotees, but no effort has been made since independence, to fulfil the long pending demand of the people of that region, to extend that railway line upto the district headquarters at Godda, which is also incidentally my constituency and located barely 20 kilometres away from Mandar Hill.

Do you know why there is no industry worth the name in Santhal Pargana, despite the fact that it is rich in natural resources like coal, iron; China-Clay etc.? It is only because the transportation facilities are inadequate. Industrialists who plan to set up industries there, change their mind once they come to know about the lack of transportation and other infrastructural facilities there. As I said earlier, to date no effort has been made to improve the railway facilities there. I request the hon. Railway Minister to stand by the assurance given on 5-3-1987 by the Government in this very House in response to question No 1380 raised by an hon. Member Shri Salakuddin Ansari that the railway facilities in that area would be improved and railway network expanded, on the availability of adequate funds. A survey committee was also constituted at that time. Another committee consisting of then the hon. M.Ps was also formed to over see the construction of railway lines in our area. The Government received its report long back, but so far no action has been taken on the recommendations of that committee.

I would like to know by when you purpose to lay the railway tracks and

[Sh. Suraj Mandal]

expand railway services in Santhal Pargana. Is it that only the squeaking wheel will get the oil or do you propose to make available railway facilities to the poor and helpless also who bear everything silently and do not protest or agitate? Today, 70 per cent of the tribals lead a hand to mouth existence, they do not get even two square meals a day and do not possess adequate clothes to even cover themselves. How much more time will you take to construct a railway line upto the headquarters to Santhal Pargana. Do you have any plans to do so or not? If not, I would like to make one thing clear that the local populace won't allow you to take even a particle of coal and iron ore. They won't hesitate to block the railway tracks. Coal mined at the S.P. Mines in Santhal Pargana is sent to the Barauni Thermal Power Station and many other places but because no railway facilities like sidings exist there, the coal is loaded into trucks and sent to the Salanpur Yard situated in West Bengal. Although coal is produced at the S.P. Mines, the Sales Centre is shown in the documents as Salanpur. Thus, the Bihar Government is deprived of the sales tax also, as the sales takes place in West Bengal, causing loss of lakhs of rupees to the State Government. There used to be a P.W.I. siding for the use of Eastern Coal fields limited at the Vidyasagar Railway Station, where goods were loaded and unloaded, but today even that Siding is non-functional. In this regard, I had written to the Managing Director of E.C.L. (Eastern Coalfields Limited) and when I was a Member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly, I referred this matter to the then Union Railway Minister, Shri George Fernandes but he replied that it was not a suitable place to construct a siding. This, a siding which could be constructed with a little amount, was not built. You would be surprised to know that E.C.L. set apart a handsome amount of Rupees two crores for the modernization plans of the Railways which

include estimate of jeeps also. However, when it came to the construction of a siding, they backed out saying that they cannot afford the construction a siding. Thus, the siding was not constructed, as a result of which coal is transported in tracks to Salanpur, which lies 66 kilometres away from the mines. The Vidyasagar Railway Station is at a distance of just 24 kilometres from the S.P. Mines and it would be better if you lay a railway line from Madhupur to Vidyasagar and then extend it to Dumka and then via the coal mines at Palasthali Guru to Seemlong. Right now, coal is transported in trucks from Rajmahal to Farakka. Thus, construction of a railway line has become very necessary. If a line is laid, it would not only enrich you through freight charges, but would also accelerate the development process in the area. Therefore, I request the hon. Railway Minister to provide railway facilities to the local population, by constructing a railway line there.

Sir, now I would like to speak a few words about Ranchi, the headquarter of Santhal Pargana. Offices overseeing development works all over Bihar are located there, but the people of Santhal Pargana have no trains to reach Ranchi. All the bureaucrats sit in Delhi. During the tenure of the previous Government, we received a reply from the then hon. Minister of Railways in response to our letter to him, that he had got examined our request from the officers and that in their opinion, it was not feasible. We are the representatives of the people, therefore, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should pay more attention to the views and opinions of the people's representatives and not to the reports submitted by Government officials.

Sir, there is a great need to introduce a train in the evening between Jasdih and Ranchi. Today, there are superfast trains including ones like Shatabdi Express that links Delhi with the various State capitals and major cities like Jaipur and Gwalior,

but no Superfast train plies between Delhi and Ranchi. You do not want to provide even basic transport facilities to the people there. Then how can Bihar or that region make progress? There is only one train, namely Chandigarh Express, that links Delhi with Ranchi, but this one which starts from Chandigarh goes via Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Khajuraho, Singrauli etc. reaches Ranchi after three days. Therefore, it is my earnest request to the hon. Minister that a superfast train linking Delhi with Ranchi should be introduced soon. Moreover, I would also like to submit that the demands for introducing trains at many places plying on the Patna-Mughalsaraj-Howrah routes, should be fulfilled. Only then we would be able to provide some convenience to the common people, the poor and the farmers.

Sir, I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards goods trains service and ticketless travellers. Similarly, there are so many complaints about the bunglings in reservation. A visit to the Patna Reservation Office would be an enlightening one, in this regard. There seats are reserved under bogus names. One day, I went there to purchase a ticket for Howrah.

A man who keeps standing there asks every person who buys ticket if he wants reservation and if so, to which place. He enquired from me as well and I asked upto what point could he manage reservation for me. He replied that he could immediately manage reservation for me as per my need. They are in league with the booking office. If you pay them twenty five rupees you will get reservation for any destination in India. You go to the Station and you will find that the people who buy tickets do not get reservation. The conductor would look at the Sardarji, who in turn would make gestures with his hand and the conductor will take him comfortably in A.C. two-tier. Same is the case with Patna reservation office. It has become the normal practice that the upper berths are given to

M.L.As and the people who bribed the conductors, will get comfortable berths of their choice, where, they can sleep also easily throughout their journey. You just imagine the fun that the people travelling without ticket are getting more and more facilities and the ticket-holders are being ignored. The employees of the Ministry of Railways are creating this feeling among the people that ticketless passengers get more facilities, than the ticket-holders. Therefore, they have to adopt a short cut method and get suitable berths by bribing the conductors. These wrong practices should be stopped. With these words, I thank everyone and urge the Government to construct the railway lines in Santhal Pargana, Jasidiha, Dumka and Godda and I hope that it would be done in right earnest.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri):
 Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to take part in the discussion on the Railway Budget with a mixed feeling. The hon. Railway Minister has to be complimented for taking care not to have an excessive dose in the railway fares for the people and his proposals to take certain steps to streamline the railway administration and also the steps he has taken to improve the conditions of the railway employees. But on the other hand, I am very much disillusioned that this Budget is nothing but a *status quo*; this Budget does not contain or reflect the flavour and dynamism which one would expect of a Minister of Shri Jaffer Sharief's nature, may be, because he may have been placed under predicament due to circumstances prevailing in the country, due to economic crunch and other difficulties beyond his control.

But I am more disillusioned, may I say, I am much disappointed about the attitude the railway has taken towards the needs of the people from my State, Kerala, more particularly the Malabar region. I do not know

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

why was the railway partisan towards the needs of that area? The railway should have taken into consideration the long association with the people of the Malabar region because of Railways century old line from Shoranur to Mangalore. But, I am sorry to say that there was not even a word to speak about that region in the Railway Minister's Budget speech let alone doubling of the line from Shoranur to Mangalore. Even the compartments in those areas are a century-old. Those compartments are living evidence to the fact that the railways have passed a century. If you want to see the history of the railways and we have century-old railways, it is better to see the compartments in our areas.

Why did you not have a Museum for Railways at least to keep those compartments as a replica of one century-old railways? Why should you put ramshackled compartments in our areas? Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to instruct the officers of the railways at least to consider the people of Malabar region as ordinary citizens of Indian who are paying the same fare as are being paid by the people elsewhere.

We are deprived of the new railway lines and also new other projects and trains was the project which the railways could take up for Kerala except the one from Kayamkulam to Alleppey or Trichur to Guruvayur? Why did not the railway taken up a proposed railway line from Kuttipuram to Guruvayur? If the line from Kuttipuram to Guruvayur will also be taken up, it will be very useful to the people of Malabar. This would help this neglected.

Another matter which I may just bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is concerning the Malabar especially Ernad area or which had taken part an important role in our freedom struggle. That is one area where there is no Railway and now there is one railway line. But even Nilambur-

Shoranur line has now proved to be uneconomical. But I am sorry to say that the Railways have not taken any interest to make it economically viable. The people want to use that railway especially on Sundays. The Railways have taken a peculiar stand that on Sundays there would be only one train instead usual two trains, daily. If new two trains would be allotted on that line that would make this more viable and it would have been possible to have trains from Nilambur to Calicut *via* Shoranur or Neelambore to Alleppy *via* Shoranur.

Therefore, in short I would say that the Railways have perhaps neglected this area completely and the provision made for the improvement of that section, may I say, is woefully inadequate for Kerala. Where a provision of Rs. 70 crores is necessary for taking up the doubling of the line from Trivandrum to Quilon, the Budget has provided only Rs. 5 crores and electrification, so far as Kerala is concerned, has not been attended to at any rate.

Therefore, I would take this opportunity to request the hon. Minister to pay some more attention for the development of this area particularly Malabar area. In this connection, may I make a proposal to the hon. Minister to take up a new line, a very short but very important one? That line, which I propose is from Nilambur to Feroke *via* Manjeri. This will serve two purposes. On the one hand it will make the Nilambur line more economically viable. On the other hand, the Railway will be doing a great service to the people who had made great sacrifices in the freedom movement, from the Ernad area.

Therefore, I strongly appeal to the hon. Minister to take appropriate steps for a new line. That line would also cover all the important industrial areas like Mavoor and Manjeri. Therefore, I take this opportunity to request the hon. Minister with what-

ever strength that I would be able to command, to take necessary steps to have this new line, namely Nilambur-Feroke via Manjeri.

Another important point which I just would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and through him to his Department is about the untapped resources of the Railways. The Railways should also make use of the resources—whatever is possible—which is within the jurisdiction of the Railways.

In this connection, I may request the hon. Minister to make use of a triangular land at from Shoranur. This area round the corner connect the line from Mangalore to Trivandrum and from Mangalore to Madras. This is a very important land and I should say it is commercially important area which the Railways can make use of for the purpose of railway operations as well as for commercial purposes.

I may also invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the increase in freight rates that the Minister has proposed, which according to me, is unbearable for a State like Kerala. Kerala in a consumer State. We have to bring everything from other States. But what is the position? The increase proposed now is only ten per cent according to the hon. Minister. It is true that it is ten per cent now. But in 1989-90 there was an increase of eleven to eighteen per cent.

15.00 hrs.

In 1990-91, there was again an increase of ten per cent. Now, there is an additional dose of ten per cent. So, in the span of three years, one has to pay about 38 per cent increase in the freight rate. A small State like Kerala will not be able to bear this increase. We have to bring all the raw materials like cement, iron and steel, coal from far-off places. So, the small industries in our State will not be able to bear this extra cost, which is due to the increase in the

freight rate. Therefore, the Government should also take into account the fact that it is 38 per cent and not 10 per cent that the people will be bearing.

I would just like to have one word about the employees, and especially the railway employees of the lower strata has not been taken care of in the matter of improvement. For example, there is a provision for running allowance. Running allowance has been given to the drivers and the guards. What about the carriage boys and TTEs? They are excluded because the Railways are of the view that it is given only for those who are responsible for running of the train. The Railway Station Masters filed a writ petition in the Court and said that they are also responsible for running of the train. But then the Railways took a view and said that they are not responsible for running the train and only the engine drivers and the guards are responsible...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Since the debate started, I have been listening to everybody. I appreciate and agree with the views of the hon. Members about higher allocations, regional development, passenger amenities, welfare of staff, etc. But what I expect from them is that they can help and educate me on freight and fare, whether they expect me to increase it or decrease it.

SHRI E. AHAMED: I appreciate the Minister's concern in this matter. But what I mean to say is this. The needs of the people in the lower strata of the Railways should also be taken care of.

I do not want to take much time of the House. I do not want to bring more points as the other Members are waiting to do it.

It is quite natural that the Minister who is incharge of Railways will have

[Sh. E. Ahamed]

problems which will be more complex in nature. Fortunately or unfortunately in our country there are three categories of Ministers. The first category Ministers are "Yes man Ministers". For example, the Ministers in charge of development. The Industry Minister cannot say 'no'. The Minister-in-charge of Commerce cannot say 'no'. The second category Ministers are "No man Ministers". They cannot say 'yes'. For example, the Finance Minister will not be able to say 'yes' because he will have to bear an excess burden. The third category of Ministers are "*Parkalam* Ministers". The late Shri Kamaraj was the first in the category of "*Parkalam* Ministers". I just put the Minister of Railways in the category of "*Parkalam* Ministers".

With these words, I support the Railway Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: (Chimur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Budget presented by the Minister of Railways this year keeping in view the present state of economy is a budget with a nominal surplus. He deserves to be thanked for his attempts to include in the budget some new projects and conversion of some metre gauge lines into broad gauge.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today there is a demand from all the parts of the country to construct railway lines and eradicate backwardness. From that point of view, construction of railway lines is a sentimental issue which is linked with the promotion of our economy. In the budget proposals, wherever the hon. Minister has proposed to construct new railway lines and convert some metre gauge lines into broad gauge lines, it may be all right for that particular area, but there must be some criteria in this regard. It has been observed till date that the political pressure has played a vital role in deciding to construct a new line or in conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge. However, the Vid-

arbha region, despite being backward and most needy, has always been a victim of apathy because the people did not voice their demands. Every year, we hope of some improvements in our region but in vain and this year also, the Budget has given us nothing. For years, we are living in this hope. We had high hopes from Jaffer Sharief Saheb because we have personal acquaintance with him but he also did not pay attention to our demands this year.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hail from backward areas of Vidarbha namely Bandara, Chandrapur and Gadhiroli. This traditionally tribal area is backward in every respect. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the Britishers ruled our country for one hundred and fifty years and they found our area to be backward but they realise its potential. The area has coal reserves, thick forests and rice is produced here and bamboos are sent from here to all parts of the country. Perhaps keeping in view the backwardness and the rich forests in that areas, which have high potentialities, the Britishers constructed a railway line in that area during their regime and that railway line is hundred years old. But unfortunately, the Ministry of Railways could not be able to see any potentiality in that area and whenever we repeated our demand of converting this metre gauge line into broad gauge, the Ministry overlooked our demand. I have been elected as a Member of the Lok Sabha for the third term and I have been constantly requesting you for the last ten years to convert the Chandrapur, Gondia and Jabalpur-Chandrapur-Gondia 242 kilometre narrow gauge into broad gauge. Every time we are told that due to paucity of funds, the work will be undertaken in the next Plan. We have reached the Eighth Plan period but no positive efforts have been made in this direction.

15.08 hrs. [SHRI SHARAD DIGHE
in the Chair]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to submit that since it is a backward and tribal area, no industry is set up here. Gadchirauli in Maharashtra is a 'no industry district'. Despite various types of relaxations, concessions and subsidies extended by the Central Government as well as the State Government continuously for six to eight years, no big industrialist has shown any interest to set up an industry there till date. The only reason behind this attitude of industrialists, is the absence of railway line. The industrialists are not interested to go there despite many benefits. Consequently, there is wide spread resentment and dissatisfaction among the youths due to lack of industrialization in the region while it has high potential. This resentment has pushed them into the Naxalite grid. Three or four days back, I had tried to draw the attention of Lok Sabha towards the growing menace of Naxalite activities in my area. This problem is assuming alarming proportion due to absence of facilities, guidance and non-utilisation of resources properly. I take this opportunity to inform the hon. Minister that the issue of railway line is linked with our sentiments and hence he should make efforts to convert this narrow gauge line. I will invite the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards this aspect. When Shri Madhava Rao Scindia was the Minister of Railways, I had met him and made a demand in this regard. He had issued directions to his officers to formulate a proposal in this regard. While processing the proposal it was stated that there was not sufficient passenger traffic on that railway line. He gave me the figures of eight days' revenue collection on that line as to Rs. 336 only. But for those eight days I handed over the photographs of the trains running on that route to the hon. Minister. You will be surprised to know that the number of

passengers sitting on the roof of the trains exceeded the number sitting inside the trains. Whereas the Ministry of Railways had furnished quite contradictory figures to the hon. Minister. Thereafter Railways have earned thousands of rupees in the course of their campaign against ticketless passengers. When they were informed about it they gave the assurance that the practice of travelling without ticket in vogue there would be curbed.

We are committed to the backward region, tribal region and the down-trodden. I would like to urge upon the Government that unless the conversion of railway line from Chandrapur to Gondia is undertaken, the people will continue to face great deal of hardship, because the people have to cover a long distance for boarding the train and they face a number of problems for sending their goods like rice, mats and coal. You are not acceding the long standing demand of the people for extending the train, which now runs between Chandrapur and Wadsa, upto Sondad. Secondly, there should be a broad gauge line from Nagpur to Umrer because coal is found at that place and coal is transported from there to thermal power station. There is a broad gauge line upto that place. If you extend that line from Umrer to Wadsa, which I think is only 80 kms. the industrialists will automatically run there to get the benefits of no-industry district i.e. Chandrapur and Gadchirauli.

In this budget you have ignored Vidarbha and Nagpur which are situated at the Centre of India. Trains from all over the country pass through Vidarbha region. This region has been neglected very much. Last time we were given an assurance that the direct trains from Nagpur to Bombay and Delhi would be started in the near future but we are very disappointed to see this budget in which you have not taken that into consideration at all. We could not

[Sh. Vilas Muttemwar]

find any reason as to why Nagpur and Vidarbha are often neglected despite a lot of assurances given to us time and again. Now I request you to assure us of not neglecting Nagpur and Vidarbha any more.

I would like to remind the Hon. Minister that Nagpur is an industrial area where a big Ordnance factory is situated. There are about 10 thousand employees in that factory and there is a long standing demand that a local train should be started from Nagpur central to Ambajhari Ordnance Factory. Nagpur is a big and developing city of Maharashtra and running of local train services have become necessary there. There is another demand for running a local train from Bhandara to Jawahar Nagar and Sarvatra Nagar where another ordnance factory is situated, in which about 8 to 10 thousands employees are working. I hope he will try to fulfil these demands. Further, I would like to request the hon. Minister to pay his attention towards the backward areas of Vidarbha region which is one of the fast developing region of the country. If the railway line between Chandrapur and Gondia is converted, it will reduce the distance by about 60 to 70 kms. as per the route through the National Highway. Due to this, traffic will increase on this route and the freight charges will also be reduced.

I, therefore, requesting you again to pay attention to all these points. There are certain other demands but I would not like to take more time. So I conclude my speech with the hope that this time you will not neglect Vidarbha and especially my area.

[English]

DR. VASANT NIWENTTI
PAWAR (Nasik): Mr. Chairman,
Sir, I rise to speak on Railway Budget and the Demands for Grants.

Railways is the life line of our country. It is largest in Asia and 2nd biggest in world. The reputation of the Indian Railways in the past was very good. But in the recent past it has been deteriorating very fast. The number of passengers travelling by Railways is to the tune of about two crores and recently it has increased by 5.17 per cent. I appreciate the Railway Minister for presenting this budget in this awkward condition but I hope that he will pay more attention to the consumer satisfaction and to the welfare of the travellers.

Usually we see that the condition of the wagons and the carriages is deteriorating very fast because they are getting very old. There is a shortage of 1,500 coaches and only 600 coaches are planned to be produced during 1990-91. I do not know how these 2,100 coaches are going to be acquired. Major steps should be taken in this direction.

I will request the Railway Minister that the new railway lines must be constructed in a planned way. He has already said that he is going to establish a task Force. The blue print on the planning and modernisation of the Railways in future is going on but still it has to acquire maximum speed.

Being a medical man, being a surgeon, I would like to say that whenever we are travelling in the train, the first-aid box in the coach is not having any medicines. No type of first-aid if it becomes necessary, is available in the Railways.

So far as the safety measures are concerned, for every death, the Railway Ministry pays Rs. two lakhs, but the procedure is very clumsy. It takes lot of time for the person concerned to get that money. It should be made easy.

If the men and material make mistakes, the accidents occur. At the

same time, accidents occur because of the old carriages and the old locomotives. The effect of the accidents is also on the minds of the people. People should have confidence in the Railways and feel that there would be no accidents. If the confidence of the people is lost, they will always hesitate to travel on the Railways.

So far as the punctuality is concerned, the train can come late but the passengers cannot. I would like to know why we should not have hundred per cent punctuality, which is at present more an exception than a rule. Unpunctuality leads to lot of losses, including loss of man-hour. If the wagons are not available or if they are delayed by more than twenty-four hours, then perishable items like grapes, onions and other fruits get damaged. It is a national wastage. So, I would request the Railway Minister to look into it and see that the farmers are not put to loss.

In the past, the trains were running at right time. On hearing the whistle of the train, the farmers used to know what time of the day it was. But now that is not the case. So, this also has to be taken care of.

Just now one of my friends has said about the corruption in the Railways. There is one agency. If you become a member of that agency, you can travel without ticket, and if you are caught without ticket, then whatever is the fine, it will be paid by that agency. This is a type of an insurance which is going on. So, this also is to be thought about. People are taking a chance because hundred per cent without ticket travellers are not being caught.

The Railway Minister has said about the privatisation of the stalls. It is very good that he has started working in the direction of privatisation. I think this is a good step and this will improve the efficiency of the Railways. So far as Maha-

ashtra is concerned, Konkan Railways has made a provision. But that is a very meagre provision and that will take years for completion. The demand has been put up by the people of Konkan area and Maharashtra. We should not deprive the facility for a long time to them. Another problem in Maharashtra is nearby to the railways, slums are being erected. When there are slums nearby to railways there is a danger to the human life and it will also cause hindrance to the punctuality of the trains. The Government of Maharashtra has given a proposal that the slums must be kept at a distance of 30 feet away from the railway line. But the Railway Minister has refused that. The Railway Board has refused to give that land. They have demanded about 6.25 per cent rent per year on the market value. No alternative land can be given by the Maharashtra Government. The people living in the slum areas cannot afford this big 6.25 per cent rent per year. So the solution will be one per cent rent for the land to be given on long lease. Then only the people living in the slum areas near the tracks will get the land and trains will also run on time.

CIDCO of Maharashtra has given an offer of bearing two-thirds cost in construction of Sanpada station on Belapur-Mankhurd line. The proposal is still lying in the Railway Ministry. No approval has yet been given. May I request the Railway Minister to please look into it?

About my constituency, Nasik, I may mention that next month we are going to have a Kumbh Mela at Nasik where millions of people from all over the country are going to come to Nasik and Trambakeswar. For providing better transport facilities, special trains must be started. I request the Hon'ble Minister that Nasik Road railway station should be upgraded and made a terminus. I propose a new railway line from

[Dr. Vasant Niwentti Pawar]

Pune to Nasik Road to Surat. It will connect two States and three industrial towns in two different States. The Adivasi population will also get the benefit of it.

As far as Panchavati Express is concerned, it is already too much overloaded. I request the Hon'ble Minister to start a parallel Panchavati Express between Manmad and Bombay, leaving both stations at the same time. If not, I will request the Hon'ble Minister to attach a special first class bogie to the existing train. Whenever I travel in first class I find so many people standing in the coach, not getting a seat.

The quota of reservation at Nasik Road must also be increased because the traffic is increasing. The computer reservation facility should be made available at Nasik Road. About the Nasik Road Railway Institute of Electrical Engineering at Nasik, the anticipated cost of the proposal is Rs. 90.28 lakhs. But the provision in the Demands for Grants is only Rs. one lakh. That is not going to improve the position. For rehabilitation of the SLS and traction motor frames the cost is Rs. 2.62 crores but the provision is only Rs. 48.27 lakhs. That is not going to improve the situation. I will request the Hon'ble Minister to please look into the matter.

I am happy that railway overbridges are being constructed at Lasalgaon—the biggest market of the country—Niphad and at Odha in my constituency. With this the transport facilities will increase and it will help the farmers. There is a demand for a railway gate at village Kusumadi in Yeola taluka. There are so many deaths that took place at this site. I request the Hon'ble Minister to provide a railway gate at Kusumadi in Yeola taluk.

About the family members of the deceased railway employees, I request that railway stalls should be

reserved for them so that they can also earn something and so that the privatisation policy will also prove to be good.

As a last point I would submit to the Railway Minister, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that there should be some research activity going on in the country so far as the railway is concerned, as well as there should be a scheme for railway education of the common man so that the common man will know that the Railways are the national properties and he should not try to destroy them any more.

Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI (Autonomous District): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would say that the Railway Budget is a very cleverly manipulated one. It has gone against the interest of the common man. Not only that. It has gone against even the Congress(1)'s poll manifesto and also it has gone against the President's Address. The Congress(1) declared that they will check the price rise within 100 days. But by this Railway Budget they themselves have increased the fares and freight of the goods transported through Railways and the increase in fares itself again has inflationary effect and it will further increase the prices of essential commodities.

Again, in the President's Address it was said that the Government will pay attention to Assam when it needs. But the longstanding demand of the people of Assam and North-East is to convert the existing metre gauge between Guwahati and Tinsukia into broad gauge. But this Budget has failed to give a complete commitment in this regard. Yes, we definitely understand the limitations and constraints, but seeing the magnitude of the problem, the socio-economic problem, and the demand being a longstanding one, at least it should have got priority.

Then, the Railway line between Guwahati and Dibrugarh is not only for the State of Assam, it is very much essential for the entire North-East region—Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya. So, I hope the hon. Minister will review and also give a commitment that the existing metre gauge will be converted into broad gauge between Guwahati and Dibrugarh.

Secondly, there is also a long-standing demand in Assam that they also have Divisional Headquarters at Rangiya and this is very much essential for the smooth administrative functioning and also to fulfil the aspirations of the local people there and in this regard also the Railway Budget is silent and I hope the hon. Minister will review this also and a Divisional Headquarters under N.F. Railway at Rangiya will be established soon.

Another point which I would like to bring to his attention is that I belong to a very backward area, i.e., the Hill Districts of Assam, and I represent both the Hill Districts of Assam and there the Headquarters is Diphu, and we have a railway station there. But some of the long-distance trains like the North-East Express, Tinsukia Mail and Assam Mail do not stop there. Only one of them stops there. But this is a District Headquarters of both the Hill Districts. So, I also request the hon. Minister to look into this problem and at least the long-distance trains, viz. North-East Express, Tinsukia Mail and Assam Mail, should have a stop at Diphu.

Then, so many hon. Members have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister about the corruption. Here, I would like to pinpoint only one aspect of the corruption. In our district, there is plenty of teak and other forest products and smuggling is going on for quite sometime. After

our party came to power in the Autonomous District Council under which the management of forest comes, we took very strict measures and smuggling of timber and teak-wood had stopped by road. But unfortunately we detected so many cases where the smuggled logs and timbers are booked by the Railways without proper documents of the Forest Department and the District Council. We have detected two or three cases and then we approached the divisional railway officials and the concerned station masters. At that time, they could not produce any papers and even they failed to identify the persons who had booked these valuable teak timbers. Then, we tried to prosecute these station masters concerned who have indulged in such corrupt practices. But from Malegaon district headquarters, they have been transferred to some other place and so we could not prosecute them.

Here, I would like to specifically point out to the hon. Minister that from my district of Karbi Anglong, timber is being booked without any proper document in Bokajan and Lumding railway stations. So, by our strict vigilance, smuggling by road is not possible now. But corruption is rampant in the Railways. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this matter.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:
Will you kindly write to me?

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI: I
will definitely write to you.

Sir, I hope that the growing trend of privatisation would not affect the lower class employees who are employed in catering and other spheres of Railways. I hope the hon. Minister will take adequate steps so that the growing needs of the people of North East are fulfilled.

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the Railway Budget. The Railway has an important role in the progress of the country and in the service of the society. But unfortunately, neither the public nor the travellers and the employees of this department are satisfied with it. At the same time it is not playing its role satisfactorily in the country's progress. Though, I know that Shri Jaffer Sharief is in no way responsible for the failure of this department as he has assumed charge of this office recently. The people are very much dissatisfied with the bad condition of this department. This has not done any commendable work in any sphere. This is correct that Shri Jaffer Sharief cannot be held responsible for this situation but he too has not given any indication in the Railway-budget that he has presented here, which may assure us that this important department of the country will render effective service to the public or will fulfil the expectations of the development of the country.

Unfortunately, there is a proposal of hiking the fare instead of providing relief to the public in the Railway-Budget presented by the hon. Minister. Instead of making available commodities to the consumers at cheap rates, freight has been increased, which will ultimately cause price-rise. It is obvious from this budget that the increase in freight rates will lead to price-rise which is not conducive to the welfare of the country and the society.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this budget will affect the prices of commodities which will cause hardship to the common man. In this budget the Hon. Minister has not proposed any step, which may assure the people of any relief in the future. From this budget neither the public nor the employees of this department are happy. It has not created any confidence in the society. The employees are much harassed due to

injustice being done with them by the department itself.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the largest Railway colonies of Asia—Kishanganj, Sarai Rohilla and D.C.M. Colony fall in my constituency. The residents of those colonies had invited me and appraised me of their problems. They gave me a memorandum. Mismanagement of their department is mentioned in their memorandum which is here in my hand. On the basis of this memorandum I had written a letter to the hon. Railway Minister and I had made certain queries also from the Railway-department. Sir, through you I urge the Railway Minister to give jobs to the wards of the class-IV Railway employees and to allow them to retain their quarters in which they are residing so that they may not have to face hardship. This assurance should be given to them by the Railway department.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Railway Minister had said that we will take steps which will ensure relief to the poor. I would like to cite some examples about his department. The class IV employees are given Railway-pass once in two years whereas the officers get that twice in a year. It is a very discriminatory approach that those who are powerful get passes twice in a year and the poor who are helpless and not in a position to purchase tickets are allowed that concession only once in two years. I think that this disparity should not be there and these poor employees should be given more passes. If it is not possible, then at least they should be treated at par.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Railway has not provided any hospital in its colonies i.e. Kishanganj and Sarai-Rohilla. There are no medical facilities for the lower staff residing in those colonies. They have been asking for a 20-bed hospital in their colonies for the last several years but no such hospital has been constructed there for them. This is certainly a very unfortunate situation. I request the hon. Railway Minister to construct a 20-bed hospital there as soon as possible. I request him to set up a Central

School also in that locality. The Railway employees are demanding that for a long time so that their children may get good education as the standard of the Railway Schools is not up to the mark. If a Central School is set up there the wards of the employees who come on transfer will be able to continue their studies. So, a Central School must be opened at once there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Kishanganj is a very big colony but the Railway has not taken any step to provide a milk vend so that milk may be available easily to the people there. Sir, through you I demand from the hon. Railway Minister to set up a Mother-dairy booth so that the class four Railway employees may easily get milk at cheap rate and they may be able to bring up their children properly.

The Railway department has not provided any transport facility in such a big colony. There are no taxi/scooter or any other conveyance facilities available in that locality. They have to suffer when they fall ill or face any other trouble. A number of employees have to come daily to the Railway station to attend their duties but no direct bus service has been arranged despite their constant demand for that. I request the hon. Railway Minister to look into their problems.

I have raised in the House many demands of the railway employees. There are total 17 demands in their memorandum. Some of those I have raised here in the House and the rest I have sent to the Railway Minister through questions and letters.

I am hopeful that while Mr. Jaffer Sharief will take steps to provide relief to the railway employees he will also take immediate action to provide necessary amenities to the passengers. *(Interruptions)* Yes, he is right. As his name is Sharief (gentleman), he should show his gentlemanliness in conceding the demands of the railway employees.

This is what we can expect from a gentleman of his stature. I agree with you and I have conveyed your sentiments to them.

Today itself I was surprised to see the mismanagement in the railways when I was returning from Lucknow by Gomati Express. People were moving freely in the reserved compartments even without any check. They caused a lot of inconvenience to the passengers who have actually booked seats. When I made a complaint to the conductor about all this he expressed his helplessness. When I asked him whether they possessed tickets with them, he gave a negative reply. I again enquired as to how they were travelling without tickets. To this he replied that it was a regular practice. No proper care is being paid even to reserved compartments. Every one has a complaint against the railways whether it is the employees, the public or the passengers. The railways have been playing a very important role in the progress of the country. But the present performance of the department is far below its normal standard. Its performance is contrary to the public expectations. I would like to request Shri Jaffer Sharief to give some relief in the fare-hike keeping in view the hardship of the people and ameliorate the difficulties of the railway employees so that the railways could be run smoothly. I have to say this much only. I am thankful to you, sir for providing me time and am hopeful that the hon. Minister of Railways will show his gentlemanliness and take steps to provide relief to the public as well to the railway employees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, please have a look at the Janata Dal also. You have not called a single Member of this party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After a lady member. Shrimati Kshirsagar.

*SMT. KESHARBAI SONAJI KSHIRSAGAR (Beed): Mr. Chairman, Sir, lady member should be allowed to speak. I rarely participate in the debate. I may please be allowed to speak.

After the assassination of the former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the country is passing through a crisis. He was a great and popular leader who possessed rare qualities of leadership. He led the country very efficiently and had a modern outlook. I congratulate the Hon. Railway Minister for formulating the Railway Budget keeping the modern outlook in mind.

The Railway Budget has offered several concessions to weaker sections of the society as promised in the manifesto of the Congress Party. No additional levies have been imposed on essential items. This is really a welcome feature of this Budget. By increasing the fares and freight charges the Railways are going to get a net revenue of 584 crores of rupees. I want to make a request the Hon. Minister that 50% concession in fares which was offered to handicapped persons in the last budget should be reintroduced to help the weaker section of our society. I also request that this concession should also be extended to widows of our jawans.

Now, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister to the major demand of my area namely Parali—Beed railway line. This demand is being made for the past twenty years by the people of this area. Beed is the most backward district of Maharashtra. The former Prime Minister and Railway Minister were kind enough to order a survey of this railway line. But I am sorry to point out that no provision has been made in this Budget for this railway line. About four lakhs people from this district go to other places in search of livelihood. I want to know

when the Govt. is going to pay attention to the development of this area? It is the policy of the Govt. to ensure development of backward areas. I met the Hon. Minister and he has agreed that he will consider the demand within four months. I request him to kindly make necessary provision for Beed Parali railway line in this Budget.

The Govt. has taken the step of setting up Konkan Railway Corporation. I request that Marathwada Railway Corporation should also be set up on the same pattern. For Konkan railway and Manmad-Aurangabad railway line an amount of Rs. 14 and 10 crores was provided in the last budget. But in the present budget the allocation has been reduced by Rs. 10 crores and 5 crores respectively. If the allocation is reduced in this manner, let me point out, the completion of these railway lines will be next to impossible. Therefore, I suggest that at least Rs. 20 crores each should be allocated for these two railway lines.

I appreciate that only selected projects have been taken up for implementation. But I would like to suggest that by issuing bonds resources can be raised for completion of the railway lines. I would also like to propose that under Employment Guarantee Scheme, earth work can be taken up. It will generate employment and help in speedy completion of the railway line.

Now I would like to speak about Miraj—Latur and Marathwada railway line. When our beloved Prime Minister, late Smt. Indira Gandhi visited Marathwada 11 years back, she had announced these railway lines. But I am sorry to find that no budgetary provision has been made for Miraj—Latur railway line. I request that adequate provision should be made in this Budget for this railway line as well.

Catering service of the Railways is really in a bad shape. I am sorry to say that no attention has been paid to this service. The food items like *chapati* and *Daal* which are served are many times half-cooked. It is necessary that catering service is improved immediately. I suggest that as a part of "Indira Mahila Vikas Yojana", women officers should be appointed to oversee catering services of the Railways. Women by their nature are well-equipped to take up this job. As they can cook tasty food, I feel that if women are given the charge of catering service they would manage it efficiently and tasty and good food would be available to the railway passengers.

I would like to point out that many trains do not run on time. I feel that railways should ensure punctuality in the arrival and departure of the trains.

I also want to make a suggestion that the Railways should observe "Courtesy Week". Passengers who travel by second class do not receive good treatment from the railway employees. If "Courtesy Week" is observed, I am sure the Railway employees will get close to the travelling public. I request the Hon. Minister to consider this suggestion.

In the end I would like to impress upon the Minister that Beed being a backward district needs to be paid immediate attention. I request that atleast after four months necessary provision for Beed—Parali railway line should be made and the work should be started.

Hon. Minister hails from Karnataka. I also hail from Karnataka. My parents live in Karnataka. I do not demand anything from him. But I request that Hon. Minister should treat me as a sister and do something for the people of my area in Marathwada. I hope that Hon. Minister will favourably consider my humble request.

With these words I support the Railway Budget and thank you for giving me time to speak on it.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Budget that has been presented by the hon. Minister of Railways because there is no provision for development of Bihar in it. I would like to request him to pay special attention to the Grand Chord Line particularly to Central Bihar, keeping in view its great tourism potentiality. No new train has been introduced on the Grand-Chord Line during the last 43-44 years after independence. For example, 81 pairs of trains run between Patna to Delhi and Amritsar in a week but only the same number of trains which had been introduced by the Britishers prior to independence run on Grand-Chord Line. No new train has been introduced. Only 17 pairs of trains run on this line in a week. Earlier, in January 1991, the Government had decided that a Deluxe Express would regularly be run on this line. But it proved to be an empty assurance. I would like to request the hon. Minister to introduce a regular deluxe service on this line.

Bodh-Gaya is a tourist place. Tourists visit this place to see the Buddhist temple. But the Rajdhani Express does not stop at Gaya station. I would like that the Rajdhani Express must be provided a stoppage at Gaya station keeping the passengers requirements in view. The Madras Express which runs between Bokaro and Madras, should be extended upto Gaya, because a large number of tourists from Madras visit the tourist sites beyond Gaya and people from Central Bihar often go to Madras for treatment. There is no problem in giving extension to this train upto Gaya because it arrives at Bokaro at 8 O'clock in the morning and from there it resumes its return journey for Madras at 7 O'clock in the evening. So it can be easily extended upto Gaya and in this way the people of the Central

[Sh. Chhedi Paswan]

Bihar could be benefited. Besides, I would like to attract the attention of the hon. Minister to my constituency also. The light railway between Sasaram and Arrah which was running for last 10 years, has been cancelled. While new rail-services are being introduced in the country after independence, in Bihar, even old trains are being condemned and cancelled. In this connection I would like to make an earnest request to convert the Aarra-Sasaram narrow gauge line into a broad-gauge one so that the people of that area could be benefited. The proposal for the construction of a rail-bridge near Patna on Ganga which was forwarded by the Government of Bihar is lying pending before the Central Government. This bridge will provide a direct link between South Bihar and North Bihar and also smoothen traffic movement between the two areas enabling the people raise their income. I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister to arrange early construction of the rail-bridge on Ganga near Patna.

In addition, I would like to submit that in 1984, the Government of Bihar submitted a proposal for the construction of the Pahleja-Pipradih-Chandunathpur-Bhavnathpur railway line to the Central Government. The Central Government had assured in 1988 that a new train service would be introduced on this line. It was also assured that work on this line would be speeded up in 1988 itself. But so far neither any new train service for Pahleja, Pipradih, Chandunathpur and Bhavnathpur has been introduced nor any work has been carried out on this line. I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister to complete this work immediately.

Besides, in order to lessen the burden of heavy traffic on the Grand-Chord Line a third railway line should be laid from Mughalsarai to Son Nagar. Also, keeping the importance of Rohtas district in view, Sasaram railway station must be beautified, because this is a historical place.

There is the fort of Shershaah who had ruled over India for five years. Tourists from abroad come there to see the fort. But no special train facility is available for this place. I would like the hon. Minister to arrange beautification of Sasaram railway station immediately.

With these words, I conclude. I am thankful to you for providing me time to speak.

SHRI MOHAN VISHNU RAWLE (Bombay-South Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to arrange installation of electrically operated destination boards in all the coaches of local trains running between Bombay V.T. and Karjat-Kasara and Churchgate and Virar. There is a need to extend the services of the local trains running from Bombay V.T. upto Karjat-Kasara and the other one running from Churchgate upto Virar. The speed of the trains in the Konkan region also needs to be increased. There is also a need to provide public address systems in all the stations to announce the names of the stations for all the local trains running between Bombay V.T., Karjat and Churchgate and Virar. It will be highly beneficial to the passengers.

The Government has sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 51 crore for the trains running in Konkan region. The amount of this grant-in-aid needs to be increased. There are Government directions that the local people will be given preference in the matter of recruitment in the Railway Corporation but it has been observed that people from outside Maharashtra are being recruited in it. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to implement the Government's directives in this regard. Besides, the vacancies are being advertised in Hindi and English newspapers only. I would like to request that advertisement for these vacancies may also please be made in Marathi newspapers so that the local people may come to

know about that. Likewise, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to allot the stalls to the local people only.

Now I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister whether money allotted for Konkan Railway could be invested in the share market by the Corporation. So far as I know, an amount of Rs. ten crore has been deposited in the State Bank of Mysore. I would like to know whether this has been done with the prior permission of the Government. He should confirm it.

The Department of Railways had acquired land from the farmers for the Diwa-Vasai, Aapra-Roha, Karjat-Lonavan and Igatpuri-Kasara (third line) railway projects. Please let us know as to how much compensation has been paid to the farmers in lieu of their land. Will they be given any preference in recruitment? All this must be checked up properly. The Department of Railways should sanction maximum funds for the Kurla/Bandra terminal. Grant-in-aid for the Thane-Kurla-Vikroli-Trombay-Vadala line should also be given. I oppose the railway-fare-hike. The Government which made a promise to reduce prices within 100 days has named the items, the prices of which are to be reduced but it has not named the items the prices of which are to be hiked. The Government which made a promise to reduce the prices in 100 days has presented a Budget of rising prices within a period of 100 days of its resuming office. (*Interruptions*)

16.00 hrs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks to you for providing me time to speak. It was my maiden speech in the House.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 5 p.m. for Budget.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Seventeen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO RT. HONOURABLE SIR ANEROOD JUGNAUTH, THE PRIME MINISTER OF MAURITIUS AND LADY SAROJINI JUGNAUTH

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to make an announcement.

As the hon. Members are aware, the Rt. Honourable Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius and Lady Sarojini Jugnauth are currently on an official visit to India.

I am glad to inform the House that Rt. Honourable Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius is now seated in the special box to watch the proceedings of this hon. House.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, we extend a very warm welcome to Rt. Honourable Sir Anerood Jugnauth. We wish them a happy and fruitful sojourn in our country. We also wish to convey our greetings to the Parliament and the friendly people of Mauritius.

17.01 hrs.

THE GENERAL BUDGET, 1991-92

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): Sir, I rise to present the budget for 1991-92. As I rise, I am overpowered by a strange feeling of loneliness. I miss a handsome, smiling, face listening intently to the Budget Speech. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is no more. But his dream lives on; his dream of ushering India into the twenty-first century; his dream of a strong, united, technologically sophisticated but humane India. I dedicate this budget to his inspiring memory.

2. The new Government, which assumed office barely a month ago, inherited an economy in deep crisis. The balance of payments situation is precarious. International confidence in our economy was strong until November 1989 when our Party was in office. However, due to the combined impact of political instability witnessed thereafter, the accentuation of fiscal imbalances and the Gulf crisis, there was a great weakening of international confidence. There has been a sharp decline in capital inflows through commercial borrowing and non-resident deposits. As a result, despite large borrowings from the International Monetary Fund in July 1990 and January 1991, there was a sharp reduction in our foreign exchange reserves. We have been at the edge of a precipice since December 1990 and more so since April 1991. The foreign exchange crisis constitutes a serious threat to the sustainability of growth processes and orderly implementation of our development programmes. Due to the combination of unfavourable internal and external factors, the inflationary pressures on the price level have increased very substantially since mid-1990. The people of India have to face double digit inflation which hurts most the poorer sections of our society. In sum,

the crisis in the economy is both acute and deep. We have not experienced anything similar in the history of independent India.

3. The origins of the problem are directly traceable to large and persistent macro-economic imbalances and the low productivity of investment, in particular the poor rates of return on past investments. There has been an unsustainable increase in Government expenditure. Budgetary subsidies, with questionable social and economic impact, have been allowed to grow to an alarming extent. The tax system still has many loopholes. It lacks transparency so that it is not easy to assess the social and economic impact of various concessions built into its structure. The public sector has not been managed in a manner so as to generate large investible surpluses. The excessive and often indiscriminate protection provided to industry has weakened the incentive to develop a vibrant export sector. It has also accentuated disparities in income and wealth. It has worked to the disadvantage of the rural economy. The increasing difference between the income and expenditure of the Government has led to a widening of the gap between the income and expenditure of the economy as a whole. This is reflected in growing current account deficits in the balance of payments.

4. The crisis of the fiscal system is a cause for serious concern. The fiscal deficit of the Central Government, which measures the difference between revenue receipts and total expenditure, is estimated at more than 8 per cent of GDP in 1990-91, as compared with 6 per cent at the beginning of the 1980s and 4 per cent in the mid-1970s. This fiscal deficit had to be met by borrowing. As a result, internal public debt of the Central Government has accumulated to about 55 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The burden of servicing this debt has now become onerous. Interest payments alone are about 4 per cent of GDP and constitute almost 20

per cent of the total expenditure of the Central Government. Without decisive action now, the situation will move beyond the possibility of corrective action.

5. The balance of payments situation is most difficult. The current account deficit, which was about 2 per cent of GDP for several years, is estimated to be more than 2.5 per cent of GDP in 1990-91. These persistent deficits, which were inevitably financed by borrowings from abroad, have led to a continuous increase in external debt which, including non-resident Indian (NRI) deposits, is estimated at 23 per cent of GDP at the end of 1990-91. Consequently, the debt service burden is estimated at about 21 per cent of current account receipts in 1990-91. These strains were stretched to a breaking point on account of the Gulf crisis last year. The balance of payments has lurched from one liquidity crisis to another since December 1990. The current level of foreign exchange reserves, in the range of Rs. 2500 crores, would suffice to finance imports for a mere fortnight.

6. The price situation, which is of immediate concern to the vast mass of our people, poses a serious problem as inflation has reached a double digit level. During the fiscal year ending 31st March 1991 the wholesale price index registered an increase of 12.1 per cent, while the consumer price index registered an increase of 13.6 per cent. The major worrisome feature of the inflation in 1990-91 was that it was concentrated in essential commodities. The prices of these commodities rose inspite of the three good monsoons in a row and hence the three successive bumper harvests. Inflation hurts everybody, more so the poorer segments of our population whose incomes are not indexed.

7. There is no time to lose. Neither the Government nor the economy can live beyond its means year after year.

The room for manoeuvre, to live on borrowed money or time, does not exist any more. Any further postponement of macro-economic adjustment, long overdue, would mean that the balance of payments situation, now exceedingly difficult, would become unmanageable and inflation, already high, would exceed limits of tolerance. For improving the management of the economy, the starting point, and indeed the centre-piece of our strategy, should be a credible fiscal adjustment and macro-economic stabilisation during the current financial year, to be followed by continued fiscal consolidation thereafter. This process would, inevitably, need at least three years, if not longer, to complete. But there can be no adjustment without pain. The people must be prepared to make necessary sacrifices to preserve our economic independence and restore the health of our economy.

8. In the macro-management of the economy, over the medium-term, it should be our objective to progressively reduce the fiscal deficit of the Central Government, to move towards a significant reduction of the revenue deficit, and to reduce the current account deficit in the balance of payments. It is only such prudent management that would enable us to curb the exponential growth in internal and external debt and limit the burden on debt servicing, for the Government and the country, to manageable levels. Indeed, we must make a conscious effort to reduce the internal debt of the Government and the external debt of the nation, so that we rely more and more on our own resources to finance the process of development. During the period of transition it shall be our endeavour to minimise the burden of adjustment on the poor. We are committed to adjustment with a human face. It will also be our endeavour that the adjustment process does not adversely affect the underlying growth impulses in our economy. We do not have time to postpone adjustment and stabilisation. We must act fast and act boldly. If we do not introduce the

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needed correctives, the existing situation can only retard growth, induce recession and fuel inflation, which would hurt the economy further and impose a far greater burden on the poor.

9. Macro-economic stabilisation and fiscal adjustment alone cannot suffice. They must be supported by essential reforms in economic policy and economic management as an integral part of the adjustment process, reforms which would help to eliminate waste and inefficiency and impart a new element of dynamism to growth processes in our economy. The thrust of the reform process would be to increase the efficiency and international competitiveness of industrial production, to utilise for this purpose foreign investment and foreign technology to a much greater degree than we have done in the past, to increase the productivity of investment, to ensure that India's financial sector is rapidly modernised, and to improve the performance of the public sector, so that the key sectors of our economy are able to attain an adequate technological and competitive edge in a fast changing global economy. I am confident that, after a successful implementation of stabilisation measures and the essential structural and policy reforms, our economy would return to a path of a high sustained growth with reasonable price stability and greater social equity.

10. Thanks to the efforts of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, we have developed a well diversified industrial structure. This constitutes a great asset as we begin to implement various structural reforms. However, barriers to entry and limits on growth in the size of firms, have often led to a proliferation of licensing and an increase in the degree of monopoly. This has put shackles on segments of Indian industry and made them serve the interests of producers but not pay adequate attention to the interests of consumers. There has been inadequate emphasis on reduction of costs, upgrada-

tion of technology and improvement of quality standards. It is essential to increase the degree of competition between firms in the domestic market so that there are adequate incentives for raising productivity, improving efficiency and reducing costs. In the pursuit of this objective, we have announced important changes in industrial policy which will bring about a significant measure of deregulation in the domestic sector, consistent with our social objectives and the binding constraints on the balance of payments.

11. The policies for industrial development are intimately related to policies for trade. There can be no doubt that protection was essential in the initial phase of our industrial development, so that we could go through the learning period without disruption. The past four decades have witnessed import substitution which has not always been efficient and has some times been indiscriminate. The time has come to expose Indian industry to competition from abroad in a phased manner. As a first step in this direction, the Government has introduced changes in import-export policy, aimed at a reduction of import licensing, vigorous export promotion and optimal import compression. The exchange rate adjustments on 1st and 3rd July 1991 and the enlargement and liberalisation of the replenishment licence system constitute the two major initial steps in the direction of trade policy reform. They represent the beginning of a transition from a regime of quantitative restrictions to a price based mechanism.

12. After four decades of planning for industrialisation, we have now reached a stage of development where we should welcome, rather than fear, foreign investment. Our entrepreneurs are second to none. Our industry has come of age. Direct foreign investment would provide access to capital, technology and markets. It would expose our industrial sector to competition from abroad in a phased manner. Cost, efficiency, and quality

would begin to receive the attention they deserve. We have, therefore, decided to liberalise the policy regime for direct foreign investment in the following manner. First, direct foreign investment in specified high priority industries, with a raised limit for foreign equity at 51 per cent, would be given prompt approval, if equity inflows are sufficient to finance the import of capital goods at the stage of investment and if dividends are balanced by export earnings over a period of time. Second, foreign equity upto 51 per cent would be allowed for trading companies primarily engaged in export activities. Third, a special board would be constituted to negotiate with a number of large international firms and approve direct foreign investment in selected areas; this would be a special regime to attract substantial investment that would provide access to high technology and to world markets.

13. For the founding fathers of our Republic, a public sector that would be vibrant, modern, competitive and capable of generating large surpluses was a vital element in the strategy of development. The public sector has made an important contribution to the diversification of our industrial economy. But there have been a number of shortcomings. In particular, the public sector has not been able to generate internal surpluses on a large enough scale. At this critical juncture, it has therefore, become necessary to take effective measures so as to make the public sector an engine of growth rather than an absorber of national savings without adequate returns. This has been widely accepted, but thought and action in this regard are still far apart. To bridge this gap, the portfolio of public sector investments would be reviewed so as to concentrate the future operations of the public sector in areas that are strategic for the nation, require high technology for the economy, and are essential for the infrastructure. In order to raise resources, encourage wider public participation and pro-

mote greater accountability, upto 20 per cent of government equity in selected public sector undertakings would be offered to mutual funds and investment institutions in the public sector, as also to workers in these firms. Public enterprises which are chronically sick and which cannot be turned around, will be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), or to a similar high-powered body to be set up, for the formulation of revival or rehabilitation schemes; a social security mechanism will be created to fully protect the interests of the workers likely to be affected by the rehabilitation packages of the BIFR. Autonomy in management, and corresponding accountability, would be provided through a system of memorandums of understanding between the Government and public sector enterprises.

14. Our banking system and financial institutions are at the very core of the financial infrastructure in the economy. The widening and deepening of our financial system have helped the spread of institutional finance over a vast area and have contributed significantly to the augmentation of our savings rate, particularly financial savings. This has been a most commendable achievement, but our financial system has developed certain rigidities and some weaknesses which we must address now. The objective of reform in the financial sector would be to preserve its basic role as an essential adjunct to economic growth and competitive efficiency, while improving the health of its institutions. In this task, it is essential to ensure capital adequacy, introduce prudential norms and improve profitability of our commercial banks and financial institutions. There are no magic solutions. These are complex issues which need careful consideration. Therefore, I propose to appoint a high level committee to consider all relevant aspects of structure, organisation, functions and procedures of the financial system. This committee would advise the Government on appropriate measures

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that would be needed to enhance the viability and health of our financial sector so that it can better serve the needs of the economy without any sacrifice of the canons and principles of a sound financial system.

15. Interest rates are a crucial dimension of the financial sector. In the formative stages of the development of credit markets, administrative intervention in interest rates is both necessary and desirable. At the present stage of our development, however, we can begin to relax the degree of intervention and impart a greater flexibility to the structure of interest rates. The Reserve Bank of India has already taken an important step in this direction, by stipulating a floor rate of interest and providing freedom to commercial banks to charge interest rates above the floor level based on their perceptions of risk. The Government proposes to extend a similar freedom to term-lending financial institutions, where the minimum interest rate would be 15 per cent, and these institutions would be free to charge an interest rate in accordance with their perception of the credit-worthiness of borrowers. With the exception of tax free bonds for the public sector, it is also proposed to remove all restrictions on interest rates for debentures, both convertible and non-convertible, floated in the capital market. The interest rate on such debt instruments will hereafter be governed by market forces, and the credit rating of such debt instruments will become an integral part of the capital market process. In consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, the Government would continue to watch the structure of interest rates. Recently, interest rates payable on bank deposits have been increased. I now propose to do a similar thing with regard to interest rates payable under the small savings schemes. Our ultimate objective is to achieve a significant reduction both in the nominal and the real interest rates. This would be possible if the rate of inflation is

reduced significantly over the next three years.

16. While presenting the budget for 1987-88, our former Prime Minister the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had assured this House that for a healthy growth of capital markets, for protecting the rights of investors and for preventing trading malpractices the Government would set up a separate Board for the regulation and orderly functioning of the Stock Exchanges and the securities industry. Although the Board was set up, legislation to give the Board adequate powers was unfortunately not enacted. This shall now be done forthwith and full statutory powers will be given to the Securities and Exchange Board of India for administering the relevant provisions of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act and the Companies Act. Transferring these powers from the Controller of Capital Issues and the Government to an independent body would enable it to effectively regulate, promote and monitor the working of the Stock Exchanges in the country. A comprehensive package of reforms relating to trading on the Stock Exchanges, including a system of national clearing and settlement and setting up of a central depository, is also under active consideration.

17. In regard to Mutual Funds, some progress towards evolving a competitive structure has been made in the last few years with encouraging results. For many investors, mutual funds are a more suitable investment vehicle than direct ownership of shares. The Government is already giving tax incentives for equity-linked savings schemes offered through mutual funds. The Government has now decided to further promote the development of mutual funds by throwing the field open to the private sector and joint sector mutual funds. In order to safeguard the interest of the investing public, and to encourage a healthy growth of the capital markets, a comprehensive set of guidelines is being evolved for the operation of all

mutual funds. Consideration will also be given to enactment of legislation for this purpose.

18. A comprehensive review of policies and procedures bearing on Non-resident Indian investments shall be carried out and further relaxations made in order to remove all procedural difficulties and impediments to the setting up of industrial and other ventures by Non-resident Indians. New sectors shall be made available to NRIs for investment on a non-repatriation basis, including housing, infrastructure and real estate development. For example, at present, NRIs of foreign nationality are required to obtain specific permission under section 31 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) to acquire residential property. It is now proposed to provide general exemption from this provision to such persons. However, rental income and proceeds from the sale of such housing will be non-repatriable. For facilitating interaction with the Central Government to serve as a focal point for NRIs, Government proposes to establish a Chief Commissioner for Non-resident Indians. I would urge State Governments, also, to establish an office of a Commissioner for Non-Resident Indians.

19. I believe that the time has come to evolve a more transparent institutional mechanism for fixing tariffs and domestic prices in sectors where there might still be need for protecting Indian industry against foreign competition and for the determination of administered prices, particularly in the area of public utilities. For this purpose, we propose to restructure the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and to transform it into a Tariff Commission.

20. As we enter the last decade of the twentieth century, India stands at the cross-roads. The decisions we

take and do not take, at this juncture, will determine the shape of things to come for quite some time. It should come as no surprise, therefore, that an intense debate rages throughout the country as to the path we should adopt. In a democratic society it could not be otherwise. What can we learn from this debate? The most important thing that comes out clearly is that we cannot realise our goal of establishing a just society, if we abandon the planning process. But India's future development depends crucially on how well the planning process is adapted to the needs of a fast changing situation. I believe that without an intelligent and systematic coordinated resource use in some major sectors of our economy, development will be lopsided. It will violate deeply cherished values of equity and it will keep India well below its social, intellectual and moral potential. But our planning processes must be sensitive to the needs of a dynamic economy. Over centralisation and excessive bureaucratisation of economic processes have proved to be counter productive. We need to expand the scope and the area for the operation of market forces. A reformed price system can be a superior instrument of resource allocation than quantitative controls. But markets can only serve those who are part of the market system. A vast number of people in our country live on the edges of a subsistence economy. We need credible programmes of direct government intervention focussing on the needs of these people. We have the responsibility to provide them with quality social services such as education, health, safe drinking water and roads. In the same way, the development of capital and technology intensive sectors, characterised by long gestation periods, such as transport and communications and energy will need to be planned with much greater care than ever before. The control of land and water degradation, which threatens the livelihood of millions of poor people in this country, will also require effective Government leadership and action.

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21. The challenge that we are facing is without precedent. In its initial stages, the Industrial Revolution in the western world concentrated on the creation of wealth, unmindful of the social misery and inequity which characterised this process. The democratisation of the polity came much later. The socialist experiment in charting a new path for accelerated industrial transformation of an under-developed economy and polity did achieve considerable success in developing technological and military capabilities, accumulation of capital for rapid industrial growth and human resources development, in countries such as the USSR. But recent developments have shown that this approach too suffered from major weaknesses, particularly in its allocative efficiency, in the management of technical change, control of environmental degradation and in harnessing the vast latent energy and talents of individuals. In India, we launched an experiment under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, an experiment which sought to unite the strengths and merits of different approaches to accelerated development of our backward economy. We have achieved considerable success in the field of development, modernisation and greater social equity. However, we are yet far from realising our full potential in all these areas. We have to accomplish the unfinished task, while remaining steadfast in our allegiance to the values of a democratic system.

22. At the same time, we must restore to the creation of wealth its proper place in the development process. For, without it, we cannot remove the stigma of abject poverty, ignorance and disease. But we cannot accept social misery and inequity as unavoidable in the process of creation of wealth. The basic challenge of our times is to ensure that wealth creation is not only tempered by equity and justice but is harnessed to the goal of removal of poverty and development for all.

23. For the creation of wealth, we must encourage accumulation of capital. This will inevitably mean a regime of austerity. We have also to remove the stumbling blocks from the path of those who are creating wealth. At the same time, we have to develop a new attitude towards wealth. In the ultimate analysis, all wealth is a social product. Those who create it and own it, have to hold it as a trust and use it in the interest of the society, and particularly of those who are under-privileged and without means. Years ago, Gandhiji expounded the philosophy of trusteeship. This philosophy should be our guiding star. The austerity that Gandhiji practised and preached is a necessary condition for accelerated economic development in the framework of a democratic polity. The trusteeship that he prescribed for the owners of wealth captured the idea of social responsibility.

24. In highlighting the significance of reform, my purpose is not to give a fillip to mindless and heartless consumerism we have borrowed from the affluent societies of the West. My objection to the consumerist phenomenon is two-fold. First, we cannot afford it. In a society where we lack drinking water, education, health, shelter and other basic necessities, it would be tragic if our productive resources were to be devoted largely to the satisfaction of the needs of a small minority. The country's needs for water, for drinking and for irrigation, rural roads, good urban infrastructure, and massive investments in primary education and basic health services for the poor are so great as to effectively preclude encouragement to consumerist behaviour imitative of advanced industrial societies. Our approach to development has to combine efficiency with austerity. Austerity not in the sense of negation of life or a dry, arid creed that casts a baleful eye on joy and laughter. To my mind, austerity is a way of holding our society together in pursuit of the noble goal of banishing poverty, hunger and disease from this ancient land of ours.

25. Let me now turn to fiscal adjustment during the current financial year. The beginning of any attempt to correct the fiscal imbalance in the economy must be directed at a reduction in expenditure and an increase in income of the Government, so as to reduce the fiscal deficit. In the medium-term, however, our fiscal regime would be sustainable only if revenue receipts not only meet revenue expenditure but also provide a sufficient surplus to finance capital expenditure that does not yield direct economic returns as such, as in defence or in social sectors. Even this would not suffice if investment expenditures in the budget do not earn an adequate return. The elimination of structural imbalances in our fiscal system would require a reduction both in the fiscal deficit and in the revenue deficit as a proportion of GDP. The Union Budget for 1991-92 is an essential first step in this direction.

26. It must be recognised that the necessary reduction in the fiscal deficit, during 1991-92, is a stupendous task. The interim budget presented to Parliament in March 1991 estimated the fiscal deficit at Rs. 38475 crores. But this estimate was based on assumptions about certain decisions that have not been implemented. The postponement of the regular budget has made a formidable task even more difficult because almost four months of the financial year have now elapsed without any effort at fiscal correction. Indeed, past trends in revenue and expenditure suggest that without any corrective action on our part, the fiscal deficit during 1991-92 could well reach a level of more than Rs. 52000 crores. The difference between the two sets of figures provides the real measure of the fiscal correction needed during the current financial year.

27. According to provisional data available, the more narrowly defined budget deficit, as measured by borrowing through short term Treasury bills, for 1990-91 at Rs. 11430 crores

was significantly higher than the revised estimate of Rs. 10722 crores, largely due to a substantial revenue shortfall, particularly in corporation tax revenues. This highlights the handicap with which we begin. Let me now present the scenario for 1991-92.

28. The increasing levels of non-plan expenditure, financed through borrowing, have led to an exponential increase in interest payments by the Government. The revised estimates for interest payments during 1990-91, at Rs. 21850 crores, accounted for as much as 38 per cent of the net revenue receipts of the Central Government. Interest payments during 1991-92, estimated at Rs. 27450 crores, constitute 42 per cent of the net revenue receipts of the Central Government at existing rates of taxation. If the present trends continue without any correction, then interest payments could well account for more than 50 per cent of the net revenue receipts of the Central Government by 1994-95. These magnitudes and proportions only serve to highlight the gravity of the situation and the acute need for a substantial adjustment in non-plan expenditure over the next three years.

29. The revised estimate for total non-plan expenditure in 1990-91 was Rs. 76761 crores. In the normal course, even with the strictest scrutiny but in the absence of specific measures for reducing expenditure, this non-plan expenditure would have increased to a level of Rs. 89000 crores in 1991-92. Any attempt at fiscal correction during the current financial year can be meaningful only if non-plan expenditure is reduced by at least 10 per cent from the level it would otherwise reach.

30. The single largest component of non-plan expenditure is interest payments. Even if there is a drastic reduction in Government borrowing during this year, interest payments would still be in the range of

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Rs. 35000 crores in the next financial year. The exponential increase in interest payments can be brought under some measure of control, by 1994-95, only through a strict discipline on government borrowing for a period of three years.

31. The second largest component of non-plan expenditure is the allocation for the defence sector, where the provision in the revised estimates for 1990-91 was Rs. 15750 crores. No attempt at containing non-plan expenditure can succeed if defence is to be excluded. At the same time, it is absolutely essential to ensure that a quest for economy in expenditure does not in any way compromise national security. We must, therefore, seek to limit expenditure without diluting the efficiency and effectiveness of our defence services. Keeping in view all these considerations, it has been decided to provide an outlay of Rs. 16350 crores for defence in the current year.

32. Honourable Members are aware that export subsidies have been abolished with effect from 3 July 1991. The export sector is being adequately compensated through the adjustments in the exchange rate and the expansion of the Replenishment Licensing System which have implemented at the beginning of July. Consequently, it is now necessary to provide only Rs. 1224 crores for export subsidies in the budget estimates for 1991-92, as compared with the earlier estimated requirement of Rs. 4200 crores, yielding a saving of as much as Rs. 3000 crores during the remainder of this year.

33. In so far as fertiliser subsidies are concerned, with effect from this evening, low analysis fertilisers such as calcium ammonium nitrate, ammonium chloride, ammonium sulphate and sulphate of potash will be free from price and movement controls. There will be an increase of 40 per cent, on an average, in the price of

all other fertilisers. In addition, in respect of single super phosphate, there shall also be a ceiling on the subsidy per tonne payable to producers so as to move towards total deregulation in the next few years; this should act as an incentive for all high cost units to reduce costs and improve efficiency. The necessary notifications in this regard are being issued separately, today, by the Ministry of Agriculture.

34. The economic rationale for an increase in the price of fertilisers is so obvious that it does not need to be stated. Nevertheless, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that there has been no increase in fertiliser prices since July 1981. In these ten years, there has been a continuous increase in the procurement prices of paddy and wheat, as also in the market prices of other crops, received by the agricultural sector. Farmers will be compensated for the proposed increase in the price of fertilisers through suitable increases in procurement prices.

35. We would continue to ensure that 50 per cent of the plan resources are invested in the agricultural and rural sector. The provision for the continuing schemes for assistance to small and marginal farmers for dug wells and shallow tubewells would be doubled. The ceilings on assistance in difficult areas, where the water-table is very low, would be removed. Similarly, the provision for assistance for fresh water and brackish water aquaculture and for oilseeds and pulses production would be substantially stepped up. New schemes are being drawn up to popularise small tractors and matching implements, drip and sprinkler irrigation in areas where water is scarce, and quality seeds in low yield areas. Another new scheme that would be implemented from this kharif season is for providing assistance to State Governments, cooperative societies, and farmers' groups to provide blanket plant protection cover on payment of a small fee in large identified areas under cotton or

pulses. It would also be possible to demonstrate the advantages of integrated pest management in these areas. In order to safeguard any possible loss in production because of increase in fertiliser prices, and any decline in consumption, the credit structure would be strengthened to ensure adequate availability of credit particularly to the small and marginal farmers. Simultaneously, soil testing laboratories and farm advisory services all over the country would be strengthened to ensure efficient use of fertilisers and popularise the use of bio-fertilisers. We would also identify a few irrigation projects that can be completed in this very year and ensure that these are provided the necessary funds. The other new initiatives, also would not be starved of funds. As far as possible our emphasis will be on provision of quality services to our farmers and not on hand outs and subsidies.

36. The sugar subsidy which is costing the exchequer about Rs. 350 crores per annum is indeed an aberration, which crept into the system from January 1990, when the increase in the levy price paid to producers was not matched by a simultaneous increase in the issue price for consumers in the public distribution system. Small quantities of sugar are made available, mostly in metropolitan and urban areas, under the public distribution system at Rs. 5.25 per kg. Whereas the price that most people pay in the market is around Rs. 10 per kg. Government has decided that this subsidy should be abolished forthwith. Consequently, the issue price of sugar under the public distribution system will be increased by 85 paise per kg. to Rs. 6.10 per kg. with effect from this evening. At the same time, the public distribution system is being strengthened to serve more effectively the weaker sections of our population, particularly the rural poor, having special regard to their basic needs for foodgrains such as rice and wheat. The provision for food subsidies in the current year is being stepped up to Rs. 2600 crores, as compared with

only Rs. 1800 crores provided in the interim budget and Rs. 2450 crores provided in the revised estimates for 1990-91.

37. As a result of the exchange rate adjustments, at the beginning of July 1991, there would be an increase in the rupee value of the import bill for crude oil and petroleum products. It is, therefore, necessary to raise the prices of petroleum products for domestic consumers. This would also help to restrain the growth in consumption of petroleum products. The price of motor spirit, domestic LPG and aviation turbine fuel for domestic use would be raised by 20 per cent. The prices of other petroleum products, excluding diesel and kerosene for non-industrial use, would be raised by 10 per cent. The price of kerosene, for non-industrial use, would be reduced by 10 per cent which means a 50 per cent roll-back in relation to the increase in the price that came into effect on 15 October 1990. Even in a most difficult financial situation, this is being done to protect the poor for whom kerosene is an essential source of light and fuel. While there will be no increase in the price of diesel, I would endeavour to protect the interests of the farmers who use diesel. For this purpose, I shall hold discussions with State Governments. The proposed increases in the prices of petroleum products will come into effect from this evening, and the necessary notification in this regard is being separately issued by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

38. For non-plan expenditure, excluding interest payments, defence, and major subsidies, the total provision in the budget estimates for 1991-92 is Rs. 28,073 crores, reflecting a reduction of Rs. 1538 crores compared with the provision in the revised estimates for 1990-91. If we take into account the fact that no separate provision has been made for the payment of additional instalments of dearness allowance by Ministries and Departments in the current year, the total reduction in such other non-plan

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expenditure will exceed Rs. 2000 crores. In recent years, it has been the usual practice to issue instructions to Ministries that such additional requirements should be accommodated within the approved budget estimates. This has invariably resulted in some programmes on the plan side being deprived of adequate resources. It is my intention to effect maximum possible economies in the non-plan administrative expenditure. Therefore, all Ministries have been requested to prioritise their activities so that those which figure at the bottom of the list can be abridged, while those which have outlived their utility can be abandoned altogether. This exercise has already been initiated by all Ministries and is expected to be completed by the end of August 1991. With this approach, the proposed reduction in other non-plan expenditure, which I am promising to the House, would be brought about in a more meaningful manner without leading to a reduction in the provision for plan programmes.

39. There is one large component of non-plan expenditure that is a burden on the exchequer. I refer to the Government's obligation under the Rural Debt Relief Scheme. Unfortunately, there was a gross under-estimation of the total fiscal liability under this scheme which was introduced last year. In addition to the sum of Rs. 1500 crores provided in the revised estimates for last year, we have to provide Rs. 1500 crores in the current year. But this is not all. We may need a similar provision in the next year, as well.

40. As a result of the major adjustments in the sphere of expenditure, which I have outlined in my speech, the budget estimate for total non-plan expenditure in 1991-92 stands at Rs. 79,697 crores. It is simply not possible to reduce interest payments in the short term. The provision for non-plan expenditure, excluding interest payments, in the current year represents a reduction of 4.9 per cent compared with the provisions in the

revised estimates for 1990-91, and a reduction of almost 15 per cent in relation to what we would have had to provide this year, but for the specific correctives that are being introduced. We have, thus, more than fulfilled our commitment to reduce non-plan expenditure by 10 per cent, which was stated in our Party's election manifesto.

41. The election manifesto of the Congress Party identifies areas for special emphasis in our strategy of development. These include a substantial augmentation of employment programmes, the construction of dwelling units for the weaker sections of our society, an expansion of the programme for irrigation wells and so on. This would need a change in, and some reorientation of, plan priorities, with a shift towards investment in rural areas and expenditure on programmes designed for the benefit of the poor. Our strategy would, of course, be reflected in the Eighth Five Year Plan, which would now commence on 1 April 1992. It shall be our endeavour to finalise the Eighth Plan document by the end of this calendar year, so that the annual plans for 1992-93, as well as the budgets of the Centre and the States for that year, reflect the changed priorities.

42. As the Vote on Account had earlier been taken only to cover the expenditure in the first four months, this budget has had to be presented before the end of July, 1991. We have, thus, not had the time to reorient the Annual Plan for 1991-92 to reflect fully our various concerns. Moreover, this year's annual plan has had to be situated in the context of the massive fiscal correction that we have to put through. In fact, it was first felt that it would be necessary to effect a substantial reduction in budget support for the Central Plan and Central Plan assistance for the States. I am, however, happy to inform the House that with the substantial cuts proposed in non-plan expenditure, it

is now possible to protect the flow of Central Plan assistance to States and Union Territories at the level of Rs. 14710 crores, as reflected in the interim budget for 1991-92. The Central plan outlay would, however, show a modest increase at Rs. 42969 crores with a budget support of Rs. 19015 crores.

43. I am aware that in basic infrastructure areas such as power, coal, communications and petroleum, we will have to set our sights much higher. In the present situation, characterised by an acute shortage of foreign exchange, it is, in particular, imperative to augment substantially the domestic production of coal, crude oil, natural gas and electrical energy. Efforts will also have to be made on a crash basis for promoting utmost economy in use of energy through more efficient technologies in industry, agriculture, transport and domestic sectors. The transmission and distribution line losses would also have to be brought down drastically from the present high level of 22 per cent. We shall address ourselves to all these tasks once we are through with taking stock of the situation. It is my earnest hope that, by then, thanks to the fiscal corrections now being put through, the resources position would improve, giving us the necessary flexibility. For the present, it has been my endeavour to maintain essential investment through appropriate support for the Central Plan despite binding constraints on the exchequer.

44. In preparing this budget, I have sought to ensure that the burden of fiscal adjustment does not fall on State Governments. It is my belief that the Central Government must set an example by introducing fiscal correctives, and it is my hope that the State Governments would move in this direction as soon as possible. In particular, I would urge them to ensure prompt payment of dues owed by the State Electricity Boards to the National Thermal Power Corporation, Coal India and the Indian Railways.

We cannot allow State level enterprises to become an instrument of un-planned and unauthorised transfer of resources from the Centre to the States. That is neither fair nor equitable. This practice must, therefore, stop forthwith. Simultaneously, State Governments must take effective steps to improve their fiscal performance and streamline the working of their public enterprises. They should not expect me to reward fiscal laxity by permitting them to have recourse to unauthorised overdrafts from the Reserve Bank of India. I want them to be an active partner in the accomplishment of the difficult task of restoring the fiscal health of the country.

45. The process of macro-economic adjustment, which is being initiated with this budget, would take at least three years to complete. This adjustment must have a human face. Therefore, during the period of transition we shall do everything that is possible to minimise the burden of adjustment on the poor. To some extent, the poor would be protected as the rate of inflation comes down. We shall make determined efforts to control inflation and the price rise. The fiscal strategy of this budget will make a major contribution in this regard. In addition, it will be our endeavour to provide protection to the poor in the form of enhanced outlays in the social sectors. Employment creation and poverty eradication in rural India will continue to receive the highest priority. At the same time, Government is committed to the uplift of the weakest and the most vulnerable sections of our society.

46. The plan outlay for the Ministry of Rural Development is being stepped up from Rs. 3115 crores last year to Rs. 3508 crores this year. Within this, the outlay for employment programmes alone is Rs. 2100 crores. The various employment oriented programmes should make it possible to provide nearly 900 million man-days of employment. If, this year, we are not aiming at the target of 1000 million man-days mentioned in

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our manifesto it is because the season when there is maximum need for such employment is already over. The Eighth Plan now under formulation will spell out a comprehensive strategy and programmes to achieve the long term employment objectives, and targets such as those relating to the construction of irrigation wells, urban night shelters and Sulabh Shauchalayas, dwelling units for poor backward classes, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the villages, mentioned in our Party's election manifesto.

47. The provision for the rural water supply scheme is being stepped up to Rs. 758 crores, so as to make it possible to set aside Rs. 250 crores for ensuring complete coverage of 'no-source problem villages' by the end of 1992-93. The earlier expectation was that these villages would be covered only by the end of the Eighth Plan period. The late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had attached great priority to this programme and had set up a Technology Mission for this purpose. The programme, which is now being named after Shri Rajiv Gandhi, will be accelerated. We will ensure that resource constraints do not stand in the way of achieving the target.

48. It is a matter of deep concern that we have still not been able to put an end to the dehumanising practice of manual removal of night-soil. The allocation for this programme has in the past been less than adequate. It has now been decided not only to accelerate the programme for the conversion of dry-latrines but also to step up the allocation for the rehabilitation and retraining of scavengers. Towards this end, the allocation for the programme has been increased by Rs. 25 crores and more funds, to the extent necessary, would be provided during the course of the year. Inclusive of the increased provision for this programme, the total outlay for the programmes of the Ministry of Welfare, which is concerned with the welfare of scheduled castes, scheduled

tribes and other weaker sections of our society, is being stepped up from Rs. 364 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 479 crores in 1991-92. The outlay for the Department of Women and Child Development, dealing with perhaps the two most disadvantaged segments of our population among the poor, is being enhanced from Rs. 330 crores last year to Rs. 400 crores this year. For Health and Family Welfare, I am providing a plan outlay of Rs. 1051 crores in 1991-92 as compared with Rs. 950 crores in 1990-91.

49. The allocation of resources for investment in social sectors is of utmost importance for the development of human resources. In this context, there is no need for me to emphasise the importance of education, in particular, elementary education. Our efforts to restructure and revitalise the economy can succeed only if we invest in our people. Particular attention has to be paid to the provision of quality education to children belonging to the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes and other economically and socially backward classes. Children who belong to the category of first generation learners need special care and attention. If the equality of opportunity is to acquire its true significance, quality education must not remain the exclusive privilege of the children of the rich. The Government is committed to ensure that, whatever be our constraints, the programmes of education will not be allowed to suffer for want of financial support. Every effort will be made to ensure that the constitutional directive of providing free and compulsory education upto the age of 14 years becomes a reality before we enter the twenty first century. In the sphere of higher education and technical education, more resources are needed for modernisation and diversification, but, at the same time, an effort must be made to secure optimum results from the existing investments in these institutions. The requirements of education are vast and we shall have to seek innovative ways of finding resources. Budget support provided by

the Central Government and the State Governments are an important source, but cannot continue to remain the only source. I am raising the allocation for education from Rs. 865 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 977 crores in 1991-92. This allocation is not commensurate with my deep commitment to education and the priority that is attached by the Government to the education sector. I would have liked to do more but we must learn to live with the constraints on the exchequer.

50. We have the third largest number of scientists and technologists in the world. Yet, technology development in our country has not been commensurate either with this number or the investments that we have been making in the science and technology sectors in our successive Five Year Plans. This gap would have to be bridged through a suitable reorientation of the Science and Technology Policy and the way paved for relating science and technology more intimately to the requirements of our development, as well as for better up-gradation, absorption, adaptation and assimilation of new technologies. This task has become imperative as we prepare ourselves to be an internationally competitive economy.

51. Government has also decided on five new initiatives. The first of these is the establishment of a Corporation for the welfare of the backward classes, a task that the Congress manifesto has included for completion within the first 100 days. The details of the structure and duties of this Corporation are being finalised by the Ministry of Welfare and will be announced before the end of this session.

52. 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 technical change and modernisation of the productive apparatus does not devolve on the workers. This fund will provide a social safety net which will protect the workers from

the adverse consequences of the technological transformation. I visualise that this fund will grow in size and State governments will also contribute to its corpus in due course. The fund will not merely provide ameliorative measures for the workers affected in the course of technical change but, more importantly, provide retraining to them, so that they are in position to remain active productive partners in the process of modernisation.

53. The third programme relates to the care of children of families affected by communal riots. These riots are a blot on the fair name of our Republic. Our Government is deeply committed to the protection and advancement of all religious and cultural minorities. Effective steps will be taken to prevent recurrence of communal violence. At present there are arrangements to provide compensation of varying amounts to the riot affected families. But experience shows that such compensation does not always protect the interests of children of the riot affected families. These children then grow up into disgruntled and disorganised adulthood. They become an easy prey to the propaganda of anti-social elements and the obscurantist, fundamentalist forces of reaction. To protect the interests of such children, look after their welfare and in particular their education, the Government proposes to set up a National Foundation for Communal Harmony as an autonomous non-government organisation. The Central Government will make a significant contribution to this Foundation in 1991-92. I invite State Governments as well as industry and trade to make liberal contributions for this noble cause.

54. The fourth programme is to promote national integration through a scheme for enabling the youth of each part of the country to go in large numbers and work for short periods in other parts of the country, giving them an opportunity to mingle with people of different regions and

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languages. A similar step in this direction has already been taken in the Navodaya Vidyalaya Programme. This will now be strengthened and extended on a national basis.

55. The fifth programme relates to promotion of South-South cooperation. We as a nation are committed to close cooperation and sharing our development experience, knowledge and expertise with non-aligned and other developing countries. There is immense scope for Indian scientists, technicians, engineers, teachers, social workers and farmers to contribute to the development process in the third world. Our experience in various fields can be of great relevance and assistance to many developing countries particularly in Asia and Africa. It is our hope to arrange for participation of at least 500 volunteers in different nation building tasks, in selected developing countries, in the coming year. The details of the programmes will be worked out and announced before the end of the session.

56. The House will also be pleased to learn that in acceptance of a recommendation of the South Commission presided over by Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, the former President of Tanzania, we propose to set up a National Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister for mobilising public opinion in support of South-South cooperation and for advising our Government for devising concrete action programmes in this regard. This committee will consist of representatives of Government, trade and industry, trade unions and members of learned professions.

57. The Rajiv Gandhi Foundation has been established to perpetuate the memory of the great leader and to promote the ideals and objectives for which he lived and laid down his life. This Foundation, among other things, will lay particular emphasis on research and action programmes relating to the application of science and technology for development, propagation of literacy, the protec-

tion of the environment, the promotion of communal harmony and national integration, the uplift of the under-privileged, women and handicapped persons, administrative reforms and India's role in the global economy. As a homage to the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and in support of the laudable objectives of the Foundation, Government has decided to contribute Rs. 100 crores to the Foundation at the rate of Rs. 20 crores per annum for a period of five years beginning from the current year.

58. Pending determination of the exact amounts that will be necessary for each of these new initiatives, a lump sum provision of Rs. 250 crores has been included in the plan outlay of the Ministry of Finance.

59. The budget provision for total expenditure in 1991-92 is Rs. 113422 crores, of which Rs. 79697 crores is non-plan expenditure and Rs. 33725 crores is plan expenditure.

60. In the sphere of revenue receipts, at the existing rates of taxation, gross tax revenues are estimated at Rs. 66218 crores during the current financial year, compared to Rs. 58916 crores in the revised estimates of last year. The payment to States of their share of taxes is placed at Rs. 15643 crores in 1991-92 as against Rs. 14535 crores in the revised estimates for 1990-91. Thus, the net revenue receipts of the Centre, including non-tax revenue, are estimated to increase from Rs. 57381 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 65524 crores in 1991-92.

61. In the sphere of capital receipts, market borrowings are placed at Rs. 7500 crores this year, which is lower than Rs. 8000 crores last year; this is part of a conscious effort to reduce the borrowing of the Central Government which would, in keeping with the past trends, have gone up by about 10 per cent. The net collections on account of small savings are estimated at Rs. 8000

crores, which are at the same level as the revised estimates for last year. In addition, the Government has decided to disinvest upto 20 per cent of its equity in selected public sector undertakings in favour of mutual funds and investment institutions in the public sector, which is expected to yield Rs. 2500 crores to the exchequer during the current financial year. This disinvestment would broad-base the equity, improve the management and enhance the availability of resources in these enterprises.

62. The net receipts on account of external assistance, excluding grants, are placed at Rs. 3510 crores compared to Rs. 3984 crores in the revised estimates of 1990-91. While the increase in the loan repayment and interest payment liabilities, as a consequence of the recent exchange rate adjustments, is fully reflected in the budget estimates, the likely increase in the rupee value of external assistance following the exchange rate adjustments is still under assessment. To the extent that these receipts increase, there will also be a corresponding increase in expenditure when the assistance is passed on to the concerned projects or schemes for which such assistance is received. These changes, which will thus be budget deficit neutral, will be incorporated at the stage of revised estimates.

63. Taking into account other changes in receipts and expenditure, total receipts at the existing rates of taxation are estimated at Rs. 103698 crores, while total expenditure is estimated at Rs. 113422 crores. Therefore, without additional resource mobilisation, the budget deficit is estimated at Rs. 9724 crores, the revenue deficit at Rs. 15859 crores, and the fiscal deficit at Rs. 39732 crores.

18.00 hrs.

64. Honourable Members would have observed that expenditure adjustment constitutes the core of the proposed fiscal correction during the current financial year. But the pro-

cess of fiscal adjustment cannot be complete without revenue measures to increase the income of the Government. I now seek the indulgence of the House to present the reliefs, the incentives and the levies in the sphere of direct taxes.

65. The revenue from direct taxes, both as a proportion of GDP and as a percentage of total tax revenues, has registered a steady decline over time. This trend has to be reversed, so as to restore equity in, and balance to our fiscal system. Resources for development must be raised from those who have the capacity to pay. For this purpose, we must place greater emphasis on direct taxes. This calls for increased rates wherever necessary and a better tax compliance. At the same time, rationalisation of the system, which reduces the maximum marginal rate of tax, simplifies the procedures, reduces the plethora of concessions, and brings the average rates of income-tax at various levels of income to more appropriate levels, is necessary. The time available before presenting the budget was simply not enough to formulate basic structural changes. Yet, I have made a conscious effort to move one step forward in this direction.

66. Nobody can deny the existence of large scale tax evasion, both in terms of income and in terms of wealth. Unless I find substantial improvement in tax compliance in the next few months, Government will have no choice but to take strong measures to make the tax evader pay a sufficiently high price for such delinquency. Before coming down heavily on tax evaders, I would like to give them a last opportunity to come clean. The black money so mobilised will be utilised for the achievement of social objectives such as slum clearance and low cost housing for the rural poor.

67. I propose to institute a scheme, under which any person would be

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allowed to make a deposit with the National Housing Bank on or before close of business on 30th November, 1991. Thereupon, forty per cent of such deposit would be deducted and set apart as a special levy, which would form the corpus of a fund in the National Housing Bank. This fund will be utilised for financing slum clearance and low cost housing for the poor, in accordance with guidelines and priorities laid down by the Government. The depositor would be allowed to draw the balance amount in one or more instalments through account payee cheques for any stated purpose of his choice. There will be no lock-in period for this deposit. Persons making such deposits will not be required to disclose the source of funds from which the deposits are made. In other words, the monies deposited would be provided complete immunity from enquiry and investigation. The provisions of Direct Tax Laws would, however, apply to the net deposits after deduction of the special levy, from the date of the deposit. The levy itself would not be an allowable deduction in the computation of income of the person concerned. Necessary legislation in this regard will be introduced shortly, in this session of Parliament. The details of the scheme and its date of commencement will also be announced soon.

68. The Income-tax Act contains a provision under which tax payers can avail of the facility of waiver of penalty and interest on the amount disclosed once in a life-time. To those who have already availed of this facility, I propose to give just one more opportunity to disclose their unaccounted incomes. The Finance Bill contains a proposal for making suitable amendments to section 273A of the Income-tax Act for this purpose.

69. The Settlement Commission was set up to provide an opportunity to assesses to declare their undis-

closed income and wealth. Under the existing procedures, the Commissioner of Income Tax can, on certain grounds, object to admission of an application by the Settlement Commission. This results in unnecessary delay. This provision is, therefore, being deleted. The Settlement Commission will, however, continue to call for and take into account the Commissioner's report, provided it is furnished within a period of six months.

70. Our election manifesto has promised that we will promote reinvestment of profits, by suitable tax exemptions, in areas where there is crying need for massive investment such as low and middle income group housing, highways, roads and bridges, non-conventional energy, school buildings and supply of drinking water. I, therefore, propose to make a provision in the Income-tax Act to provide deduction, in computing taxable profits of a taxpayer carrying on a business or profession, of the entire amount paid for financing projects or schemes promoting social and economic welfare. To ensure optimum use of scarce resources, I propose to set up a National Committee of eminent persons to identify areas requiring support and for recommending specific projects and schemes. A similar deduction will be allowed also in the case of taxpayers not carrying on any business or profession.

71. As a token of my commitment to education and research and in recognition of the significant role they have to play in our development process, I propose to extend certain tax concessions that will help in the funding of social science research and provide some incentive to authors and publishers.

72. At present, only taxpayers carrying on a business or profession get deduction for sums paid to any approved university, college or other institutions for research in social sciences related to the class of busi-

ness carried on by them. I consider that there is a case for providing more tax incentives for social science research. I, therefore, propose to allow the same 100 per cent deduction in respect of sums paid for research in these areas whether related to business or not. I also propose to allow this deduction to taxpayers not carrying on any business or profession.

73. The role of books, particularly in the context of our National Literacy Mission as well as the National Education Policy cannot be over-emphasized. To encourage publication of better and less expensive books and to give a fillip to the publishing industry, I propose to revive, with effect from the current accounting period, the deduction of twenty per cent of profits from publication of books for a period of 5 years. To encourage the publication of quality text books in various Indian languages I also propose to revive the 25 per cent deduction from professional income of authors of text books in Indian languages. This will also be available for a period of five years, beginning with the current income-earning period.

74. Off-shore country funds are emerging as important channels for attracting foreign institutional investment particularly from non resident Indians. India made a beginning in this direction in 1989. Of late, however, there are signs of diminishing interest of foreign institutional investors in off-shore India country funds. The comparative national tax structure is one of the key factors affecting the direction of international financial flow. I, therefore, propose to substantially reduce the rate of tax on dividend income received by the off-shore funds from the units of UTI or other mutual funds and on long-term capital gains from such units. On dividend income the proposed rate of tax will be 10 per cent as against the existing rate of 25 per cent. On long-term capital gains, I propose to have the same rate of 10

per cent as against the effective rate of about 45 per cent at present.

75. In the light of our deep emotional involvement with the struggle of the Black majority in South Africa and as a further affirmation of our commitment to South-South cooperation, I propose that donations to the AFRICA FUND be entitled to 100 per cent deduction under section 80G of the Income-tax Act.

76. The Government is committed to the welfare of our unfortunate handicapped citizens. In an effort to mitigate in some small measure their hardship, I propose to increase the deduction available under Section 80 U of the Income-tax Act in respect of totally blind or physically handicapped persons, from fifteen thousand rupees to twenty thousand rupees. The benefit of this tax concession is also proposed to be extended to partially blind persons.

77. Promotion of housing activity ranks high in Government's socio-economic priorities. Towards this objective, I propose to extend the benefit of tax rebate under section 88 of the Income-tax Act also to contractual schemes floated by public housing corporations like HUDCO and State Housing Boards along the lines of the Home Loan Account Scheme of the National Housing Bank. Further, the tax rebate under section 88 will also be available in relation to instalments/repayment of loans towards cost of land and also in cases where the house was purchased or constructed before 1st April, 1987.

78. Our software industry has made considerable progress in recent years. However, there is still a vast unexploited potential for growth. It is time we make all-out efforts to capture the overseas software market. With this objective, I propose to extend the tax concession under section 80HHC of the Income-tax Act to export of software. With this

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concession, the exports of this industry should register rapid growth.

79. I also propose to extend the concession under section 80HHC to the export of processed minerals.

80. I consider that scientific, technical and professional skills, knowledge and experience possessed by our professionals in various fields like architecture, accounting etc. have an increasing capacity to earn foreign exchange for the country. Many of them carry on their professions as individuals or partnership firms. To enable them to benefit from the tax concession available under section 80-O, I propose to extend, to the non-corporate assessees, the concession presently available only to the corporate sector.

81. In order to encourage development of tourist infrastructure in regions where such facilities are almost non-existent today, I propose to exempt from Expenditure Tax for a period of ten years expenditure incurred in new approved hotels set up in hilly and other remote areas. I also propose to allow to such hotels a deduction of 50 per cent from their profits instead of the normal 30 per cent under section 80-I, subject to certain conditions.

82. As a token of my appreciation of the role of a healthy capital market in the development of our economy, I propose to raise the basic deduction of Rs. 10,000 now available under section 48 of the Income-tax Act in respect of long-term capital gains to Rs. 15,000.

83. As indicated earlier, I wish to take some positive steps to reverse the trend of decline in the proportion of direct tax revenues to total revenues. I therefore propose to raise additional resources this year through a greater reliance on direct taxes. I now turn to my proposals for ensuring better tax compliance and mobilising revenues through the imposition of additional taxes.

84. To enable the Government to identify income earners, most of whom would not otherwise declare their income or would not declare their full income, I propose to extend the scheme of tax deduction at source to cover new areas of payments in the nature of commissions, interest paid by banks on time deposits and withdrawals from the National Savings Scheme. To minimise the inconvenience for small depositors, tax will be deducted at source only in respect of payments in excess of Rs. 2,500 per year. Those receiving payments in excess of the limit but not having taxable income will have the facility of collecting payment with no tax deduction by filing a declaration in the prescribed manner.

85. The present provision for offsetting short-term capital losses against income leads to tax avoidance. I, therefore, propose that any loss on transfer of a capital asset will be set off only against gain from transfer of another capital asset. This is only logical. It should also stop the practice of buying short-term capital losses being resorted to by some unscrupulous tax payers.

86. Over the years, those with an instinct for gambling have increasingly patronised the races. I propose to withdraw the income-tax exemption of Rs. 5,000 in respect of earnings from races, including horse races. I am sure that persons who place bets will now also have the added pleasure of sharing their earnings from races with the Government.

87. Professor Kaldor once observed that no civilised society should have a maximum marginal rate of income tax higher than 45 per cent. We are firmly committed to a tax system which is simple, credible, yet progressive, in which people realise that honesty is the best policy. I expect to make a beginning in this direction as soon as we can overcome the present fiscal difficulties. I am confident that this process can be

completed before the end of the five year term of our Government. Tax payers can help to accelerate the process of tax reform if all of them resolve to pay their income-tax dues fully and promptly. In the midst of a fiscal crisis however, such a change is not feasible. We must wait for better times. The best I can do under the circumstances, is what I propose to do this year: keep the personal income-tax rate structure including the surcharge unchanged. That I have not added to the burden of the taxpayer is, in itself, a relief.

88. I have received several representations that wealth-tax rates need to be rationalised. I see considerable merit in these representations. However, taking into account the needs of revenue and also for want of time, I propose to make no change in the rates of wealth-tax.

89. For the purposes of levy of wealth-tax, the rules of valuation of assets aim at capturing their market value, or near about, as on the valuation date. I find that a distortion has crept into these rules. When an individual holds any asset in his name its valuation is at the market value. However, if a group of persons holds its assets through an investment company the taxable value of these assets gets reduced considerably because it is based on the book value and not on the market value. I, therefore, propose to remove this anomaly by providing that in valuing unquoted shares of an investment company, the break-up value of the share will be determined after revaluing the assets of the company at their market value.

90. I feel disappointed that the phenomenal growth in the output, value added and profits of the corporate sector, in recent years, has not been appropriately reflected in corporate tax collections. The experience of the preceding financial year, in particular, is a matter of serious concern. I am, therefore, raising the corporate tax rate for widely held

companies, from 40 to 45 per cent. A corresponding increase of 5 percentage points from 45 to 50 per cent is being made in the corporate tax rate for closely held companies. I also propose to continue the existing surcharge of 15 per cent.

91. The traditional distinction in corporate tax rates between trading companies and industrial companies has outlived its utility. I therefore propose to remove this distinction.

92. I recognise that in the medium term the rates and structure of corporate taxation have to be consistent with the needs of an economy aiming to become internationally competitive. I shall attend to this task as soon as we have overcome the present fiscal crisis.

93. In our economy, labour is abundant and capital is scarce. These economic realities have to be reflected in our fiscal policy. Yet, over the years, the Indian economy has witnessed a disturbing shift towards greater capital intensity in production. This has led to distortion and avoidable hardship in cases where labour is replaced, or employment potential reduced, by resort to capital intensive methods of production, even in cases where such a shift is not justified on other economic and technical considerations. Fiscal incentives have been conducive to such a shift. While there can be no compromise with the imperatives of technological upgradation and continuous modernisation, the tendency towards excessive capital intensity in our industry must be checked.

94. The rates for depreciation prescribed in 1987, in relation to plant and machinery, are far too generous and provide much more than is needed to compensate for wear and tear. These rates of depreciation do not reflect the true economic life of business assets. An asset would be almost fully written off in six years at the present rate of 33.33 per cent

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applicable to the bulk of plant and machinery. I think an eight year period would be more reasonable taking into account the pace of technological change in India, the true economic life of the business assets, and the need to discourage tax induced replacement of assets. Therefore, I propose to reduce the general rate of depreciation for machinery and plant from 33.33 per cent to 25 per cent. I also propose to reduce the rate of depreciation for aeroplanes, motor buses, motor taxis and some other equipments from 50 per cent to 40 per cent, which would mean almost complete recoupment of cost in six, instead of five years. However, to encourage use of energy saving devices and renewable energy devices, I propose to continue to provide 100 per cent depreciation on such items of plant and machinery as also some others. Further, I also propose to restrict the rates of depreciation to 50 per cent of the normal rates of depreciation in cases where the asset is used for less than 6 months in a year.

95. Tax support to special institutions may be necessary in their nascent stage. However, it should not be extended in perpetuity. Such institutions must strive to become self-reliant. The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has been enjoying complete tax exemption in respect of its income since its inception, unlike other public financial institutions. I propose to withdraw this tax exemption, which is no longer necessary.

96. In 1987, the Government had introduced a tax on ostentatious expenditure. It is in the form of a tax of 20 per cent of expenditure incurred in hotels where the room rent exceeds Rs. 400 per day. I propose to extend the coverage of this tax to the expenditure incurred in restaurants providing superior facilities like air-conditioning. This tax will be levied at the rate of 15 per cent of such expenditure.

97. In view of the binding fiscal constraints and the need to mobilise resources, I propose to revive the interest-tax which was first introduced in 1974 and withdrawn in 1978, re-introduced in a modified form in 1980 and finally withdrawn in 1985. I am enlarging, slightly, the coverage of this tax. The new tax will be levied on the gross amount of interest received by all banks, financial institutions and non-banking financial companies in the corporate sector on loans and advances made in India. These institutions would reimburse themselves by making necessary adjustments in the interest rates charged from borrowers. The proposed tax is expected to raise the cost of borrowing and yield revenue to the Government. It should, therefore, have both monetary and fiscal impact.

98. The proposed tax will be levied at the rate of 3 per cent of the gross amount of interest earned by banks, financial institutions and financial companies on loans and advances made in India. Interest received on transactions between the various credit institutions will be exempted from the proposed tax. The proposed tax will operate prospectively and interest accruing before 1st October, 1991 will not be taxed. The proposed tax will be allowed as a deduction in computing taxable income under the Income-tax Act.

99. I do not propose to take up the time of the House with other minor changes in the Direct Tax Laws.

100. My proposals on direct taxes are estimated to yield a net revenue gain of Rs. 2139 crores. Of this amount, Rs. 97 crores will accrue to the states.

101. Honourable Members of the House are aware that the balance of payments situation is exceedingly difficult. In order to attract larger inflows of foreign exchange, I propose to introduce two schemes.

102. Under the first scheme, I propose that remittances in foreign exchange can be made to any person in India. Even if the remittance is received as a gift by the donee in India, it would not be subjected to gift tax. The source of funds out of which the remittances are made would not be subject to scrutiny under the Direct Tax Laws and Exchange Control Regulations. In other words, I propose to provide immunity for such remittances under these laws. The provisions of Direct Tax Laws will apply in the normal manner to the rupee proceeds of these remittances. The scheme will come into immediate effect and will be open until close of business on 30th November, 1991. The details of the scheme will be announced by the Reserve Bank of India. I also propose to introduce the necessary legislation in this regard as early as possible before this House.

103. Under the second scheme, the State Bank of India would issue India Development Bonds to be denominated in US dollars. These bonds will be available for purchase by non-resident Indians and their overseas corporate bodies. There will be no ceiling for investment in these bonds which will have a maturity period of five years. The bonds will be fully transferable among non-resident Indians. Interest from the bonds will be exempt from income tax. The bond itself would also be exempt from wealth tax until maturity. For the non-resident holder, the face value of the bond and the interest thereon would be repatriable with exchange rate protection. The bonds can also be gifted to residents, who would be provided with amnesty and immunity, as in the first scheme for inward remittances. Such amnesty and immunity will be available only to the first resident donee. The gift would be exempt from gift tax. The resident donee bond-holder would also be entitled to exchange rate protection, and the same exemption from income tax and wealth tax, until maturity, but

the proceeds will be paid only in rupees in India and would not be remittable abroad. The bonds will be available for sale at all important branches of the State Bank of India abroad until close of business on 30th November, 1991. The details of the scheme will be announced by the Reserve Bank of India. I would also bring before this House the necessary legislation at the earliest.

104. In formulating my proposals on indirect taxes, I have kept in mind the wider context. In keeping with the promises made in the election manifesto of our party, we have also to ensure that prices of essential commodities and goods used by the common man are kept well under check. Conspicuous consumption must be curbed and the burden of taxation should be borne by the more affluent sections of the society. In the light of these imperatives, I have attempted to structure the proposals for customs and excise levies in a manner that indigenous industries are encouraged, and, at the same time, imports of items required for export production are not thwarted. In the long term, if revenues are buoyant and tax compliance improves, I expect to bring down the rates of customs and excise levies. Even now, some moderation in import duties is being attempted and a more broad based effort may be attempted to streamline the structure and reduce the rates in the next budget. I have also tried to ensure that the proposed changes improve competitiveness of the industrial sector, particularly the export oriented industries.

105. It is my intention to rationalise and simplify the procedures, rules and regulations pertaining to indirect taxes, so that the delays in the system are eliminated, and the interface between the tax collector and the tax payer is reduced to the minimum. Given the paucity of time, it has not been possible to undertake such an exercise in this budget, but we should

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be able to formulate concrete measures soon as a part of structural reforms in the tax system.

106. Recent years have witnessed an excessive reliance on indirect taxes for additional resource mobilisation. This escalates costs, fuels inflation and is regressive in its impact. Therefore, I have not relied on indirect taxes as the major source of resource mobilisation. Indeed, the overall impact of my proposals for customs and excise levies is revenue negative in so far as the Central Government is concerned.

107. In the sphere of customs duties, over time, the objective of protection for infant industries and the need to raise revenues have led to a situation where import duties prescribed for certain items are inordinately high and, in several cases, more than 300 per cent. As a measure of reform, I propose to reduce the *ad valorem* rate of basic plus auxiliary duties of customs to a maximum of 150 per cent where it is more than that at present, thereby eliminating the tariff peaks above 150 per cent. The only exceptions that would remain hereafter are imported alcoholic beverages and passenger baggage. The revenue loss on this account would be Rs. 132 crores in a full year.

108. In view of the deterioration in the fiscal situation last year, auxiliary duty of customs was increased across-the-board, with effect from 15th December, 1990, so as to mobilise additional resources. The increase was not quite rational and was asymmetric in its incidence. In some cases, the auxiliary duty went up by 20 percentage points—from 5 per cent to 25 per cent and from 30 per cent to 50 per cent, while in some others, by just 5 percentage points i.e., from 45 per cent to 50 per cent. This steep and uneven increase imposed a very high burden of duties on certain items, and also led to distortions in the overall rate structure. In order

to remove the anomalies which had been created and rationalise rates of duties, I propose to give a duty relief of 10 percentage points to almost every item which suffered an increase of 20 percentage points. Moreover, on certain items, which are important from the point of view of environmental protection, export promotion, saving of foreign exchange and so on, I propose to roll back the rates to levels prevailing before 15th December, 1990. These items include waste paper, wood in the rough, jigat used in the manufacture of Agarbattis, ethylene, machinery for fuel injection equipment and certain items of machinery for printing and the newspaper industry. These proposals will result in a revenue loss of Rs. 472 crores in a full year.

109. The prevailing rates of import duty on capital goods for general projects and machinery are, in general, high. While I cannot make a substantial reduction at this stage because of the revenue implications, which are considerable, I propose to reduce the level of duties from 85 per cent to 80 per cent. In tandem, the rate of duty on their components is also being reduced by 5 percentage points from the existing levels of 65 or 70 per cent. This proposal would mean a revenue loss of Rs. 167 crores in a full year.

110. A technology upgradation scheme was launched in 1987 by the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Under this scheme, fiscal relief was provided on import of capital equipment for the manufacture of power generation equipment, paper machinery, textile machinery and many others; to promote domestic production of such machinery. The scheme has been instrumental in bringing about considerable improvement in the quality of machines produced in India. In order to give a further thrust to the scheme, I propose to expand the list of machinery items which will now attract a concessional duty of 50 per cent. The revenue loss on this account is estimated at Rs. 5 crores in a full year.

111. We have recently taken several innovative steps to give an impetus to our exports. I would now like to outline some fiscal measures which will give a further boost to the export effort.

112. At present 100 per cent export oriented undertakings or units in a free trade zone are allowed to divert a certain proportion of their production to the domestic market. However, the present stipulation, that excise duty payable must be equal to the import duty, has proved to be a deterrent. These units have to be fostered if they are to compete effectively in the international market; for this purpose they should not be prevented from creating a niche in the domestic market. Accordingly, I propose to reduce the excise duty on the goods, permitted to be sold in the domestic market under the scheme, to a level which would be equivalent to half the import duty leviable on such goods subject, inter alia, to the condition that the duty would not be less than the excise duty levied on similar items produced in the domestic tariff area.

113. To promote the growth of the marine products industry, fiscal relief has been given by way of customs duty concession on specified machinery items required by this industry. I propose to extend the duty concession to a few more items of such machinery. Out of my concern for the welfare of our fishermen, I also propose to fully exempt from excise duty specified yarns which are generally used for making fish-nets.

114. In order to encourage the growth of the finished leather industry and also as a measure of export promotion, I propose to reduce the basic and auxiliary duties of customs on polyurethane film and foil, as well as polyols from 150 per cent to 40 per cent. The duty on isocyanates is being reduced from 120 per cent to 40 per cent. The import duty on two important leather preservatives, namely TCMTB and PCMC, is being

reduced from over 150 per cent to 50 per cent. These preservatives will replace certain other chemicals which are suspected to have carcinogenic effects. I also propose to extend the concessional duty, available at present to specified capital goods required by the leather industry to a few more items of such machinery.

115. Synthetic cubic zirconium, which is the closest imitation of natural diamonds, has the potential to provide job opportunities for a large number of artisans. The jewellery made therefrom also has a significant export potential. In order to encourage indigenous manufacture of cubic zirconium, I propose to reduce the import duty on the raw materials viz. zirconium oxide and yttrium oxide to the level of 40 per cent from the present level of over 150 per cent.

116. Our Government attaches the highest priority to agriculture. One of the promises made in our election manifesto is to provide a massive thrust to food processing and other agro-based industries, in an endeavour to increase the income of farmers, create employment opportunities, diversify the rural economy and foster rural industrialisation.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH (Parbhani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am walking out of the House because Government has done nothing for the farmers. 75 per cent Members of the Treasury Bench belong to farmers, households. (Interruptions) This Budget is not for the farmers. That is why I am walking out of the House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like this.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.
(Interruptions)

18.42 hrs.

At this stage. Shri Ashok Anandrao Deshmukh left the House

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: As an important step in this direction, I propose to exempt agro-based products such as sauces, ketchup, butter, cheese, skimmed milk powder, vegetable oils, jams, jellies and juices, canned fruits and dried vegetables, certain soya products, starches and preparations of meat and fish from excise duties altogether. I am doing so to promote the diversification of our agricultural economy, to increase the farmers' share of the consumer's income spent on processed agricultural products, to promote rural industrialisation based on agricultural produce and to encourage the adoption of modern postharvest technologies. The measures I have proposed, I expect, will also lead to some reduction in consumer prices of such products, providing relief to the harassed consumers in a period of rising prices. The revenue loss will be Rs. 84 crores but I am convinced that the overall gain to the economy will more than offset the loss to the exchequer.

117. As a relief to the agro-based jute industry, which has been beset with chronic problems, I propose to reduce the excise duty on products which contain a minimum of 35 per cent of jute fibre from Rs. 660 to Rs. 330 per metric ton.

118. At present a number of specified bulk pesticides and pesticide intermediates enjoy concessional import and excise duties. I propose to extend the duty concession to a few more bulk pesticides and pesticide intermediates. The proposals involve a revenue loss of about Rs. 11 crores in a full year.

119. There is a money credit scheme in vogue to encourage the use of minor oils for the manufacture of soaps. I propose to increase the money credit of Rs. 640 per metric ton that

is currently available in respect of rice bran oil used in the manufacture of soaps to Rs. 1000 per metric ton. In addition, I propose to include some more non-conventional oils and solvent extracted oils in the scheme. This would also help in generating more employment for our tribal women. These proposals involve a revenue sacrifice of about Rs. 10 crores in a full year.

120. The MODVAT scheme was introduced in 1986 to minimise the cascading effect of indirect taxes. The scheme has been well received by the industry, and there have been persistent demands for its extension to other areas. I propose to reintroduce the scheme in respect of aerated waters, and also to extend it to cover man-made fibres and filament yarns in respect of their inputs. While extending the scheme to fibres and yarns, I do not propose to raise the duty on those fibres and yarns on which the duty was increased as recently as December, 1990. On other fibres and yarns, the duty rates have been adjusted with a view to retaining the collection of excise duties at the earlier level. But duties on polypropylene monofilament and multifilament yarns are being increased to raise additional revenue. In respect of aerated waters also, I do not propose any increase in duty. The proposals involve a revenue loss of about Rs. 230 crores in a full year. I expect that the benefit would be passed on to the consumers in the form of reduced prices.

121. I propose to rationalise the existing excise duty rates on polyester blended yarns. As an anti-evasion measure, I also propose to charge additional excise duty on cotton fabrics containing 40 per cent or less of polyester at the same rates as applicable to cotton fabrics containing more than 40 per cent of polyester. The proposals involve a revenue gain of about Rs. 23 crores in a full year.

122. In our effort to make essential drugs available to the people at affordable prices, I propose to fully exempt five specified anti-epileptic formulations from excise duty. At present, some drug intermediates and bulk drugs carry a concessional rate of import duty. I wish to extend the concession to a few more drug intermediates and bulk drugs, and grant concessions in excise duties to a few more drug intermediates.

123. In keeping with our commitment to give special priority to cottage, khadi and village industries, I propose to give some excise duty concessions to this sector. At present, footwear of value not exceeding Rs. 100 per pair manufactured in rural areas by registered co-operative societies, women's societies or by institutions recognised by KVIC, are fully exempted. I propose to raise the value limit of exemption to Rs. 150 per pair. Further, I propose to extend to synthetic detergents the benefit of full exemption from excise duty that is presently available to specified products when manufactured in rural areas by registered co-operative societies, women's societies, institutions recognised by KVIC etc.

124. I would now like to outline some of the steps that I propose for the protection of our environment and for ecological security. In view of our dwindling forest cover, we must conserve our scarce resources. Therefore, as I have stated earlier, the import duty on waste paper and wood in the rough is proposed to be rolled back to the rates that were prevailing before 15th December, 1990. I also propose to fully exempt from excise duty aluminium doors, windows and their frames so as to encourage the use of aluminium in the place of wood in construction activities. Fly ash is a pollutant. It can, however, be put to productive use in the manufacture of bricks and other construction materials. In order to encourage such use, I propose to fully exempt from excise duty various building components

containing more than 25 per cent of fly ash or phosphogypsum. I also propose to exempt phosphogypsum which is one of the bye-products of the fertilizer industry from excise duty to encourage its use of by farmers.

125. Few would disagree that I am one of the most harassed Finance Ministers in recent times. To perform the onerous task before me, I need support from the Press. As a gesture of goodwill, I propose to exempt standard newsprint from import duty which is, at present, Rs. 450 per metric ton. I have already proposed to bring down the rates of import duty on certain specified machinery and equipment required by the printing and newspaper industry to the levels that were obtaining before 15th December, 1990. The monetary limit of duty free import of photographic goods by accredited cameramen of the Press is being raised from the present level of Rs. 30,000 to 60,000. These proposals involve a revenue loss of over Rs. 9 crores in a full year. Let me add, Mr. Speaker Sir, that I may reconsider these proposals after I see the editorials tomorrow morning.

126. Ever since my appointment as Finance Minister, I have had to spend long hours in office. This has quite naturally made my wife very unhappy. The House will agree that it is not good for the health of our economy if the Finance Minister of the country has strained relations with his own finance minister at home. I propose that the total exemption from payment of excise duty currently available to utensils made of aluminium, copper and stainless steel be extended to certain other household items particularly tiffin boxes.

127. The same consideration has induced me to propose a reduction in the excise duty on specified tableware produced by semi-automatic process from the present level of 20 per cent to 15 per cent. Mindful of the need for peace at home and also taking into account the labour intensive

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nature of the manufacture of glassware by the mouth blown process, I propose to reduce the excise duty on such glassware to 15 per cent uniformly. Some people may not applaud my action. But I am sure most housewives harassed by the ever rising price level will appreciate my action.

128. In keeping with the commitment in our election manifesto, I shall make every effort to ensure that indirect taxes do not unduly add to the prices of essential commodities. Of the items listed in the manifesto, at present, there is no excise duty on salt, cycles, newsprint, post cards, inland letters and envelopes, and certain varieties of stoves. Cotton sarees and dhooties attract only additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax which accrues wholly to the State Governments. I have earlier proposed to fully exempt edible oils from excise duty. Electric bulbs of upto 60 watts, are already exempt from excise duty. I now propose to fully exempt electric bulbs, of higher wattage, which presently attract a duty of Re. 1 per bulb, from the payment of excise duty. Energy efficient chulhas, too, would be exempted from excise duty. I also propose to reduce the excise duty on two wheelers of engine capacity exceeding 50 cc but not exceeding 75 cc from 20 per cent to 15 per cent.

129. I recognise that the tax reliefs I have given, by themselves, constitute only a small step towards the realisation of the objective mentioned in our manifesto in regard to prices of essential commodities. In pursuit of this objective, I propose to invite the representatives of industry and trade to sit together with our Government to work out modalities as to how best we can contribute to the realisation of the price objectives listed in our election manifesto, for the benefit of the common man.

130. In order to promote tourism which is an important means of earning foreign exchange, I propose to

reduce the import duty on adventure sports equipment from rates ranging from about 100 to 300 per cent to 40 per cent.

131. In keeping with the recent exchange rate adjustments of the rupee, I propose to raise the baggage allowances including duty free limits for bonafide gifts suitably; for instance the general duty free allowance for personal baggage is being raised from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 2400.

132. Let me now turn to the major proposals for additional revenue mobilisation.

133. At present special excise duty is being levied at the rate of 5 per cent of the basic excise duty. I propose to raise it to 10 per cent. Since the increase is only a percentage of the basic excise duty, the impact of the additional levy would be minimal on prices. For instance, in respect of any article on which the basic excise duty is say, 20 per cent, the increase would be only 1 per cent of the value. Tea, coffee, sugar, kerosene, matches, and vanaspathi, being items of mass consumption would remain exempt from special excise duty, in addition, I am ensuring that the increase in special excise duty will not apply to diesel and two wheelers. The proposal involves a revenue gain of Rs. 1010 crores in a full year, a substantial portion of which will accrue to the States.

134. One of the promises made in our election manifesto is to evolve policies and measures to curb conspicuous consumption. In pursuance of this, I propose to increase the excise duty rates on refrigerators, air-conditioners including compressors, motor cars, audio and video cassette tapes, video cassettes, picture tubes, colour television sets, VCRs and VCPs.

135. I propose to increase the excise duty on refrigerators by amounts varying from Rs. 200 to Rs. 800 depending upon the capacity, and in the case of air-conditioners, by amounts varying from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 30000. I also propose to raise the excise duty on compressors for air conditioners of a capacity not exceeding 7.5 metric ton by Rs. 1800. The expected additional revenue from these proposals is about Rs. 91 crores in a full year.

136. Motor cars at present attract excise duty at the rate of 50 per cent. I propose to increase the excise duty to 60 per cent. The duty on taxis at 30 per cent will, however, remain unchanged. The proposal will yield an additional revenue of Rs. 150 crores per year.

137. I propose to increase the excise duty on audio cassette tapes from Rs. 3 to 5 per sq. metre and on video cassette tapes from Rs. 10.50 to Rs. 15 per sq. metre. The estimated revenue gain from the proposal will be Rs. 29 crores in a full year.

138. As regards colour television sets, I propose to increase the excise duty by Rs. 500 and Rs. 750 per set, depending on the screen sizes. I propose to raise the excise duty on colour picture tubes as well. I am exempting all black and white television sets from excise duty and shifting the burden to picture tubes. I also propose to increase excise duty on VHS type VCRs and VCPs by Rs. 400 per set and Rs. 250 per set, respectively, and on other types of VCRs and VCPs, from 25 per cent to 30 per cent. The revenue gain on this account is Rs. 66 crores in a full year.

139. Every Finance Minister has to do his bit to curb smoking, which is injurious to health. I must also fall in line and add to the tax on cigarettes. In respect of non-filter cigarettes, I propose to raise the duties

by Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 per thousand cigarettes depending upon the length. In respect of filter cigarettes, the increase will be between Rs. 35 and Rs. 125 per thousand cigarettes. However, filter cigarettes exceeding 85 mm will attract the ceiling rate prescribed in the excise tariff. This will give us additional revenue to the extent of Rs. 300 crores in a full year.

140. The excise duty on hand-made branded biris is Rs. 3.75 per thousand. Although the duties on cigarettes have been increased almost every year, excise duties on biris have remained unchanged since 1986. I feel that biri smokers should not be denied the opportunity of increasing their share of contribution to the national exchequer. I accordingly propose to increase the duty on hand-made branded biris, other than paper rolled biris to Rs. 4.50 per thousand. Paper rolled biris will attract a duty of Rs. 10 per thousand. The present exemption on other hand made biris would, however, continue. The expected additional revenue is Rs. 33 crores in a full year.

141. Pan masala not containing tobacco attracts a specific rate of excise duty. I propose to raise the excise duty on the same by Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 per kg. depending on its value. This involves a revenue gain of Rs. 4 crores in a full year.

142. The excise duty on sugar, which is levied on a specific basis, has remained unchanged since 1983, with the result that the *ad-valorem* incidence has come down as the price of sugar has increased considerably over this period. In *ad-valorem* terms, the present incidence of excise duty on levy sugar is more than the incidence on free sale sugar. In order to correct the situation, I propose to increase the excise duty on free sale sugar from the present level of Rs. 50 to Rs. 71 per

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quintal. This would mean an additional tax burden of 21 paise per kilogram of free sale sugar which costs about Rs. 10 per kg in the market place. This proposal is expected to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 122 crores in a full year. I would like to make it clear that I am not proposing any increase in excise duty on levy sugar which is sold through the public distribution system.

143. I propose to exclude khand-sari sugar from the list of items chargeable to additional excise duty. The State Governments will be free to levy sales tax on khand-sari sugar, if they so desire.

144. Molasses which is a bye-product of the sugar industry is presently subject to excise duty at the rate of Rs. 120 per metric ton. A substantial portion of molasses is used in the manufacture of liquor. In the circumstances, it can bear a higher rate of duty. Accordingly, I propose to increase the excise duty on molasses to Rs. 150 per metric ton. The estimated revenue gain from the proposal is Rs. 13 crores in a year.

145. The details of the revenue implications of the measures announced are given in the Explanatory Memorandum to the Finance Bill.

146. I have also proposed certain amendments in the Finance Bill seeking to effect changes in the Customs Act, and excise and customs tariffs. These include certain consequential amendments to the customs tariff based on the amendments to the Harmonised Commodity Description and Coding System which has been adopted by our country in terms of the International Convention on the Harmonised System. The amendments are merely enabling provisions and do not have significant revenue implications. Besides, there are proposals for amendment

of some of the existing notifications. In order to save the time of the House, I do not propose to recount them.

147. The increases in excise duties will lead to a revenue gain of Rs. 1799.00 crores while the reliefs will amount to Rs. 358.06 crores in a full year. The net revenue gain from excise duties is thus Rs. 1440.94 crores in a full year, of which the States will get Rs. 750.04 crores leaving the balance of Rs. 690.90 crores for the Centre. The proposals in regard to changes in the customs duties imply a revenue loss of Rs. 822.52 crores and a revenue gain of Rs. 78.00 crores in a full year. The net impact of the proposals relating to customs duties is a loss of Rs. 744.52 crores in a full year. Thus, as compared with the additional net revenue of Rs. 696.42 crores from customs and excise duties, the States would gain Rs. 750.04 crores, while the Centre would lose Rs. 53.62 crores in a full year.

148. Copies of notifications giving effect to the changes in customs and excise duties effective from 25th July, 1991, will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

149. The proposals I have made in regard to direct taxes will yield Rs. 2139 crores of which Rs. 97 crores will accrue to the States and Rs. 2042 crores to the Centre. My proposals in regard to customs duties will involve a net revenue loss of Rs. 510 crores in the current year while those relating to Union excise duties are estimated to yield a net additional revenue of Rs. 988 crores in the remaining part of the current year of which Rs. 515 crores will be the share of States and Rs. 473 crores will be retained by the Centre. Taking both direct and indirect taxes into account, the net gain to the Centre in the current year is estimated at Rs. 2005 crores and with this, the budgetary deficit of the Centre for the current year is estimated at

Rs. 7719 crores, the revenue deficit at Rs. 13854 crores and the fiscal deficit at Rs. 37727 crores.

150. Sir, I have now nearly come to the end of my labour. Before I conclude, let me end on a personal note. Years ago, in a letter which Jawaharlal Nehru wrote to the young Indira Gandhi, he advised her that in dealing with the affairs of the State one should be full of sentiment but never be sentimental. But the House will forgive me if on an occasion like this I cannot avoid being somewhat sentimental.

151. I was born in a poor family in a chronically drought prone village which is now part of Pakistan. University scholarships and grants made it possible for me to go to college in India as well as in England. This country has honoured me by appointing me to some of the most important public offices of our sovereign Republic. This is a debt which I can never be able to fully repay. The best I can do is to pledge myself to serve our country with utmost sincerity and dedication. This I promise to the House. A Finance Minister has to be hard headed. This I shall endeavour to be. I shall be firm when it comes to defending the interests of this nation. But I promise that in dealing with the people of India I shall be soft hearted. I shall not in any way renege on our nation's firm and irrevocable commitment to the pursuit of equity and social justice. I shall never forget that ultimately all economic processes are meant to serve the interests of our people. It is only through a commitment to social justice and the pursuit of excellence that we can mobilise the collective will of our people for development, to give it a high mora!

purpose and to keep alive the spirit of national solidarity. The massive social and economic reforms needed to remove the scourge of poverty, ignorance and disease can succeed only if backed by a spirit of high idealism, self sacrifice and dedication.

152. The grave economic crisis now facing our country requires determined action on the part of Government. We are fully prepared for that role. Our party will provide an effective Government to our country. Our people are our masters. We see the role of our Government as one of empowering our people to realize their full potential. This budget constitutes a vital component of a comprehensive vision, a well thought out strategy and an effective action programme designed to get India moving once again.

153. Sir, I do not minimise the difficulties that lie ahead on the long and arduous journey on which we have embarked. But as Victor Hugo once said, "no power on earth can stop an idea whose time has come." I suggest to this august House that the emergence of India as a major economic power in the world happens to be one such idea. Let the whole world hear it loud and clear. India is now wide awake. We shall prevail. We shall overcome.

154. With these words, I commend the budget to this august House.

19.00 hrs.

The motion was adopted.

THE FINANCE (No. 2) BILL, 1991*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH: I
introduce** the Bill.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Finance Minister may now move for leave to introduce the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1991.

MR. SPEAKER: The Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1991 has been introduced.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1991-92.

The House now stands adjourned till 11 AM on the 25th July, 1991.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

19.12 hrs.

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1991-92."

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, July 25, 1991 (Sravana 3, 1913 (Saka).

*Published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Pt. II, Section 2, dated 24-7-91

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.