

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifteenth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

(Vol XLV contains Nos 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price Rs 50.00

CONTENTS

[Tenth Series, Vol. XLV, Fifteenth Session, 1995/1917 (Saka)]

No. 10, Friday, December 8, 1995/Agrahayana 17, 1917 (Saka)

	COLUMNS
Written Answers to Questions:	4—252
*Starred Questions Nos. 181 to 200	4—25
Unstarred Questions Nos. 1924 to 2153	25—251
Business Orders Laid on the Table	253—272
Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	273
Fifty-fourth and Fifty sixth Reports — <i>Presented</i>	
Committee on Government Assurances	273
Thirty-fourth Report — <i>Presented</i>	
Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals	274
Twenty-fourth Report — <i>Presented</i>	
Business of the House	274—275
Resolution Re: Revival of select public sector undertakings — <i>Contd.</i>	276
Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya	276—281
Shri K.D. Sultanpuri	281—283
Shri Ratilal Verma	284—287
Shrimati Saroj Dubey	287—292
Shri Mohan Singh (Deoria)	292—293
Shri P.C. Chacko	294—297
Shri Rameshwar Patidar	298—301

(ii)

COLUMNS

Shri S.S.R. Rajendra Kumar	301—303
Shri V.S. Vijayaraghavan	304—305
Shri Lal Babu Rai	305—307
Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria	307—308
Shri Mohan Rawale	308—309
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	309
Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya	309—311
Shri Sukhdev Paswan	311—313
Shri A. Charles	313—316
Shri K. Karunakaran	316—324

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, December 8, 1995/Agrahayana 17, 1917 (saka)

The Lok Sabha met at one minute past Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that the questions should first be replied to.... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you too had said ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJI (Bolpur): Sir, it has been admitted that this is the tender for the largest ever amount which has been floated by the Government of India out of which the very basic structure of our telecom system is being altered.

Therefore, what is expected is that there should have been total transparency; Parliament should have been taken into confidence; there is a Standing Committee which should have been taken into much greater confidence. When so many questions are there, the Minister makes a Statement or purports to lay down a Statement - if I may use that expression - which can satisfy nobody. A company whose existence was not known except that they have the same province /State from which the Minister comes; whose Board of Directors are not known here, who have connections with

people outside, who are condemned in their own country..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not good that only one version will come on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That is why, nobody is disputing that. Nobody is disputing that he was the Deputy Prime Minister of the country....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday, he was not allowed to speak. Today he is not there. Should only one version go on record?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What the Government should do is to take the people into confidence. Tell the people that this has been done. ...(Interruptions) The Statement which has been issued nobody can accept it. I am sure, many of the Members here - I do not want to name them - have also expressed their great agony, anguish that this is casually being taken when thousands and thousands of crores of rupees of this country are involved; the entire system of telecommunication is involved. Therefore, it is very difficult for the Members here to accept the position that the Government will still continue to be a *mouni baba* in this very vital matter and there is no response; The Cabinet Ministers feel shy, I think. That is why when this matter is raised, they do not stand up and say anything. What can the Opposition parties do and the country also do?

Therefore, Sir, I request you very humbly that we want the Parliament should function but an issue like this cannot be shut out, placed under the carpet. Let it be taken up immediately. We are demanding it and our very basic proposition is, let there be a House Committee. No Government can oppose to this. Therefore, I would like to know the Government's response on this. Therefore, the

*Not Recorded.

House can continue to function. Now, you kindly tell them. The senior Cabinet Ministers are here. Instead of only flying, they can do something on the ground also.

[Transiation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it became evident while the House was being run yesterday and the hon. Minister's reply to that only added to our apprehensions. This is a disputed issue and everybody finds himself in a web of apprehensions. As Shri Somnath said, a House Committee should positively be constituted, Shri Sukh Ram should tender his resignation and this whole deal should be cancelled. Sukh Ram ji should resign till the JPC submits its report. It will pave way to clear all the obstacles if these three demands are met. I am saying this so that the House could function smoothly. There are many issues to be raised. Through you, we demand that the Government concede all the three demands. There is no sense in running this House if any of the hon. Ministers responds to it, otherwise, the Supreme Court can give its judgement but we cannot take them up here. We could not repeatedly raise the issue of allotment of petrol pumps here. It was raised in the other House. The Supreme Court has directed that a comprehensive report of the allotment of petrol pumps and issue of LPG connections to the officers of the Ministry, the Ministers or their relatives in the name of poor people be submitted to it.

This is the supreme House of the country. The country's public property is being looted and a handful of people are involved in corruption. We have constantly been ignoring it for the last five years but the latest Supreme Court judgement in this connection is a great achievement. The big question involved is as to what for are we sitting here? Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no sense in running the House like that. All the Members are very much agitated (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not want to take up the Question Hour, then I cannot help it. I have allowed two leaders to make the statement. I think it is not just to allow only one side. If you do not want to do it, I am likely to adjourn the House. But this one side version is not good.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to re-assemble at 12.00 noon.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Credit Policy of R.B.I.

*181. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of the busy season credit police announced by the RBI in September, 1995; and

(b) the achievements made so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The credit policy announced by the Reserve Bank of India on September 29, 1995 for the second half of the current financial year i.e. October 1995 to March 1996 also called 'busy season', seeks to moderate the growth of money supply in order to contain inflationary pressures, while at the same time ensuring the provision of adequate credit to support the growth of the real sector.

(b) It is rather early to assess the impact of the new credit policy since only about two out of six months have elapsed after its announcement. However, in the current financial year up to November 10, the money supply (M3) has registered a growth of Rs. 30,174 crore (5.7%) considerably lower, than the growth of Rs. 56,855 crore (13.1%) during the corresponding period of the last financial year.

The non food credit of the scheduled commercial banks has, on the other hand, registered an increase of Rs. 24984 (13.2 per cent) between March 17, and November 10, 1995, higher than Rs. 15407 crore (10 per cent) between March 18, and November 11, 1994. Thus credit policy has achieved the objective of moderating the overall growth of money supply while providing additional credit in support of production.

Export Growth

*182. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT :
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the projected export performance in 1995-96;

(b) whether growth rate of exports has slipped to a record low against the target fixed during the current year in comparison to the each of the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, year-wise;

(d) whether the Government have decided not to proceed with the distribution of raw materials under Government quotas to the exporters during 1995-96;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether there is any attempt to record export in real terms and check over-invoicing; and

(g) if so, the steps taken by the government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Exports are projected to increase by about 20% in US dollar terms during 1995-96.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. On the other hand, exports have registered an increase of 24.5% in US dollar terms during April-October 1995 - the latest period for which foreign trade data are available - for the current year. No export targets were set for 1994-95. In 1993-94, against the target of \$ 22138 million, actual exports were \$ 22237 million : the annual growth rate being 20% which was the same as the annual targeted growth rate.

(d) and (e). Sir, there is no scheme of distribution of raw materials under Government quotas to the exporters. The availability of raw material is made to the exporters through the route of advance licences/OGL.

(f) and (g). The Government enforcement agencies are vigilant against the occurrence of such malpractices. Appropriate action would be taken against the offenders whenever such cases are detected.

False Exports

*183. SHRI RAJ NATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a report on November 17, 1995 appearing in the Business Times of the Times of India where it is stated that a large number of businessmen illegally brought a substantial amount of foreign currency into the country to convert black money into dollars in the disguise of export;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The Government is aware of the news items as reported in the 17th November, 1995 issue of the Times of India.

The enforcement agencies have come across a few cases where foreign exchange was repatriated against exports which; on enquiry, were found to be over-invoiced, in some cases exports have not taken place or exports of items with negligible commercial value were made; in a few cases the quantity exported was less while the quantity declared was more; and some of the documents have also been manipulated to show higher quantity of exports.

As a result of the investigations, number of persons have been arrested including one customs officer. Four other customs officers have been suspended.

[Translation]

Relaxation to Handloom Weavers

*184. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state the details of concessions/relaxations and other facilities made available to the weavers at present and likely to be made available in future by the Government, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): The concessions/relaxations and other facilities made available to handloom weavers at present, inter - alia, include the following :-

- i) Assistance under Hank Yam Price Subsidy Scheme
- ii) Assistance under Mill Gate Price Scheme
- iii) Assistance under Janta Cloth Scheme
- iv) Fiscal concessions to handloom sector
- v) Cash Credit Facilities through Cooperative Banks and Commercial Banks under NABARD refiance.
- vi) Assistance for participation in National Handloom Expos and Mini Handloom Expos.

- vii) Market Development Assistance.
- viii) Assistance under various other ongoing Schemes such as Handloom Development Centre & Quality Dyeing Unit Scheme, Project Package Scheme, Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme, Health Package Scheme, National Design Collection Programme, National Silk Yarn Bank Scheme, Margin Money for Destitute Weavers.
- ix) Assistance through various Weavers Service Centres.

The Schemes of the Government of India in the handloom sector are not State - specific. Central assistance is released on the basis of proposals received from State Government & UTs as per guidelines of the Scheme.

Market for Air India in International Market

* 185. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has failed to explore fresh markets the World due to which it is unable to compete at International level;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the efforts made in this regard and the success achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c). Air India has always made efforts to expand its network of services within the constraints of aircraft availability and operational / commercial limitations. During 1995, Air India has increased its frequencies on the existing routes and introduced eight new routes. Air India has further planned services to a number of new points like Entebbe, Madrid and Tel Aviv within the current financial year.

[English]

Surplus land of NTC

*186. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since decided finally to dispose of the landed properties of the NTC in different parts of the country ;

(b) whether the Government have entrusted the Income Tax Department to assess the valuation of surplus lands and immovable assets of NTC ;

(c) If so , whether Income Tax Department have since submitted its report ; and

(d) If so , the details thereof and the action action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Based on the plan prepared by the Textile Research Associations, Government have approved a revised turn around strategy for NTC mills involving modernisation of 79 mills at an outlay of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable mills into 18 viable mills etc. The funds for modernisation are to be raised by sale of surplus land and assets of the mills under NTC.

(b) to (d). The central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) which has been asked to evaluate the surplus lands and assets of the NTC mills has submitted its report, according to which the NTC has as surplus lands of about 1514.57 acres valued at Rs. 2349 crores. Since 8 out of 9 subsidiaries of NTC are before the BIFR; the revised turn around strategy for these 8 subsidiaries has been placed before the BIFR for its approval before implementation.

Hawala Operations

*187. SHRI CHETAN P.S CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate has unearthed a number of cases of Hawala operations in the country during the last three months;

(b) if so; the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to curb such operations from the country effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI M.V. CHANDERASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) : The Enforcement Directorate has detected 31 cases of hawala transactions involving an amount of Rs.26.07 crores (approx.) during the last three months. 20 persons were arrested in this connection.

(c) All possible efforts are made to detect such transactions. Action as provided under the law is taken as and when any such case is detected.

Production of Tobacco

*188. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of tobacco in the country, particularly in Orissa during each of the last three years including the current financial year; till-date;

(b) whether tobacco in large quantity is lying with the farmers in some States due to non-lifting of the same by Tobacco Board;

(c) whether the growers of tobacco of some States have demanded remunerative prices for their produce;

(d) if so; the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Details of Tobacco (FCV) Production in the country and Orissa State during each of the last three years including current financial year are as follows :-

(i) *Total FCV Tobacco Production in the country*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (M.Kgs)</i>
1992-93	168.50
1993-94	125.50
1994-95	110.01
1995-96 (Targeted production)	100.87
<i>(ii) Production in the state of orissa</i>	
1992-93	0.025
1993-94	0.053
1994-95	0.069
1995-96 (Targeted production)	0.040

(b) No; Sir.

(c) to (e) . Yes, Sir. Tobacco Growers Association of Karnataka in December, 1994 had demanded remunerative prices for FCV Tobacco. Minimum Support Price for various grades of Tobacco are announced each year on the basis of recommendations made by the Commission on Agricultural Costs & Prices. Tobacco Board operates auction platform for sale of Tobacco. By encouraging the participation of a large number of buyers (traders and exporters) in the auction centres; prices realised by the growers are higher than the Minimum Support Price.

Export of Cars

*189. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the export of cars during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total demand of different makes of cars in various countries; and

(d) the targets fixed for the export of such cars during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) (a) and (b). Promotion of exports of all exportable items has been the constant endeavor of the Government . To ensure that the export drive receives the necessary fillip; the Government is implementing various promotional schemes for promoting exports of various goods including cars. Measures are taken to boost exports; including cars; under the Export-Import policy including Duty Exemption Scheme; Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme; Special Import Licences; Duty Draw-back Scheme and exemption under 80 HHc of Income Tax Act.

(c) According to the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) ; there is demand for Indian cars in the Netherlands; France, Spain, Malta, Japan, UAE, Kenya, Nepal, Bangladesh, Australia, Uruguay, Belgium , Germany, Greece, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Italy, Slovenia .

(d) EEPC envisages a 26% growth rate for export of cars during the current year against the export figure of 23079 cars during the year 1994-95.

Purchase of Machinery for BIC

[Translation]

*190. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of rupees were accorded to various firms in 1987 for the purchase of machinery for BIC mills (Kanpur) but no machinery was supplied as per demand nor the money was returned;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government for smooth running of BIC mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) : The British India Corporation had placed orders for machinery in 1986 - 87 against which they received machines worth about Rs. 24 crores. The Company was not able to take delivery of some remaining machines worth about Rs. 1 crore due to paucity of funds. Against these orders advance of around Rs. 12 lakhs is lying with the parties.

(c). The BIC has been ordered to be wound up by the BIFR against which it has made an appeal which is pending before the AAIFR. Pending a final decision by the AAIFR. Government is releasing funds for payment of wages/ salaries and bonus. In addition; funds have been provided for partially meeting the working capital requirements of the BIC.

Bonus to NTC Workers

*191. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Diwali bonus could not be paid to NTC mill workers before Diwali;

(b) if so; the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against those who are responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The bonus for the year 1994-95 was paid to the NTC workers/ employees within the prescribed period.

(b) and (c) : Do not arise.

Utilisation of Foreign Assistance

*192. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE :
SHRI KUNJEE LAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign financial assistance is not put to optimum use in the country;

(b) if so; the quantum of financial assistance received from all the external sources during the years 1993, 1994, and 1995;

(c) the quantum of funds lying unutilised out of the amount received during the above period; and

(d) the percentage of unused amount allocated to the projects related to power, irrigation, road construction, railway, coal, steel, and industrial research?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The financial assistance received by the Government from all external sources and utilised during the year 1992-93. 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as follows:

<i>(Rs. Crore)</i>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1992-93	9875.05
1993-94	10115. 52
1994-95	9529. 74

(c) and (d). Since external assistance is released by donors on reimbursible basis against actual utilisation; the question of funds lying unutilised out of the amount received during the above period does not arise. However; foreign assistance is largely project tied and, therefore, the utilisation of sanctioned aid for any project is spread over the project implementation period. As a result; there would be undrawn aid balances at any point of time reflecting aid in pipeline which will be absorbed as project implementation takes place. As on 1.4.95, the undrawn balances for the following sectors are:

(Rs. Crore)

S.No.	Sector	Undrawn Balance (as on 1.4.1995)
1	2	3
1.	Power	16893.20)
2.	Irrigation	2090.65
3.	Roads	2526.85
4.	Railways	1035.21
5.	Coal	244.43
6.	Industry (including Steel & Industrial Research)	1815.44

*[English]***Supply of Cotton Yarn to Handloom Weavers**

*193. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the rate at which the cotton yarn has been supplied or is being supplied to the handloom weavers in the country particularly to the weavers of Madhya Pradesh during the years 1993-94; 1994-95 and 1995-96 upto October; 1995;

(b) the reasons for the increase in its prices;

(c) the problems being faced by the weavers due to increase in the prices of cotton yarn;

(d) whether the Union Government proposed to provide yarn to the weavers at reduced prices;

(e) if so: the details thereof; and

(f) if not: the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) A statement indicating the weighted average prices prevailing in the country, including in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94; 1994-95 and 1995-96 upto October; 1995 is enclosed.

(b) The reasons for increase in the prices of cotton hank yarn have been mainly due to increase in the prices of raw-cotton, damage to cotton crop due to crop disease in Haryana, Punjab, floods in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat and cyclone in Andhra Pradesh, shortage of cotton in the international market.

(c) The rise in prices of cotton hank yarn may affect production and marketing of handloom products etc. The Government of India, however, have been taking timely measures for making yarn available at reasonable prices to the handloom weavers through Hank Yarn Price Subsidy Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) During the year 1994-95 the Government of India announced the Hank Yarn Price Subsidy Scheme for supply of 20 million kgs. of cotton hank yarn to the handloom weavers at a subsidy of Rs. 15/-per kg. The scheme has been extended for the year 1995-96 also with a target of 20 million kgs with an enhanced subsidy rate of Rs. 20/-per kg. Under the Mill Gate Price Scheme the Government of India makes available hank yarn to the handloom weavers through the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) at Mill rate prices. This scheme has also been extended for the year 1995-96 with a target of 20 million kgs.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

MONTH-WISE WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES OF COTTON YARN IN HANKS (COIMBATORE MARKET)

(Rs. Per kg.)

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nove.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.
1993-94	64.10	64.43	70.03	64.67	63.72	69.06	64.40	64.59	66.87	71.91	72.73	88.26
1994-95	90.02	87.60	80.99	82.97	84.01	83.57	84.31	87.40	92.65	99.83	100.10	96.18
1995-96	97.20	96.99	95.51	94.47	93.98	92.65	92.72					

Export of Pulses

*194. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Civil Supplies; Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs have made a request to his Ministry to suspend the export of pulses and commodities like potatoes and onions due to alarming increase in their domestic prices; and

(b) if so, the reaction of his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) & (b). Ministry of Civil Supplies, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs prepared a note for consideration of the Government and sought the views of various Ministries including the Ministry of commerce. The note, inter-alia, proposes that the customs duty on import of pulses be reduced to nil, export of onions may be temporarily suspended and NAFED may be advised to intervene in the market for purchase of onions and potatoes to be supplied through cooperative outlets.

Import of pulses is on OGL. A decision has been taken to augment supply of pulses by further imports through public sector trading organisations. Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Commerce do not favour a suspension of export of onions at this stage but the situation will be watched carefully to ensure that there is adequate supply of onions in the domestic market. Ministry of

Agriculture has expressed its view that NAFED would be willing to purchase onions and potatoes in the open market to be supplied through designated agencies/ outlets and subject to certain other conditions.

[Translation]

Visit of European Countries Delegations

*195 SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the European countries whose delegations have visited India during the last three months;

(b) the details of issues discussed with delegations and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any trade agreements have been signed with the delegations of these countries; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to(d). Details of the ministerial delegations from European countries which visited India during the last 3 months for purposes of trade and business:-

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Dates of visit of the delegation</i>	<i>Country of origin of the delegation</i>	<i>Name and designation of Head of delegation</i>	<i>Issues discussed and outcome</i>	<i>Whether trade agreement signed</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
1.	5-15, September 1995	Denmark	H.E. Mr. Poul Nyrup, the Prime Minister of Denmark.	Wide-ranging discussions on bilateral, regional and multilateral subject. A bilateral Investment protection agreement was signed.	No trade agreement was signed.
2.	13-15, September 1995	UK	H.E. Anthony Nelson, MP, Minister for Trade, Department of Trade and Industry	General review of the activities under the Indo-British Partnership Initiative, the possibility of holding a major Indian trade exhibition in UK in 1996-97 as part of the 50th anniversary India's independence, and other bilateral economic relations between both the countries.	No trade agreement was signed.
3.	25-29, September 1995	Bulgaria	H.E. Mr. Rumen Gechev, Dy. Prime Minister of Bulgaria	Bilateral co-operation in the fields of, inter-alia, software, electronics, agriculture and tourism.	No trade agreement signed.
4.	9-13, October 1995	Spain	H.E. Ms. Rosa Diez, Minister of Commerce of the Basque	Fact finding mission with a view to enhancing	No trade agreement was signed.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Dates of visit of the delegation</i>	<i>Country of origin of the delegation</i>	<i>Name and designation of Head of delegation</i>	<i>Issues discussed and outcome</i>	<i>Whether trade agreement signed</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Autonomous Region, Spain.	awareness on either side.	
5.	15-19, October 1995	Germany	Prof. Dr. Erhard Rittershaus, Second Mayor and Senator for Economic Affairs of Hamburg.	Future prospects for the Liberalisation of Indian trade/ industry and other interaction with Government and industry.	No trade agreement was signed.
6.	25-28, October 1995	Luxembourg	H.E. Georges Wohlfart, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Trade and Co-operation Duchy of Luxembourg.	Follow up action on issues raised during the visit of HRD Prince Henry of Luxembourg in May 1995; other issues such as the opening of the Luxembourg Embassy in India, MOU on the health sector and cargo services, market access for Indian goods into EU.	No trade agreement was signed.
7.	2-6, November 1995	Sweden	H.E. Mr. Mats Hellstrom, Minister for Foreign Trade and Nordic Co-operation, Sweden	12th session of Indo-Swedish Joint Commission was held during which, interalia, fall-out of Sweden's membership of the European Union; promotion of free trade and further liberalisation in textiles and	No trade agreement was signed.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Dates of visit of the delegation</i>	<i>Country of origin of the delegation</i>	<i>Name and designation of Head of delegation</i>	<i>Issues discussed and outcome</i>	<i>Whether trade agreement signed</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	11-15, November 1995	Romania	H.E. Mr. Petru Crisan, Commerce Minister, Romania	agriculture were discussed. Bilateral co-operation in the areas, interalia, of railways, steel, chemicals, electronics and petrochemicals.	No trade agreement was signed.
9.	20-24, November 1995	Ireland	H.E. Enda Kenny, Minister of Tourism and Trade.	Bilateral co-operation in the field of software and other areas of economic co-operation.	No agreement was signed.
10.	6-7, December 1995	Spain	HE javier Gomez Navarro, Minister for Commerce and Tourism.	The 4th session of Indo-Spanish JC was held during the visit Bilateral trade matters were discussed.	No agreement was signed.

[English]

Fiscal Deficit

outcome thereof, and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to minimise fiscal deficit and tighten control over expenditure?

*196. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The fiscal deficit in revised estimates 1995-96 will be reflected in the Budget documents for next year.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fiscal deficit is likely to go much higher than the estimated.

(b) and (c): Consultations between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance on issues like resources for financing the Plan, etc. do take place from time to time in the normal course:

(b) if so, whether the officials of his Ministry recently held a meeting with the Chairman, Planning Commission to face and situation.

(d) Keeping the fiscal deficit in check, by maximising revenue receipts and containing growth of expenditure, is a continues exercise.

(c) if so, the details of the points discussed and the

Child Labour

- 197. SHRI M. V. V. S MURTHY:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the study made by the Commission of Labour Standards country needs rupees 15000 crores to abolish child labour in the country;

(b) if so, the other observations/recommendations made by the commission regarding abolition of child labour in the country; and

(c) the reaction of the union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b). The Commission on Labour Standards headed by Dr. Subramanian Swamy has not submitted any final report to the Government so far.

(c) Does not arise.

ILO Recommendations

- 198. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation in its report titled 'World Employment Report 1995' has cautioned against precipitate implementation of reforms in countries having large population;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken note of the above observation; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). On the eve of the World Summit for

Social Development, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) released a report titled "World Employment 1995". In the chapter on Developing countries, the ILO report has inter-alia, cautioned against precipitate implementation of reforms, suggesting that instantaneous adjustment is neither economically feasible nor socially sustainable because labour administrations in developing countries have virtually no experience in coping with mass redundancies and social safety nets are highly inadequate. The observation is not specific to India.

Irrespective of the caution, the Government is conscious of these facts and it has been reflected in the Eight Plan Programme. The Government has accorded the highest priority to promotion of sustainable employment generating growth in its economic reforms. It has also substantially stepped to Central Plan allocations for social sectors and poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes. Besides, Government has prescribed institutional arrangement for retraining and redeployment and various measures of safety net for the workers.

Investment by U.T.I

- * 199. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of investments made by the Unit Trust of India in the private sector industry; and

(b) if so, the names of top ten companies in terms of the total investment made by the UTI, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The total investments made by the Unit Trust of India (UTI) in various financial instruments such as shares, debentures, etc, issued by companies in the Private Sector were to the extend of Rs. 34104/- crores as on 30.6.1995.

(b) The names of top ten companies in the private sector in terms of UTI's total investments and the amount invested are given below:

	<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Amount invested by UTI (Rs. in crores)</i>
1.	Reliance Industries Ltd.	2,184.18
2.	ICICI Ltd.	1,876.67

	<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Amount invested by UTI (Rs. in crores)</i>
3.	Grasim Industries Ltd.	1,100.22
4.	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	1,091.17
5.	TELCO	719.55
6.	Tata Chemicals Ltd.	679.41
7.	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	626.96
8.	Essar Gujarat Ltd.	625.58
9.	I.T.C. Ltd.	553.77
10.	H.D.F.C. Ltd.	527.2

Grounding of Planes

•200. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Air India Planes are grounded for technical reasons;

(b) if so, the number of such planes grounded; and

(c) the periods for which they are grounded?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c): The following Boeing aircraft of Air India are grounded at present for undergoing periodic maintenance checks:-

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Aircraft</i>	<i>Date from which grounded</i>
1.	B747-300 (VT-EPX)	3.11.1995
2.	B 747-200 (VT-EDV)	10.10.1995
3.	B 747-200 (VT-EGA)	18.5.1995
4.	B 747-200 (VT-EGB)	18.6.1995
5.	B 747-200 (VT-ENQ)	15.8.1995

Vocational Course by GIC

1924. SHRIASHOKANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students of the academic session 1993-94 given jobs/apprenticeship under vocational course of General Insurance Corporation; and

(b) the time by which the pass-out students of the academic year 1994-95 are likely to get jobs in G.I.C. under the said scheme.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The General Insurance Corporation (GIC) have reported that 'job-guarantee' under the 10+2 vocational course scheme

was withdrawn w.e.f. the academic year commencing 1993-94. Therefore, the successful student pass-outs in 1995 will only be eligible for competing alongwith the general candidates for the post of Assistants in the general insurance industry, as per the laid down GIC recruitment procedure when recruitment to the posts is announced. As regards the successful students who joined the vocational course in the academic year 1992-93 and became eligible for absorption as 'Apprentice Assistants' during the year 1994, the GIC have reported that all the 482 candidates who were eligible and successful have since been appointed as 'Apprentice Assistants' in the general insurance industry.

Method Study of Training Directorate

1925. SHRIMATI MAHINDRA KUMARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tentative reports on Method Study of Training Directorate and Employment Directorate have been finalised;

(b) if so, the main findings of the report and when these are likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the time by which these reports are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the tentative reports involve further study and consultations with the relevant branches and departments, it would be difficult to indicate any definite time frame for finalisation of the reports.

Bareilly Airstrip

1926. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to

state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals regarding the construction of air strip in Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Jute Mills

1927. SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI:
SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of jute mills in the country, state-wise particularly in Bihar at present;

(b) the number of jute-mills sick out of them alongwith the number of such mills closed during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government of revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) There are 73 jute mills in the country. State - wise break up to the number and of the sick jute mills are given below:-

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Jute Mills</i>	<i>Sick Jute Mill</i>
West Bengal	59	38
Bihar	3	2
Assam	1	-
Tripura	1	1
Orissa	1	

<i>State</i>	<i>No. of Jute Mills</i>	<i>Sick Jute Mill</i>
Andhra Pradesh	4	2
Madhya Pradesh	1	-
Uttar Pradesh	3	2
	73	46

Many mills were closed and later on re-opened on several occasions during the last three years. However, three mills namely Kanpur, Katihar and Shree Bajrang are lying closed for a considerable period.

(c) Cases of every sick jute mill companies are being examined by BIFR.

[English]

Aircraft Shortage

1928. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the aircraft shortage become more acute in the second and third week of October, 1995;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of boeing 747 held by the Air India and the number of 747s in operation as on October 20, 1995;

(d) whether the shortage was due to agitational activities of the maintenance staff; and

(e) if so, the details of the demands of the staff and the steps taken to settle them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). During second and third week of October, 1995 there was a shortage of 2.4 aircraft units against the minimum requirement of B747-200/300 fleet, due to prolonged grounding of aircraft for undergoing periodic maintenance checks.

(c). Out of the 15 Boeing 747 in the fleet of Air India, 9.5 units are in operation on a scheduled basis. As against this, 8 aircraft were in operation as on 20th October, 1995.

(d) and (e). Aircraft Maintenance Engineers have

adopted 'go-slow' tactics to press their demand for higher wages as a consequence of the increase in remuneration granted to the pilots in October, 1994. Air India management is negotiating with the Engineers' Association the level of wage increase and the associated increase in productivity.

Renewal of Licence of Jagatjit Industries

1929. SHRI RAJ NATH SONKAR SHASTRI : With the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Jagatjit Industries ke Licence Ka chupchaap navikaran-Mukhyamantri aur vitt mantri par karoron ki ghoos lene kaa aarop" Indhar Licence mila, "Udhar Sarrab Pukri gai" appearing in the jansatta of August 20, 1995 ;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether there is any proposal to ask the C.B.I. to undertake the investigation of the matter; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) :

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Facts of the case are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The excise authorities, Delhi have taken necessary action as per law.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. Delhi Police has registered a criminal case in this connection.

STATEMENT

On seizure by Delhi Police of a consignment of liquor belonging to distillery in the Jahangirpuri area, the licence of M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd. was suspended on 17.4.95 by Collector of Excise. M/s. Jagatjit Industries had preferred an appeal against the orders of Collector of Excise before the Commissioner of Excise who had vide his orders dated 29.05.95 set aside the order passed by the Collector of Excise. An appeal was filled before the Financial Commissioner against this order by the Government of Delhi.

While the application of M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd. for renewal of L-1 licence for 1995-96 was under consideration, the applicant filed the writ petition No. CWP/2290/95 and CM No. 3845 of 1995 in the High Court of Delhi praying inter-alia for renewal of L-1 licence for the year 1995-96. The High Court passed an order dated 26.6.95 for the disposal of renewal application within 7 days of the orders. In pursuance of these orders, the competent authority for grant of licence viz. Collector of Excise after finding the application to be incomplete and deficient and after hearing the applicant M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd., passed orders dated 30.6.95 rejecting the application for renewal of L-1 licence. These orders of the Collector of Excise were challenged by M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd. in the High Court of Delhi vide writ petition No. 2501 of 1995. The High Court remitted the case back to the Collector with the direction to allow reasonable time to the petitioner viz M/s. Jagatjit Industries Ltd. to submit their objections and/or remove the deficiencies in application filled for renewal. In pursuance of the order of the High Court and after consideration for application for renewal of licence alongwith the additional documents, the Collector of Excise, in quasi-judicial capacity passed orders dated 14.8.1995 for renewal of L-1 licence.

The Financial Commissioner vide his orders dated 23.11.1995 allowed the appeal of Delhi Government. M/s. Jagatjit Industries have now filed a writ petition in the High Court of Delhi against the orders of the Financial Commissioner. A criminal case has also been registered by he Delhi Police in the matter.

[*Translation*]

Export and Processed Food Items

1930. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a

comprehensive policy for increasing the export of processed food products;

(b) if so; the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also received any suggestions from Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industries in this regard; and

(d) if so; the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, sir. Government is formulating a National perspective plan for development of Food Processing Industries and exports of agro-based products. This would cover policies; strategies for exports and the informal sector.

(c) and (d). Yes, sir. 10 items have been brought to the notice of the Government for consideration while formulating strategic action plan for promoting agriculture and food processing industries. These cover systematic use of India's agricultural potential organisation and management of the farm sector with industry to encourage exports, provision of infrastructure and contractual obligations for joint participation between industry and agriculture. These suggestions would be taken into account while formulating National Perspective Plan for development of Food Processing Industries and exports of agro-based products.

[*English*]

Stipend to Handicapped

1931. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of in-plant stipend being paid to handicapped trainees in Vocational Rehabilitation Centres is too small to meet the requirements of the handicapped;

(b) Whether there is any proposal to revise it;

(c) whether the amount is paid to them every month;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure that the amount is paid to them regularly?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT

SWAMY): (a) to (e). The handicapped persons being admitted at the Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Handicapped (VRCs) are being paid different amount of stipend as detailed as under:-

- (i) Rs.100/- p.m. to each candidate during the period of evaluation by the Ministry of Labour.
 - (ii) Rs.170/- p.m. to the in-plant trainees (non-hostelers) and Rs.240/- p.m. (hostelers) undergoing in-plant training under the scheme of 'Scholarship for the Physically Handicapped' of the Ministry of Welfare which now stands transferred from Central Sector to State Sector from the financial year 1993-94 in pursuance of the decision of the National Development Council (NDC).
2. There is no delay in making payment by the VRCs in so far as the evaluation stipend is concerned. However, some of the State Govts. are yet to release the amount of the VRCs for payment of stipend to the in-plant trainees. The matter is vigorously being followed with them.
 3. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of the Govt. to revise the above rates of stipend.

[Translation]

Bank Loans in Madhya Pradesh

1932. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans disbursed by the nationalised banks to all the categories in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94; and

(b) the funds earmarked by each bank for disbursement to the eligible sectors at differential rates of interest (D.R.I.) and the amount of loans disbursed by each of the bank at differential rates of interest to the handloom weavers in this state during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) & (b):- The category-wise breakup of disbursement of advances of scheduled commercial banks to priority sector for the year ended June 1993 (latest available) in respect of Madhya Pradesh is given below:-

<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount (Rs.Lakh)</i>
Agriculture	23370
Small Scale Industries	6186
Other Priority Sectors	6572

Reserve Bank of India (RBI has reported that no separate amount is earmarked for disbursement under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) scheme. However, banks are required to ensure that their lending under DRI scheme should be minimum of one per cent of their aggregate advances at the end of the previous year. Information regarding grant of loans under DRI scheme to handloom weavers in Madhya Pradesh is not available since such information is not being compiled by RBI.

[English]

Gem Stones Artisans Training School

1933. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close down Gem Stones Artisans Training Schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) : Yes, sir. The Gem Stones Artisans Training Schools, Jaipur (GATS) is one of the Institutes sponsored by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council. The Council has decided to close the GATS due to diminishing response to the courses conducted by the training school.

[Translation]

Selling of Surplus Land of NTC

1934. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mills of National Textile Corporation are having thousands of acres surplus land all over the country;

(b) whether requests have been received from some

State Government to promote the modernisation programme of N.T.C. by selling this surplus land;

(c) if so; whether Union Government have considered these requests; and

(d) the reaction of the Government there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The surplus lands of NTC mills are estimated at around 151 acres.

(b). No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Special Grants

1935. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Bihar for providing special grants/ assistance to overcome the financial crisis in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be provided; and

(d) if not; the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :

(a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Finance has not received any intimation from the Government of Bihar about any financial crisis.

(b) to (d) : Does not arise.

[English]

India Brand Promotion Fund

1936. SHRI MANIK RAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set-up an India Brand Promotion Fund as a measure to promote India's image in the international market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government have, in principle, approved the proposal to set up India Brand Promotion Fund.

(b) Details regarding constitution of fund and its management and also the scope and nature of activities to be covered under the Fund are yet to be worked out.

[Translation]

Tax Payers

1937. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department in Uttar Pradesh had conducted any survey in the recent past with a view to extend its base for providing better services to the tax payers and identifying the tax evaders;

(b) whether the Income Tax Department is collecting data of financial transactions made during the year 1993-94 by the persons who have made telegraphic transfers from one Bank to another, the persons who booked imported cars and luxury flats, persons spending a large amount on interior decoration, lottery, agents and those who desire to get the membership of resort clubs etc.

(c) whether the data has been collected and if so, the details thereof and the conclusion drawn by the Income Tax Department in this regard;

(d) the number of employees of Income Tax Department found involved in helping the tax evaders; and in other corruption matters in Uttar Pradesh; and.

(e) the action taken against such employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir; Every year the Department collects information regarding significant transactions from different sources. These are then verified with a view to detect tax evasion and to identify potential tax payers.

(e) Yes, Sir; During the financial year 1994-95, 7, 27,

648 pieces of information were verified by (Central Information Branch) the Income Tax Department, and thereafter passed on to the concerned assessing officers for appropriate action. As a result, 78,118 new assesseees were added and 17,853 number of cases of tax evasion were detected.

(d) and (e). On the basis of prima facie evidence, proceedings have been initiated against 28 persons either under the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 or the prevention of corruption Act.

[English]

Gold Exchange

1938. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world Gold council has mooted the establishments of gold exchanges on the lines of various stock exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the main objections of the exchange; and

(c) the locations where these centres are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House, as soon as it is available.

Subsidy on Wheat

1939. SHRI. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Ministry has urged Finance Ministry to extend the Rs. 100/- a quintal subsidy on wheat to all bread units in private sector instead of confining it to the Public Sector Modern Food Industries;

(b) whether any representation has been received from the all India Bread Manufacturers Association in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. BEDI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Supply of wheat to private sector bread manufacturers at a highly subsidised price was considered impracticable in view of huge losses that would have been incurred by the Food Corporation India. However, the bread manufactures bakeries continue to have access to wheat under the open market sales conducted by the Food Corporation of India.

Pending Cases for Export Obligation

1940. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 8394 dated June 2, 1995 as well as a new-item appearing in the Indian Express dated November 19, 1995 under captioned "75 pending cases of Advance Licences get clearance" and state:

(a) the latest position regarding 57 cases of export default pending adjudication for the last few years;

(b) the names of other 123 export defaulters also alongwith amount still outstanding against each;

(c) whether any export defaulters in the past under reference has been given advance licence for exports out of 75 licences mentioned in the above new-item; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to cancel the advance licences for exports given to export defaulters under reference now and in future till these exporters fulfil their all export obligations in full?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Adjuication Proceedings are being expedited.

(b) The names of these 123 export defaulters were given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1426 dated 17.8.90 and Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4569 dated 5.5.95. Information regarding the amount still outstanding against each of these firms is being collected.

(c) and (d). Of the 75 cases considered at the Open House in Calcutta on 13.11.95, 50 have been cleared for grant of licences subject to certain conditions. None of these cases pertained to the defaulters mentioned in paras (a) and (b) above.

Achievement in Export

1941. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export target of 100 billions dollars by 2000 is achievable if growth can be maintained at around 25% or so per year;

(b) if so, whether this view was expressed by Federation of Import-Export Organisation;

(c) if so, whether the country's export have been increasing during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(d) whether the target set for export earning have been achieved; and

(e) the steps being taken to further improve exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Federation of Indian Export Organisations have come up with an export strategy paper which projects export level of US \$ 100 billion by 2001 AD. Considering exports in 1994-95 valued at US \$ 26.33 billion, annual growth rate of 25% will yield exports of about \$US 100 billion by the year 2000-2001.

(c) and (d). Export registered 18.4% growth in 1994-95 Export growth rate during April-October'95 the latest period for which foreign trade data are available in the current year, is estimated at 24.5% in US dollar terms. No target was set for export growth in 1994-95, in the current year (1995-96), an export target involving around 20% growth; in US dollar terms has been indicated by the various EPCs.

(e) Export promotion is a continuous process. Steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other concerned institutions. The Government is striving to make the environment of policy and procedures more export-friendly. Among the measures taken for export promotion, mention may be made about simplification of Export-Import Policy and procedures; increasing export production; improving efficiency and competitiveness; focussing on quality improvement and technological upgradation, improvement in infrastructure and actively involving State Governments in export promotion. In the current year, an Annual Action Plan has been formulated which; inter-alia, covers commodity-specific and country-specific measures for export promotion.

Suit Filed Accounts of Bank Loan Defaulter

1942. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of defaulting borrowings and suit filed accounts for amounts above Rs. One crore disclosed by Canara Bank, Syndicate Bank, Corporation Bank and Dena Bank, separately as on March 31, 1995 and Separately 30, 1995 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): Reserve Bank of Indian has reported that the lists of defaulters and suit-filed accounts as on 31st March, 1995 and 30th September, 1995 have not yet been finalised.

Incentives to Banks for best Performance

1943: SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of banks, wherein not a single case of fraud has come to the notice of the Government during the last three years; and

(b) the details of incentives proposed to be given to such banks or to their officials to encourage them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) There is no public sector bank which did not report any fraud case to RBI during the last three years viz; 1992, 1993 and 1994.

(b) Does not arise.

Share Prices

1944. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether these has been a steep decline in the share price index on the various regional stock exchanges in the country:

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether the confidence of small investors in the capital market has lost due to the recent decline in share prices; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stabilize the share prices in the capital market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) : The share price indices had declined during the recent past.

(b) Prices of shares in the stock market are liable to fluctuate on account of the interplay of various factors such as expectations of investors relating to the overall economic environment and policy, the performance of the corporate sector, transactions by large institutional investors, sentiment in the stock market and capital market trends overseas.

(c) As the recent fall in share prices and their indices may be viewed as a temporary phenomenon, as a consequence largely of technical factors in the stock market, it is not likely to have any perceptible adverse impact on the confidence of the small investors.

(d) The Government or the SEBI do not intervene in the stock market for influencing the movement of share prices.

Liquidity Crunch in Nationalised Banks

1945: SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profitability of the nationalised banks is likely to be affected due to liquidity crunch and highest ever call money rates;

(b) if so, to what extent R.B.I. Intervention has been effective as a short term measure;

(c) the details of suggestions received from professionals and other institutions for stabilising call money rates and help nationalised banks get over liquidity problem; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to overcome the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the sharp increase in the call money rates is not likely to adversely affect the profitability of banks as it was a short-term phenomenon. RBI has further reported that its intervention in the money

market has had a salutary effect and call rates have come down to more normal levels.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that various suggestions have been made by the banks and others relating to easing of liquidity position. A series of measures have already been taken by RBI since end September, 1995 to make deposits more attractive and also to augment resources of banks. Some of these measures include freedom given to banks to fix their own interest rates on domestic term deposits with a maturity of over two years; raising of interest rates on-term deposits under Non-Resident External Rupee Accounts; reduction in the average CRR of scheduled commercial banks, reduction of average CRR on liabilities under the FCNR (B) deposits etc.

Disinvestment of Shares by Public Sector Undertakings

1946. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public sector undertakings which have been partially disinvested or are proposed to be disinvested during the current year;

(b) the number of shares of each proposed to be sold and the reserved price fixed by the Government ; and

(c) the number of shares actually sold, public sector undertaking-wise upto November 30, 1995 the percentage thereof of the total shares and saleable shares and the average price realised per share?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) out of 14 Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which have been shortlisted for disinvestment during the current year, 4 PSUs have been disinvestment during the current year, 4 PSUs have been disinvested till 30th November 1995.

(b) These will depend on market response and whether the sale is to be effected by auction method or through fixed price offer, as decided by the Govt.

(c) the position of disinvestment of 4 PSUs in the current year upto Nov. 1995 is as under:

<i>Name of the PSU</i>	<i>No. of shares sold (in crores)</i>	<i>% share sold to paid up capital</i>	<i>% share sold to saleable shares</i>	<i>average price per share</i>
ONGC	0.02	0.01	0.56	260.50
CONCOR	0.20	3.08	30.77	70.60
SAIL	0.44	0.11	2.21	30.39
MTNL	0.87	1.45	29.00	156.23

International Conference of Textile Industry

1947. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of State for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Conference on the textile industry organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was held in India November, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the main points discussed in the conference and recommendations/ suggestions made therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Conference deliberated on issues relating to Textile Policy, present state of the textile industry, challenges of globalisation, post GATT scenario, availability of raw material to the industry especially cotton, export of cotton and Govt. policies in this behalf. The recommendations/ suggestions of the conference have not been received by the Government.

Visit to Pakistan by FICCI

1948. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a business delegation from FICCI has recently visited Pakistan to create a substantive second track of dialogue between the two countries, and

(b) if so, the details of the outcome thereof in terms of

trade likely to flow between the two countries as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) An 8-member business delegation from FICCI visited Pakistan from September 24-26, 1995, on invitation from the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, to participate in a seminar on SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA).

(b) It is not possible to anticipate or quantify the likely trade flow as a result of the visit.

Import of Urea

1949. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister to COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any committee to review the present policy regarding import of Urea;

(b) Is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. An Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted by this Ministry to consider the feasibility and modalities of decanalisation of urea imports. Its recommendations are yet to be received by the Government.

Export/Import of Silver and Gold

1950. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of silver and gold exported and imported separately during each of the last three years in metal form as well as in ornament/vessels form; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to reduce export/

import of these metals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The quantity of silver and gold exported and imported during each of the last three years is given in the statement attached.

(b) Govt. had not framed any policy so far to reduce export/ import of these metals.

STATEMENT

YEAR	<i>All figures in kgs.</i>			
	ITEM			
	GOLD IN ALL FORMS		SILVER IN ALL FORMS	
	IMPORT	EXPORT	IMPORT	EXPORT
1993-94	90158.98	142049.1	3806694.7	28117.881
1994-95	430333.25	298853.7	2732518.1	29458.389
1995-96 up to Nov	379292.34	581734.4	1230152.9	61477.682

Grievances of state cooperatives

1951. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has appointed a working group to look into the restrictions faced by the State Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank in mobilising deposits;

(b) if so, whether these grievances have since been examined and removed; and

(c) the directives issued by the Ministry, if any, in regard thereto?

Rural Development Banks, including that relating to mobilising of deposits. The Group is yet to submit its report to NABARD.

Role of Nabard in N.E. Region

1952. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of achievements of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development recorded in the North Eastern Region during the last three years;

(b) whether the NABARD has drawn up any special action plan to explore the potential of the region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has constituted a working group to look into the problems faced by state cooperative Agricultural and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The amount of refinance disbursement made by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during the last three years in North Eastern States was as under :-

(Rs. lakhs)

<i>State</i>	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1994-95</i>
Arunachal Pradesh	178	166	383
Assam	2200	2685	3162
Manipur	252	209	232
Meghalaya	128	215	215
Mizoram	71	154	135
Nagaland	114	101	116
Tripura	642	469	818
Total	3585	3999	5061

Details of the limits sanctioned by NABARD towards seasonal Agricultural Operations and II (SAO) by Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in the North-Eastern Region is given in the enclosed statements-1. Additionally, an amount of Rs.88.39 crores has been allocated under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF).

(b) & (c). NABARD has been estimating on an annual basis, exploitable potential in each District of the North-Eastern Region in various sectors of agriculture and rural economic activities through annual potential linked credit

plans and providing the same same to the Banks and Government Departments to facilitate formulation of realistic service area plans and state plans. NABARD has also opened 14 District Offices in the North-Eastern States to disseminate information on its various credit, promotional and Developmental scheme and facilitate effective coordination or micro planning at district level. NABARD has also sponsored a special study on sectoral Development in Meghalaya to the North-East Development Constancy Services. The total estimates of ground level credit as per the potential linked credit plans prepared by NABARD for 1995-96 for the seven North-Eastern States area given below:

(Rs. lakhs)

<i>State</i>	<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>Non-Farm Sector</i>	<i>Other Priority Sector</i>	<i>Non Priority Sector</i>	<i>Total</i>
Arunachal Pradesh	164	511	81	80	1286
Assam	6278	5064	388	47	11777
Manipur	1823	809	-	-	2632
Meghalaya	1367	692	493	-	2552
Mizoram	626	168	348	-	1142
Nagaland	677	310	69	-	1056
Tripura	1157	661	433	-	2251
Total	12542	8215	1812	127	22696

Some of the major initiatives taken by NABARD to improve credit flow in the North-East Region are as follows:-

- (1) The rate of refinance applicable to North-East is 90% as against lower rates applicable elsewhere.
- (2) Refinance to the extent of Rs. 7.18 crores has been allocated for special schemes for scheduled caste/tribe beneficiaries.
- (3) Exclusive line of credit under SAO to the tune of Rs. 11 crores has been made available for identified districts in North-East with a pre-ponderance of tribal population.
- (4) A high level steering group has been constituted to monitor the flow of credit to the North-Eastern Region.
- (5) An assistance of Rs. 3 crores has been provided to the corpus of Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, Guwahati.

STATEMENT-I

Refinance made available by NABARD towards Seasonal Agricultural Operations by Co-operative Banks in the North-Eastern Region during 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outsta- ndings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outstan- dings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum outstan- dings
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	—	—	200	—	200	—
Maniur	—	915	-7	864*	616	861
Meghalaya	125	125	125	125	250	250
Mizoram	180	—	—	20*	—	—
Nagaland	100	100	100	—	190	190
Tripura	100	100	150	138	100	130
Total	505	1240	575	1139	1356	1431

*Outstanding against previous limits.

STATEMENT II

Refinance made available by NABARD towards Seasonal Agricultural Operations by Regional Rural Banks in North-Eastern Region during 1992-93, 1993-94 & 1994-95

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outsta- ndings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outstan- dings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum outstan- dings
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam	337	310	333	314	242	202

States	(Rs. in lakhs)					
	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outsta- ndings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum Outstan- dings	Limits Sanct- ioned	Maximum outstan- dings
Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meghalaya	223	218	223	115	-	-
Mizoram	25	15	25	22	-	-
Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tripura	-	110*	-	110*	-	110*
Total	585	653	581	561	242	312

*Outstanding against previous limits.

Loan Waiver Schemes

1953. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has requested the Union Government to examine the proposal of urging the election Commission to treat announcement of interest and loan waiver schemes by electoral malpractices;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since examined the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The matter is under examination.

Export of Floriculture Products

1954. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any vast scope for export of floriculture products from the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost

the export of floriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps taken for boosting the exports of floriculture includes:

(i) Providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure such as refrigerated/ insulated vans and setting up of pre-cooling/ cold storage units;

(ii) Establishing five walk-in-type cold storages for export consignments awaiting clearance;

(iii) Streamlining and simplification of plant quarantine procedures for expeditious clearance of cargo;

(iv) Concessional customs duty on specified goods required for Green Houses;

(v) Making available the benefits of duty free imports under the Export Oriented Units/ Export Processing Zones Schemes to units engaged in floriculture and permitting sale of 50% of their production in the Domestic Tariff Areas;

(vi) Implementation of a UNDP assisted project on floriculture for enhancing production and exports

of cut flowers. Some of the activities to be undertaken in this project include advising entrepreneurs on production of flowers; preparation of crop manuals, undertaking market surveys and providing market information; and

- (vii) Participation in international fairs/ exhibitions.

[Translation]

Small Scale Industrial Units

1995. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI BRISHIN PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Business Standard dated November 20, 1995, captioned Panel wants norms for Bank Credit for SSIs simplified;

(b) if so, whether the proposal to increase the loan amount to small scale industries and to simplify the procedure have come up several times in the past before the Government during the last few years;

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

(d) the estimated loan requirement of small scale sector for the year 1994-95 and the percentage thereof that is likely to be met out

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that a Standing Advisory Committee to review the flow of institutional credit to small scale industrial (SSI) sector was constituted in April, 1986. The Eighth meeting of this committee, which was last in series, was held in July, 1993. Keeping in view that in the intervening decade the concept, responsibilities and reach of SSI sector have undergone a sea change, the Committee had been reconstituted and terms of reference simplified. The reconstituted Committee includes representatives of Government of India, National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Public Sector Banks and States Financial Corporations (SFCs) besides economists and representative of small scale industries. The first meeting of the reconstituted Committee was held on November 18, 1995.

RBI has further reported that it has been regularly monitoring the flow of credit to SSI sector and has simplified the procedures for providing credit to this sector. Banks are also operationalising specialised SSI branches and the target for operationalisation of such branches is 100 by Public Sector banks during the current financial year.

(d). RBI has reported that the estimated loan requirement of SSI sector for the year 1994-95 was Rs 4941.08 crores. However, the figures relating to actual disbursements are not available with RBI.

[English]

Disinvestment in State owned Enterprises

1956. DR. RAMKRISHANA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent World Bank Study has ranked India among the 'least successful' countries of the world in reforming its state Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for slow progress in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to accelerate the pace of disinvestment in state owned enterprises;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c) In a recent World Bank Policy research report entitled "Bureaucrats in Business" a study has been made of the reform of state-owned enterprises (SOEs) based on a sample of 12 countries viz. Chile, Egypt, Ghana, India, Mexico, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Turkey, China, the Czech Republic and Poland. Some important observations in this study are as under:

(i) SOE sector remains large in many developing countries which has a negative effect on growth.

(ii) The countries which have improved the performance of their SOEs made the most of divestiture, competition, hard budgets and financial sectors reform.

- (iii) All 12 countries tried to improve the incentive structure by changing the relationship between Government and state owned enterprises. Improvement of the performance of SOEs or privatised monopolies requires a better incentive structure. In other words; the contract between Govt. and SOEs management or between Govt. and private management or between Govt. and owners of the privatised regulated monopoly must be re-written to motivate both sides to improve performance.
- (iv) Drivestiture and other reforms can improve SOE performance but only a few Governments have adopted the policies necessary to reform successfully.
- (v) There are abstacles in the way of reform process and successful reformers overcame them.
- (vi) The study also outlines the ways foreign assistance can help to encourage reforms.

The study has placed India among the less successful performers in terms of reforming the public sector alongwith some other countries. The data utilised for the study primarily pertained to 1980s.

The study shows that large and inefficient SOEs are costing developing countries dearly especially the poorest among them. Yet reform is possible and offers potentially large benefits including more goods and services of better quality at lower prices, increased availability of resources for health, education and other social expenditure and improved fiscal stability — all of which can contribute to more rapid economic growth. It has, however, been recognised that reform of SOEs is not easy and often entails political costs. Political obstacles are the main reason for the little headway in SOE reform in the last decade.

(d) to (f). Disinvestment is a continuous process in India and its acceleration will depend on various factors like market response; congenial labour scenario etc.

NRF for Gujarat

1957. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have sent any proposal for seeking assistance from National Renewal Fund

for restructuring and rehabilitation of Gujarat State Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total assistance agreed to or being provided in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). State Government of Gujarat have submitted a proposal for assistance of Rs.96.83 crores from National Renewal Fund for restructuring and rehabilitation of Gujarat State Textile Corporation. Ministry of Industry will take up the Proposal after operational modalities for grant of assistance from National Renewal Fund have been finalised.

[*Translation*]

Smuggling of Meat

1958. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the species of which meat is being smuggled from the country;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken against them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Organisation Registered Under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973

1959. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of organisations registered under the foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 during the last three years;

(b) the number of organisations whose registration is pending and the time by which these are likely to be registered; and

(c) the reasons for delay in registrations of these

organisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) There is no provision for registering organisations under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Debt Burden

1960. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI :
SHRI RAJESH RANJANALIAS PAPPU YADAV:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA) :
SHRI LAL BABU RAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign debt burden on the Government at the end of 1994-95, country-wise;

(b) the details of the interest paid by the Government against this debt during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to repay the foreign loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Welfare Scheme for the Agricultural Labour

1961. SHRI RATILAL VARMA:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the welfare schemes sanctioned by the Union Government for the agricultural labourers in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) the extent to which the agricultural labourers have been benefited from these scheme;

(c) the amount allocated for the purpose during the current financial year and for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) whether the Government propose to take some more steps in this regard; and

(e) if so; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (e). Some of the major schemes undertaken for the welfare of the rural workers including agricultural workers in the State of Gujarat:

(i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) under this scheme, financial assistance is provided for acquiring income generating assets, comprising of a varying mix of subsidies and term credit at differential rates for small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans with special provision for SC/STs and women. The number of families assisted under this scheme during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto Feb, 95) in the State of Gujarat are 61,842, 79,725 and 61,444 respectively. Rs. 3059.22 lakh have been allocated for Gujarat State for 1995-96.

(ii) Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY)

The scheme aims at generation of additional gainful employment and creation of productive community assets. Employment generation under this scheme in the State of Gujarat during the year 1992-93, 1993-94 is and 1994-95 235.03, 210.55 and 195.68 lakh mandays respectively. This scheme has been intensified in 120 backward districts of the country where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment. In Gujarat 62.80 lakh mandays were generated under Intensified Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (IJRY). Rs. 9225.74 lakh and 1548.13 lakh have been allocated under JRY and IJRY respectively for Gujarat State for the Year 1995-96.

(iii) Training of Rural Youth for self Employment (TRYSEM) The scheme aims at skill upgradation of rural youth for self-employment.

(iv) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

On 2nd October, 1993 a new scheme known as 'Employment Assurance Scheme' has been launched in 1752 identified backward blocks throughout the country and seeks to provide assured wage employment of 100 days of unskilled manual work in lean agricultural season. The scheme will mainly benefit agricultural workers. During 1994-95 Physical achievement under this scheme was 20.25 lakh mandays.

Besides, there is a scheme known as Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) which was launched in 1982-83 for bringing about economic and social upliftment of rural women belonging to families below the poverty line using a group approach for taking up income generating activities suited to their skills and aptitude. The Scheme operates in conjunction with TRYSEM and IRDP:

- (v) Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Workers. With effect from 1.4.87, the State Government have launching a group Insurance scheme for Landless Agricultural Workers covering nearly 23 lakh agricultural workers between the age group of 18-60 years. Under this scheme compensation for natural and accidental death and for full and partial disability is given. Full premium is borne by the State Government and the LIC. Nearly 17,000 claims amounting to Rs. 2 crore annually are reportedly settled.

National Commission on Rural Labour

1962. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give a permanent status to the National Commission on Rural Labour;

(b) if so the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the extent to which the rural labour is likely to benefit as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) constituted in August, 1987 was wound up on 31st July, 1991 after submitting its report.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Indo-Pak Trade

1963 . SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the adverse affect on Indo-pak trade due to the shortage of wagons;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-availability of wagons and the extent to which trade suffered as a result thereof;

(c) the total value of trade between India and Pakistan transacted during 1994-95 in comparison to 1993-94 ; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to provide more wagons to the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Government are aware of some adverse affects on Indo-Pak trade due to constraints relating to availability of wagons.

(b) and (d). Availability of wagons is regulated according to the level of acceptance by the Pakistan Railways of freight trains from India, and it is affected by delays in the return of empty wagons from Pakistan due to infrastructural and other constraints in Pakistan. It is, however, not feasible to make a quantifiable assessment of consequent trade loss.

(c) The total value of trade between India and Pakistan transacted during 1994-95 was worth Rs. 344.46 crore, which was 2.03% higher than the value of trade at Rs.337.61 crore in 1993-94.

Investment in Cuba

1964. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cuba has invited the Indian Entrepreneurs for making investment in that country;

(b) if so, the areas in which investment has been invited; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). During the recent visit of a Joint Business Council delegation to Cuba, Cuba invited Indian entrepreneurs for making investments in that country. The areas indicated for investment include textiles, tourism, mining, light and heavy Engineering, power and electronics, bicycle parts and biotechnology.

(c) Government welcomes and encourages such investments which are governed by the policy on overseas investments.

[English]

Production of Cotton

1965. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton in the country during 1994-95;

(b) the quantity of cotton available in the country during 1995-96;

(c) the total quantity of cotton available in the country as on date;

(d) the targets for export of cotton fixed for 1995-96 alongwith the countries to whom the export is likely to be made; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to arrest the prices of cotton and provide remunerative prices to the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES) (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The production of cotton in the country during 1994-95 has been estimated by the cotton Advisory Board (CAB) at 130 lakh bales.

(b) and (c). The CAB estimates would be available only later in the season.

(d) No specific countries are targetted for export of cotton.

(e) Mechanism of Minimum Support Prices adequately safeguards the interests of cotton growers.

[Translation]

Carpet Exporting Units

1966. KUMARI UMA BHARTI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of carpet exporting units have since been closed down during the last two years, state-wise,

(b) the reasons therefor and the number of persons

rendered jobless as a result of the closing down of these units, state-wise,

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for reviving these closed units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL KATH): (a) Seven member exporters have resigned from the membership of the Carpet Export Promotion Council owing to their units being closed down during the same period. The State-wise break up is as under:

(i) Uttar Pradesh 4 (Four)

(ii) Delhi 2 (Two)

(iii) Maharashtra 1 (One)

(b) The member exporters who have resigned from the membership of Carpet Export Promotion Council have not attributed any reasons for the closure of their units. No information is available about the persons rendered jobless as a result of closing down of the carpet exporting units in the country.

(c) There is no scheme in the Government to revive these private sector trading houses.

[English]

Income Tax on Rents

1967. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA :
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Indian Express" dated October 10 1995 under the caption " MNC boom sets home rent spiralling" and;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to realise Income tax on actual rents of houses in posh areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No news item captioned "MNC boom sets home rent spiralling" has appeared in the "Indian Express" dated October 10, 1995 (Delhi Edition). However, the "Indian Express"

dated 29.10.1995 (Delhi Edition) carried a newsitem under the caption "MNC boom sets home rent spiralling".

(b) As per the provisions of Income-tax Act, 1961, the annual value of a property (other than the property used for business or profession) is chargeable to tax as "Income from house property". While computing the income of a tax-payer the Assessing Officer ensures that the correct annual value is brought to tax. The information collected during the course of surveys u/s 133A and 133B of Income-tax Act is also utilised for assessing the correct annual value.

Further, section 194-I of Income Tax Act, introduced by the Finance Act, 1994, provides for deduction of tax at source from rent exceeding Rs. 1,20,000/- during a financial year. The Central Board of Direct Taxes has directed the Income Tax Officials in big cities to verify, the correctness of tax deducted at source.

RBI's Office in U.P.

1968. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India proposes to set up its new offices/branches at important commercial and industrial centres in Uttar pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land has been acquired therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Indian Organisation in South Africa

1969. SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has established its office's in South Africa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made so far by these organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. STC has opened an office in Johannesburg (South Africa) in September, 1995.

(c) STC's office at Johannesburg has so far concluded export contracts worth Rs. 42.88 lakhs for supply of Jute mini wool packs and flew regulators.

[Translation]

Production of Tasar Silk

1970. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of Indian tasar silk is increasing in foreign markets progressively;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to increase tasar silk production areas;

(c) if so, whether any 'tasar promotion scheme' has been prepared by the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The programmes for increasing tasar silk production are primarily formulated and implemented by the concerned State Sericulture Departments. However, in order to supplement the efforts of the States the following programmes have been undertaken by the Central Silk Board for promotion of tasar silk goods:-

1. A domestic market survey has been commissioned to study the existing demand pattern and distribution channels for tasar products in the domestic market.
2. To popularise tasar products a series of exhibitions have been organised.

The Government has also approved scheme for augmentation of tasar food plants to increase the area under tasar food plantation; International non-mulberry R&D programme and crop insurance scheme for tasar. Besides the above schemes; the existing institutions such as Central Tasar Research & Training Institute at Ranchi, Regional Tasar Research Stations and Basic Seed Multiplication & Training

Centre are also assisting States to increase tasar silk production in the country.

[English]

**Priority Sector Targets of Nationalised Bank in
Andhra Pradesh**

1971. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks could not achieved priority sector targets in 1994-95 and 1995-96 so far in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any review of the functioning of the nationalised banks in the State has been done;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the banks have not granted the loans and finance adequately in the rural areas during the above period; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Andhra Bank, the convener bank for Andhra Pradesh has reported that the outstanding priority sector advances of nationalised banks as at the end of March 1995 (latest available) was Rs. 279515 lakhs constituting 42.88 per cent of the Net Bank Credit as against the target of 40 per cent stipulated by Reserve Bank of India.

(b) and (c). The performance of banks is periodically reviewed at State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) meetings. The last SLBC meeting was held on 30th June, 1995 and the performance of nationalised banks was found to be satisfactory.

(d) and (e). Andhra Bank has reported that the banks have been meeting the rural financial needs adequately. The target allocated under annual credit plan 1944-95 for public sector banks in the rural areas was Rs. 122288 lakhs against which the performance registered was Rs. 128196 lakhs.

Tariff Concessions for SAARC Countries

1972. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter in regard to tariff concessions ranging from 10 to 100 percent on certain items being exported and imported amongst the SAARC countries was discussed by the Committee on Economic Cooperation, recently; and

(b) if so; details of the items identified for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The Sixth Meeting of the Committee of Economic Cooperation held in New Delhi on 16-17 November, 1995 has recommended that the inter-Governmental Group (IGG) on Trade Liberalisation should be reconvened to initiate and carry out the second Round of Trade Negotiations for removal of para tariff, non-tariff and other trade control barriers within specific time-frame and for expanding and deepening the concessions accorded under the SAPTA agreement.

Grey Cloth

1973. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of grey cloth under Janata Cloth Scheme has been substantially reduced;

(b) if so, the details in percentage of production of grey cloth in the country particularly in Gujarat price to October 1, 1992 and reduction in its production as on date;

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to compensate the loss suffered by the weavers on this behalf;

(d) whether any representation from the Government of Gujarat has been received in this regard; and

(e) if so; the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. The production ceiling of grey cloth under the new policy affective from 1st October, 1993 has been brought down from 25% to 10%.

(b) Production of grey cloth under Janata Cloth Scheme is Negligible in general and NIL in Gujarat prior to and after 1st October, 1992.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Fraud in State Bank of Indore

1974. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether a fraud was recently detected in State Bank of Indore Branch in Baroda as reported in the Hindustan Times dated November 5, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). State Bank of Indore have reported that a fraud was detected at its Baroda branch in July, 1993. The branch manager had exceeded his discretionary powers in extending certain facilities to M/s. Arvin Liquid Gases Ltd. The officer has been placed under suspension and major penalty proceedings have been initiated. According to the bank, CBI has also registered a case and arrested the concerned official. The Bank has also appointed concurrent auditors in bigger branches to prevent recurrence of such frauds.

[Translation]

Contract System

1975. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Ministries where the contract system is still in force; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to abolish the same?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

MFN Status by Pakistan

1976. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pakistan continue to deny MFN status to India" appearing in the "Times of India" dated November 16, 1995;

(b) whether the Government of Pakistan has not been considering Indian goods in the most favoured nation list;

(c) whether this issue has also been discussed in the meeting of SAARC Committee of economic cooperation held in New Delhi recently; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Since this is a bilateral matter it was not discussed in the meeting of the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation. The matter has been taken up, in the first instance; bilaterally with the Government of Pakistan.

[Translation]

Trade with Russia

1977. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any trade friction has developed between India and Russia;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the outstanding bilateral trade issues between India and Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). There is no trade friction between India and Russia. During the period April, September 1995, bilateral trade between the two countries has reached the level of Rs. 2945 Cr. as against the trade level of Rs. 1602 Cr. during the same period in the preceding year. This represents a growth of 84%.

[English]

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Policy on Deposit by NRIS**Excise Duty**

1978. SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "RBI policy hits NRI deposits USA" as reported in 'The Statesman' dated November 02; 1995;

(b) if so, whether the RBI's decision to increase the interest rate to attract NRIs has been affected adversely; and

(c) if so, the Government's further reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The caption of the news-item is misleading as the news-item itself mentions that increase in interest rates "should make such schemes attractive to NRIs " in USA. RBI's decision to increase the interest rate on Non-Resident External (NRE) deposits and increase in the interest rate by banks on Non-Resident, Non-Repatriable Deposits; are expected to have a positive impact on the inflow of NRI Deposits.

(c) Does not arise.

Prices of Cotton Fabrics

1979. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of manufactured cotton fabrics has gone up enormously while the cost of raw cotton has been more or less stable during the last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons for this extraordinary hike in the price of cotton fabrics; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the rise in prices of cotton fabrics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. Prices of manufactured cotton fabrics have not gone up enormously.

1980. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the amount of Excise duty collected during the last three years and the current financial year till date year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): As records of revenue collections from Union Excise duties are not maintained State-wise it may not be possible to indicate separately excise duty collected from each State. However; revenue collections from Union Excise duties (exclusive of cesses not administered by Department of revenue) during the last three years and April, 1995 to September, 1995 are given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Revenue (Rs. in crore)</i>
1992-93	30651
1993-94	31711
1994-95 (p)	37416
1995-96 (p) (Upto Sept., 95)	18707

p : Provisional

Outstanding Income Tax

1981. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of Income-Tax outstanding against each of the top 20 defaulters as on March 1, 1995; and

(b) the steps being taken to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The names of top twenty defaulters and the amount of Income-tax outstanding against each of them as on 31.3.1995 are given below:-

<i>Sl No</i>	<i>Name of the tax defaulters</i>	<i>Demand outstanding (Rs. in crores)</i>
1.	Sh. Harshad S. Metha	3647.93
2.	Sh. Hiten P. Dalal	1271.33
3.	Sh. Bhupendra C. Dalal	729.71
4.	Sh. Ashwin S. Mehta	608.17
5.	M/S. State bank of India	604.56
6.	Smt. Jyoti H. Mehta	525.14
7.	Sh. A.D. Narottam	485.39
8.	M/s. The Peerless General Finance & Investment Co Ltd	439.42
9.	M/s. Growmore Research & Assets Management Ltd.	290.89
10.	M/s. Dhanraj Mills (p) Ltd	267.46
11.	M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd	250.31
12.	M/s. Bank of India	203.06
13.	M/s. Central Coalfield Ltd.	196.91
14.	M/s. Banque National De Paris	166.71
15.	M/s. G.T.C Industries Ltd.	158.77
16.	M/s. Cascade Holdings (p) Ltd.	155.00
17.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	145.62
18.	M/s. Citi Bank N.A.	139.61
19.	M/s. United Bank of India	138.61
20.	Shri B.S. Gandhi	125.81

(b) Various actions prescribed under the Income-tax Act e.g. attachment of movable and immovable properties of the defaulters, prosecution; imposition of penalties, detention in prison, appointment of receiver for management of defaulters properties are taken for recovery of the outstanding demand.

Of the top twenty defaulters listed above, those mentioned at S1. Nos. 1,2,3,4,6,7,9,10, and 16 are notified persons and in addition those at 5, 18 and 20 are scam related cases.

In regard to notified persons, claims relating to demands raised before 1.4.1995 have been lodged with the Special Court. In regard to other Scam related cases, regular recovery measures as provided in the Income-tax Act are being taken.

[Translation]

Identification of Backward Areas in Maharashtra in NABARD

1982. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific areas of Maharashtra identified by National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development as backward areas;

(b) whether the Government propose to conduct any fresh survey in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has not identified any areas in Maharashtra State as backward areas. However, NABARD has identified certain Districts in Maharashtra, where the tribal population is predominant, for the provision of a separate line of credit to the cooperatives and Regional Rural Banks for financing the Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO) requirements of the Tribals.

[English]

Export of Farm Goods

1983. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of farm goods are allowed only after careful consideration of domestic requirements:

(b) if so, whether the same yardstick is applied to the domestic requirements of manufacturing industries and other industrial units ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for such discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):(a) to (c). It is the policy of the Government to allow export of any item of mass consumption only after careful consideration of domestic requirements. The requirements of domestic industry are taken into account while formulating the Export Import Policy.

Excise Duty on Yarn

1984. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had given assurance that the additional excise duty would be levied on yarn instead on the cloth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not fulfilling this assurance, so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The transfer of additional excise duty in lieu of sales tax on man-made fabrics from fabric to yarn stage was discussed in the first meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 10.10.90 at New Delhi. Some State Governments however, expressed reservation about transfer of additional excise duty from the fabric to fibre/yarn stage. In view of lack of agreement among State Governments on this suggestion, it has been decided that the matter may be placed before the Inter-State Council for re-examination.

Supply of Yarn to Small Weavers

1985. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small weavers in Assam are facing difficulties in getting cotton yarn of the required count; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to make cotton yarn readily available to the small weavers in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). In order to ensure adequate availability of hank yarn to the handloom weavers, including small weavers, the Government of India is enforcing the Hank Yarn Obligation rigorously. Besides this, the Government of India is also implementing the Hank Yarn Price subsidy Scheme for supply of hank yarn at subsidised prices under which 4.04 lakh kg. Yarn had been supplied in the State of Assam during the current financial year. The Mill Gate Price Scheme is also operated by the Government of India for this purpose under which over 0.16 lakh kg. Yarn has been supplied in the State of Assam during the current financial Year.

SC/ST Reservation in ITPO

1986. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COM-

<i>Cat.</i>	<i>Persons in position</i>	<i>SC in position</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>ST in</i>	<i>% position</i>
GA. "A"	188*	29	15.42	7	3.74
GP. "B"	107	20	18.69	1	0.93
GP. "C"	466	88	18.88	15	3.21
GP. "D"	413**	100	24.21	5	1.00

* Excluding one post each of CMD & ED.

**This is excluding 81 posts of Safaikaramchari and 6 posts of Sewerman.

Computerisation in Public Sector Banks

1987. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far on the work of computerisation in public sector banks;

(b) the estimated savings being made on account of administrative expenditure in banks as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the likely inconvenience caused to customers in case of break down in functioning of computers due to power failure; and

(d) if so the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken

MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of reservation for scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes is being followed by India Trade Promotion Organisation;

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

(c) the number of percentage of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes employees in ITPO; category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government Directives, as applicable for Public Sector Undertakings are being followed by ITPO.

(c) The number of SC/ST employees who are in position at present is as under :-

in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

RRB in Bihar and Rajasthan

1988. SHRI LALL BASB RAI:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of regional rural banks functioning in Bihar

and Rajasthan and their total deposits and working capital, separately;

(b) the number of rural customers benefited from these banks during each of the last three years and the extent of amount of loans disbursed;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding irregularities committed by these banks during the above mentioned period;

(d) if so; the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to make these banks more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b): There are 22 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Bihar and 14 RRBs functioning in Rajasthan at present. The information with regard to total deposits working funds number of accounts with these banks and the amount of loans disbursed in the last 3 years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The reporting system in Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) does not generate the information with regard to number of irregularities found in RRBs. However; complaints have been received in the past with regard to financial irregularities, corruption etc. in respect of some of them. complaints, as and when received, are referred to NABARD/ sponsor banks for enquiry and necessary action on merits of each case.

(e) Several steps have been taken to strengthen the RRBs. Some of them are :

- i) RRBs are now permitted to extend loans to the non-target group to the extent of 60% of their fresh lendings.
- ii) Guidelines for non-fund business like provision of lockers, issuance of guarantees etc. have been liberalised.
- iii) RRBs with loan disbursal of less than Rs. 2 crores in 1992-93 have been freed of their service area obligations and permitted to relocate loss making branches.

- iv) Liberalised investment avenues have been made available to RRBs including participation in the sponsor banks' credit portfolio through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the country have been taken up for comprehensive restructuring including cleansing up of balance sheets through infusion of equity during 1994-95. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years to other RRBs. The objective is to transform the presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banking.

[English]

Temporary Employees in State Bank of Mysore

1989. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of Mysore appointed 369 temporary employees during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the number of SCs/STs amongst them;

(c) whether the guidelines on the reservation policy for SCs/STs was followed therein; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (d). State Bank of Mysore has reported that it had appointed 374 temporary employees (for less than 45 days at a time) during the year 1994-95 of which 95 persons belonged to Scheduled Castes (25.40%) and 15 persons to Scheduled Tribes (4.01%) . The bank has further reported that although the rule of reservation does not apply to such appointments, it has attempted to provide proportionate representation to SCs and STs in these appointments depending upon the availability of candidates.

Outflow of Foreign Exchange

1990. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA
KHANDURI:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there has been a heavy out-flow of foreign exchange due to under invoicing and over-invoicing of exports and imports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise and the estimated outflow thereof during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the field formations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of Shares

1991. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has received several suggestions for a system to replace proportionate allotment of shares in public offerings in favour of small investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have advised the Securities and Exchange Board of India to review the system of proportionate allotment and consider a proposal to do away with the concept of proportionate allotment of shares in public offerings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the new system is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b). Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has received suggestions that the proportionate allotment system may be amended to ensure allotment to small investors. Accordingly, SEBI has recently modified this system for the benefit of small investors. Under the revised system, a minimum 50% of the net offer of securities to the Public is to be allotted for individual investors applying for securities not exceeding 1,000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Increase in Export Turnover of P&ECI

1992. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Project and Equipment Corporation of India has achieved a 30 percent increase in its export turnover during 1994-95 as compared to 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the performance of the Corporation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. PEC achieved an export turnover of Rs. 213.47 crores in the Year 1994-95 against Rs. 164.27 crores in 1993-94 thus registering a growth of around 30%

(c) Consequent upon the decanalisation of items hitherto canalised for export through PEC, the Govt have been re-viewing the need to reorient it in a manner consistent with the liberalised economy and a competitive environment. As a part of this exercise, PEC has dawn up a five year perspective plan identifying the thrust markets and thrust products with a view to diversify its activities in the export of non-engineering items such as agro products, pharmaceuticals and industrial chemicals.

Export of Traditional Commodities

1993. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in exports of traditional commodities like Cashew, Pepper and Spices produced in Kerala has declined in terms of value over a period of time ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these commodities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Statewise exports statistics are not maintained. However, the export of cashew, pepper and other spices since 1992-93 are as under :-

(Value in Rs. Crores)

	<i>Item</i>	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1994-95</i>
1.	Cashew	748.66	1048.20	1244.26
2.	Spices (including pepper)	393.42	568.91	606.48
3.	Pepper	78.94	184.57	226.01

(SOURCE : DGC&S, CALCUTTA)

(c) steps taken to enhance export of these commodities, inter-alia, include free import of raw cashewnuts for augmenting domestic supply, suspension of 2% export cess upto 31.3.1996 on export of pepper, brand promotion, logo promotion and issue of Spices House Certificate, simplification inspection procedures, provisions of concessional credit, extension of benefits available under the scheme of EOUs / EPZs to agriculture sector and permitting 50 % sale in the domestic tariff area, assistance to exporters for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, arranging buyer-seller meets and participation in international fairs/ exhibitions. The Spices Board has recently announced a package of measures consisting of air freight subsidy, export incentive and suspension of cess for export of cardamom (small).

*[Translation]***Seizure of Gold and Other Articles**

1994. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of gold and other item seized from foreign tourists and smugglers by the Department of Customs during the last two months;

(b) the number of persons arrested in the connection;

(c) the names of the countries to which these tourists belong; and

(d) the details of the commodities seized, Customs office-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]***New Banks in Gujarat**

1995. DR. AMRITLAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to open new banks in rural areas of Gujarat during the current financial year 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has informed that they have not receive any application to open new banks rural in areas of Gujarat during the current financial year.

Strike by Peerless Field Employees

1996. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether 46 lakhs of Peerless field employees are on strike for the last six-months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). According to the available information, employees of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company resorted to indefinite strike against introduction of a new deposit scheme and implementation of the new scheme related to agent's commission etc.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Reservation for Handloom Sector

1997. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new policy on reservation of items for handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir. However, the list of textile articles reserved for exclusive production by handlooms is reviewed from time to time by the Central Government based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee constituted for the purpose under Section 4 (1)

of the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Rise in Fare of Air

1998. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rises in the fare of Air journeys during the last three years; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to check the continuous rise in the fare of air journeys ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details of increase in domestic and international air fares during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	Increase in fares	
	Domestic	International (Published Fares)
1993	15%	11.75% (Average)
1994	15% (Average)	6%
1995	20% (Average)	NIL

(b) : In order to check increase in fares; Indian Airlines has taken steps to reduce its cost of operations by rationalisation of routes and higher capacity deployment or more profitable routes; reduction in fuel expenditure by import under special import licence; freeze on recruitment, reduction in overtime and conversion of jet Engine shop, Central Training Establishment and Ground support into separate cost and profit centres.

International Air fares are decided by IATA Member airlines operating on each route at the Tariff Coordinating Conferences held each year and implemented after approval by the concerned Governments /aeronautical authorities.

[English]

Export of Woollen Cloths

1999. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has imposed curbs on its quota against India's exports of Women's Woollen Clothes;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to resolve the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). Under the provisions of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) of the Uruguay Round, the U.S. Government had imposed restraints (quotas) on the import of woollen garments from India in categories 434 (Gents Coats); 435 (Ladies Coats) and 440 (woven Shirts and Blouses) on the ground that the import of these items were causing serious damage to their industry or there was an actual threat thereof.

According to the provisions of the ATC the Textiles Monitoring Body (TMB) had taken up a review of the restraint

measures of the U.S.A. The TMB had recommended that the U.S. should rescind the restraints on the imports of category 434 from India, which has since been complied with by the USA. However, in respect of category 435, while the TMB arrived at a consensus that there was no serious damage, the TMB had failed to arrive at a consensus on the actual threat of serious damage. In respect of category 440, the TMB had held that there was an actual threat of serious damage;

Government of India had thereupon moved the TMB for another overview of the matter in respect of categories 435 and 440. The TMB has recently reviewed the matter once again but it has not given any recommendations other than the conclusions it had reached in its earlier meeting.

Governments considering taking the matter to the Dispute settlement Body.

[*Translation*]

Demand of Gold

2000: SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the demand of gold;

(b) if so; the details thereof during each of the last three years and the reasons therefor;

(c) the rate of gold during each of the last three years in India; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the rising prices of the gold in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) and (b). Government have made no estimate of the demand for gold in India. As per unofficial estimates contained in the publication viz. "Gold Demand Trends" of the World Gold Council, Switzerland, the demand for gold in India during 1993, 1994 and 1995 (upto Sept., 95) was as given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Demand (in tonnes)</i>
1993	405.4
1994	415.0
1995(upto Sept., 95)	365.4

Increase in demand for gold could be due inter-alia to growing consumer purchasing power and the attraction of gold as an investment for future security.

(c) The average price of gold in India during the last three years (in the Bombay Market) was as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Price in Rs./ 10 gm</i>
1993	4386
1994	4647
1995(upto Sept.; 95)	4723

(d) Measures taken to keep the domestic price of gold under check include permission to import gold upto 5kg. on payment of custom duty by Indian passengers returning to India under the liberalised scheme of gold import. Further, gold import has been permitted under Special Import Licences with effect from April, 1994.

[*English*]

Guest Houses of General Insurance Corporation

2001. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation and its subsidiary companies are having their guest houses in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of rent being paid per month, location-wise;

(c) whether some of the guest houses are owned by certain Government officials or their spouses;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any guest house at Delhi is to be surrendered to the owner very shortly; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fares of Private Airlines

2002. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether private airlines are ready to reduce fares:

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the incentives being provided by the Union Government to Private airlines to provide their services at lower fares?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Air Transport operators are free to charge fares fixed by them in their commercial judgement.

Demands of Gramin Bank Employees

2003. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the pending demands of the Gramin Bank employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court had directed the Government to decide the issue by October 20, 1995;

(d) if so, the decision of the Government on the issue; and

(e) the steps taken so far to meet the above demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Various association and organisations of employees and officers of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have been raising demands relating to their service conditions, remunerations and other benefits etc. from time to time. The main demands are:-

- i) Formation of National Rural Bank of India by merging all the RRBs.
- ii) Extension of the benefits given to employees of

commercial banks/ sponsor banks under 6th Bipartite Settlement to employees of RRBs.

iii) Payment of arrears arising out of the implementation of Award of National Industrial Tribunal (NIT) .

iv) Promulgation of revised recruitment and promotion policy and Staff Service Regulations.

v) Extension of terminal benefits in line with sponsor banks.

vi) Grant of increment and other benefits in lieu of computerisation as in the sponsor banks.

(c) to (e). In an application filed in the Supreme Court with regard to NIT Award, the Court has desired that a scheme for the payment to arrears to employees of RRBs be prepared. Hon'ble Member has perhaps this case in mind. The case is likely to be taken up next in the month of January, 1996. Meanwhile, Government have written to National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) to advise the RRBs with no accumulated losses as on 31.3.95 and those RRBs which have been selected for comprehensive restructuring during 1994-95 to start paying arrears in instalments.

As regards the demand of formation of National Rural Bank of India, it has been decided to restructure the RRBs on a 'stand alone basis'. 49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs were selected for comprehensive restructuring including cleansing of their balance sheets by infusion of fresh capital. As regards promulgation of revised recruitment and promotion rules and the service regulations, the matter is under active consideration of Government. The other demands regarding staff benefits involving financial commitments have to be seen in the context of the ongoing exercise of restructuring of RRBs. The Reserve Bank of India has constituted an Expert Group to advise on the restructuring exercise on an ongoing basis.

Central Deposit Agency

2004. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up any financial institution such as Central Deposit Agency to speed up the disposal process in the Indian Capital Market;

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

Does not arise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The Depositories Bill 1995, provides for regulations for depositories. Such depositories when established would facilitate faster settlement of transactions in securities in stock exchanges, and transfer of ownership of securities by public limited companies. The Bill, inter alia, provides for the following:

- (i) a legal basis for establishment of depositories to conduct the task of maintenance of ownership records of securities and effect changes in ownership records through book-entry;
 - (ii) dematerialise securities in the depositories mode as well as giving option to an investor to choose between holding securities as at present in physical form or hold the securities in a dematerialised form in a depository;
 - (iii) making the securities fungible; and
 - (iv) making the shares, debentures and any interest thereon of a public limited company freely transferable.
- (c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Unprocessed Wool

2005. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are facing difficulties in getting unprocessed wool from foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan prepared by the Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Government neither directly imports wool from foreign countries; nor has it received any specific report of difficulties being faced by the industry in importing wool. (b) and (c)

Delhi Parishad Cooperative Bank

2006. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any inquiry into the working of the Delhi Parishad Cooperative Bank has ever been conducted;
- (b) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) the details of scandals that have taken place in the bank so far;
- (d) whether the Bank has been receiving capital aid from the Central and the State Governments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof since its inception and the manner of its utilization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that following a complaint in September, 1992, investigations were conducted into the affairs of the Parishad Cooperative Bank LTD. The Registrar of Cooperative Societies; New Delhi was also requested to institute an enquiry under relevant provisions of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972. He was also advised to supersede the Board and appoint an Administrator as the affairs of the bank were being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of its depositors. Accordingly, an Administrator was appointed with effect from 22-2-93 to manage the affairs of the bank. The following serious irregularities were observed during the investigation :

- i) indiscriminate sanction of loans/overdrafts of huge amounts;
- ii) violation of RBI directives in the sanction of clean loans to directors and firms in which they were interested;
- iii) acute liquidity crunch due to which the bank was not in a position to pay the depositors;
- iv) non-maintaining of prescribed cash reserves and liquid assets, as required under Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The bank was placed under direction in terms of section 35A

- (i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (as applicable to Cooperative Societies) in terms of which it was prohibited to grant fresh loans and advances or permit drawl from cash credit accounts and make any payment to any of its depositors or creditors from the close of business on 8-1-1993. The directions were modified from time to time considering its liquidity position. As per the latest modification, the bank is allowed to pay to any of its depositors/ creditors, a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,000/- in aggregate against the total deposits held by him in all types of deposit accounts.

(d) and (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House to the extent available.

Fiscal Deficit

2007. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japan Bond Research Institute (JBRI) has observed that the Indian Government's failure to reduce the fiscal deficit to the desired levels would make the task of improving management efficiency of the commercial banks difficult;

(b) whether the JBRI in its special report on "India's Financial Report Reform and IDBI's Samurai Bonds" has also observed the reduction of fiscal deficit, which was the main cause of the high level of deposit reserve ratio, had not been successful;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). No such report of the Japan Bond Research Institute has been received in the Ministry of Finance. (c) and (d). Do not arise.

Overdraft Facility

2008. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total overdraft made to Various States and Union Territories during the current financial year till date;

(b) whether the Government have imposed restrictions on overdraft facilities provided to State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take to bring the States misusing overdraft facilities under financial constraint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) All the States other than J & K and Sikkim maintain their accounts with the RBI to which they credit their receipts and debit their expenditures. The States have also been given ways and means limits for excess of expenditure over receipts. When the State exceeds its limit; it goes into overdraft and subsequently it has to repay the amount overdrawn to the RBI. The overdraft position of States keeps changing from day-to-day. The figure of overdraft is also not cumulative. As soon as the amount is repaid to the RBI, overdraft comes down to zero. However, the limits of ways and means advance fixed for each State are show in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c). As per the existing overdraft Regulation Scheme of the RBI, a State can draw beyond the limits of ways and means. However, the States has to clear the amount of overdraft within 10 days. In case a State remains in overdraft beyond 10 consecutive working days, RBI suspends payment on behalf of that state.

(d) Over draft may be necessitated due to temporary mismatch in the receipts and disbursements of a State. The amount overdrawn by a State is not a permanent amount which can be misused by the state, but it has to be paid back by the respective state to the RBI. It is for the States to manage their finances properly and to avoid overdraft as far as possible.

STATEMENT*Ways & Means Limit With Reserve Bank of India**(Rs. in crores)*

Sl. No.	State	W&M Limit from 1.11.93		
		Normal	Special	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	84.00	32.00	116.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.40	3.20	11.60
3.	Assam	33.60	12.80	46.40
4.	Bihar	58.80	22.40	81.20
5.	Goa	8.40	3.20	11.60
6.	Gujarat	58.80	22.40	81.20
7.	Haryana	25.20	9.60	34.80
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16.80	6.40	23.20
9.	Karnataka	67.20	25.60	92.80
10.	Kerala	50.40	19.20	69.60
11.	Madhya Pradesh	67.20	25.60	92.80
12.	Maharashtra	126.00	48.00	174.00
13.	Manipur	8.40	3.20	11.60
14.	Meghalaya	8.40	3.20	11.60
15.	Mizoram	8.40	3.20	11.60
16.	Nagaland	8.40	3.20	11.60
17.	Orissa	50.40	19.20	69.60
18.	Punjab	50.40	19.20	69.60
19.	Rajasthan	50.40	19.20	69.60

(Rs. in crores)

S1. No.	State	W&M Limit from 1.11.93		
		Normal	Special	Total
1	2	3	4	5
20.	Tamil Nadu	92.40	35.20	127.60
21.	Tripura	8.40	3.20	11.60
22.	Uttar Pradesh	142.80	54.40	197.20
23.	West Bengal	84.00	32.00	116.00
Total		1117.20	425.60	1542.80

Debt Recovery Tribunals

2009. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of the Debts Recovery Tribunals set up so far in the country;

(b) the locations of such Tribunals proposed to be set up in the country;

(c) whether any representation regarding lack of infrastructure and shortage of staff have been received from any of the Tribunals; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure proper infrastructure and sufficient staff at the Tribunals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a). Five Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) under the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 have so far been set up at Calcutta, Delhi, Jaipur, Bangalore and Ahmedabad.

(b) Five more Debts Recovery Tribunals are proposed to be set up at Guwahati, Panaji, Jabalpur, Bombay and Madras.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The tribunals already set up have been provided with office accommodation and have been sanctioned requisite staff.

However, some posts are lying vacant on account of non-availability of suitable and experienced personnel. Necessary funds have been placed at the disposal of these Tribunals and they have been authorised to procure stores etc. needed for smooth functioning of the Tribunals.

Loan to State Governments

2010; SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loan demanded by different States during 1995-96; and

(b) the amount disbursed to different States as the development loan so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be furnished.

Reforms in Banking and Insurance Sector

2011. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action plan being carried out for suitable reforms in banking, insurance and financial institution sector;

(b) whether various experts committee have made

several recommendations to the Government in this regard from time to time; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken thereon with time-frame ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). As far as the financial sector is concerned, most of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee are in the process of implementation/have been implemented. These inter alia include positioning of norms in respect of capita adequacy, income recognition and provisioning requirements, reduction in Statutory Liquidity Rates (SLR) and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR), rationalisation of interest rate structure, liberalisation of branch licensing policy technological modernisation of banks through computerisation, issue of guidelines for entry of new private sector banks, issue of capital to the public in respect of public sector banks, setting up of Special Recovery Tribunals and establishment of a Board for financial Supervision under the aegis of the Reserve bank of India. Further, as suggested by the committee, industrial Finance Corporation of India has been converted into a company and the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964 has been amended to restructure the IDBI by permitting it to raise additional equity from the capital market and to provide it with greater functional autonomy and operational flexibility. Accordingly, IDBI has already accessed the capital market for equity.

No time-frame has been fixed for implementation of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee. However, the process of financial sector reform is an on-going one.

As far as insurance sector is concerned, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.N. Malhotra, former Governor of Reserve Bank of India, was appointed to look into and recommend reforms in the insurance sector. The Committee has since submitted its report, but no final view has as yet been taken on its recommendations. However, as a first step in reform in the insurance sector, Government

has decided to set up an Insurance Regulatory Authority.

Paid-up Capital of Banks

2012 : SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the paid-up capital lost or unrepresented by valuable assets cancelled upto March 31, 1995 by banking companies in BAD public sector, bank-wise;

(b) the paid-up capital found in excess of the wants of the new bank paid off by march 31, 1995;

(c) the extent of privatisation in the public sector banks in terms of equity capital as on March 31, 1995; and

(d) the extent of foreign holding in the equity of public sector banks, as on March 31, 1995, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a). The Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, reduced the paid-up capital of Punjab National Bank as on 31.3.1994 by Rs. 425.43. crores being the carried forward loss of erstwhile New Bank of India.

(b) As on 31st March, 1995, no public sector bank has paid off capital in excess of its wants.

(c) As on 31st March, 1995, Government of India's share holding in Oriental Bank of Commerce came down to 66.48 per cent from 100 per cent after a public issue in December, 1994. On the same date, Reserve Bank of India's share holding in State Bank of India came down to 66.3 per cent : from 98.2 per cent after a public issue in December, 1993.

(d) The shareholding of foreign institutional investors (FIIs) in SBI and Oriental Bank of Commerce who participated in the public issue is as under:-

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>As on</i>	<i>Percentage of total holding</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
State Bank of India	15.11.1995	4.08
Oriental Bank of Commerce	10.7.1995	0.07

Ban on Tobacco Products/Cigarettes

2013. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ban has been imposed by the Government on the advertisement of Tobacco products/cigarettes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when was the ban imposed;

(c) whether such an imposition of ban was against the interest of growers and drastically affected the export earnings as well as was in conflict with the policies of other ministries; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Private Sector Money Market Mutual Funds

2014: SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has allowed the private sector mutual funds to set up money market mutual funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the necessity therefor and the objectives to be achieved thereby;

(c) whether the RBI has also issued any guidelines for these MMMFs and also removed ceilings in the size of their investments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to provide an additional short term avenue to investors and to bring money market instruments within the reach of individuals, a scheme of Money Market Mutual Funds (MMMFs) was introduced by the RBI in 1992. In order to make the Scheme more attractive to banks and

financial institutions and also with a view to providing greater liquidity, certain changes were made in the scheme.

(c) and (d). The limits on investments in individual instruments have been withdrawn. However, the exposure of commercial paper issued by an individual company should not be more than 3% of the resources of the MMMF.

American Aid

2015. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to receive foreign aid from America it is necessary to obtain a drug clearance certificate, as per American laws;

(b) if so, whether the American President has asked the Indian Government to take strong steps against the drugs production, in-flow; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 of USA, the President of USA is required to certify annually that countries are cooperating in counter narcotic efforts. If the certification is denied to any country then USA's bilateral aid to that country could be reduced and the USA is also obliged to oppose loans to the decertified country in various multilateral development bank activities.

(b) and (c). In the month of March, 1995 the US Government released the Memorandum of Certification for major narcotics producing and transit countries. The president of USA certified that India has cooperated fully with USA and taken adequate steps on its own to achieve full compliance with the goals and objectives of the 1988 UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic In Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic substances.

However, the report contains some suggestions regarding improving law enforcement. Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided.

To prevent diversion of licit opium electronic weighing

machines are now in use at all the weighment centres in place of traditional beam scales and weighment operations are invariably conducted under the supervision of senior officers to eliminate malpractices.

[Translation]

United Nations Report

2016: SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations recent report presented to India Development Forum has cautioned against "Jobless Growth";

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the number of job seekers have been increased during 1994 as compared to the previous two years;

(d) whether the Government are in receipt of the foreign aid for the eradication of unemployment in the country ; and

(e) if so, the details of the Utilization of the foreign aid during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). In the statement made at the India Development Forum meeting at Paris, the representative of the UNDP referred to the Human Development Report 1993 which inter-alia stated that the growth in GNP does not always produce proportionate growth in employment. The UN system welcomed the steps that have been taken to attract capital into India, which focuses efforts to enhance the employment potential of investment.

(c) The number of job-seekers all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in 1994 was 366.91 lakhs as compared to 367.58 lakhs in 1992 and 362.75 lakhs in 1993.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Sale of Mitoo under BIFR Recommendation

2017. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIFR has recommended fir the sale of Mica

Trading Corporation of India Limited ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to retrench the surplus staff working in Various Public Sector Undertakings including MITOO;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government have taken any decision for the merger of Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd. with Minerals and Metals Trading corporation of India Ltd.;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(f) the remedial action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE(SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The Government have decided to merge MITOO with MMTTC. A proposal for revival of MMTOO as a division of is currently being examined by BIFR. The revival package includes retrenchment of surplus staff who do not accept the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Banks for Farmers

2018. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up some banks to cater the needs of small and marginal farmers exclusively; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Publicity Campaign to Attract Foreign Tourists

+2019. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch any comprehensive publicity campaign in the country and abroad so as to attract a large number of foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of the chartered flights arrived from foreign countries during the year 1994-95; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned by India therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism; Government of India has an on-going campaign to promote India as a tourist destination in the overseas markets with the help of various promotional tools including advertising. The publicity campaign is being implemented through the overseas offices of the Department of Tourism who work closely with the travel trade and other agencies located in their regions in order to attract the foreign tourists.

(c) and (d). During 1994-95, 927 tourist charter flights arrived in India from foreign countries. The over-all foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 1994-95 including the foreign exchange earned from tourists arriving on the chartered flights was Rs. 7,366.00 crores.

[English]

Special Tourism Development Area Authority

2020. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial assistance has been sought and given to Maharashtra Government for implementation of Special Tourism Development Area Authority in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). No proposal for central financial assistance to set up the Special Tourism Development Area Authority has been received from the Maharashtra Government. However, on the basis of a proposal received from the State Government in 1993-94, central financial assistance was sanctioned for a Tourist Complex at Kunkeshwar in Sindhadurg District for an amount of Rs. 24.80 lakhs. This project is located in the Special Tourism Area.

Seizure of Arms and Drugs

2021. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of arms and drugs seized along the pak border by enforcement agencies during each of the last three years;

(b) the origin of these arms and drugs;

(c) the number of persons arrested; and

(d) the details of the linkage of arrested persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expansion of Airports in Bihar

2022. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airports Authority of India propose to upgrade and expand the existing airports in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct any new airport in the state; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Upgradation of airports and other infrastructural facilities is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon projected requirements and availability of resources. The Airports Authority of India has undertaken development of following airports in Bihar:

PATNA :- This airport is being developed as a model airport. The work of extension of Terminal Building has been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 608 lakhs. The works relating to resurfacing runway and installation of doppler very high Frequency omni Range have been completed.

RANCHI:- The work relating to resurfacing of runway and installation of Instrument Landing System and Distance Measuring Equipment have been completed.

GAYA :-This airport has been renovated and made operational for F-27 type of aircraft.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

New Air Taxi Operations

2023. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for new Air Taxi operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some foreign airlines have offered to operate in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the terms and conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Consideration of proposals for grant of permission to commence air services is an on-going process. At present there are 6 scheduled and 18 Non-scheduled/air taxi operators in the private sector. In addition, No Objection Certificates have been issued to 28 new applicants to commence private air transport services.

(c) Foreign airlines are not permitted to operate within India as per the existing policy guidelines.

(d) Does not arise.

Linking Divisional and District Head Quarters

2024. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to air-link all the divisional and district headquarters with their State Capitals and National Capital;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far; and

(c) the locations where the said proposal is Scheduled to be implemented during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). In order to ensure that air transport services grow in a balanced manner throughout the country, Government has issued route dispersal guidelines, which require operators to provide certain minimum capacity on various routes including the North-East, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Island. However, no time frame has been fixed to airlink the divisional and district headquarters with State Capitals and the National Capital. Regional Airlines are being encouraged to operate to far - flung and hitherto unconnected districts/ towns.

Development of Tourism in Madhya Pradesh

2025. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for promotion of tourism in the State during the last two years;

(b) the names and the locations of these projects at historical places particularly in backward and tribal areas for which the said financial assistance had been provided;

(c) the details of the proposals pending with Union Government for approval and financial assistance for the year 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(d) the steps the Government propose to take for early disposal of the pending proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The details of Central financial assistance sanctioned for promotion of tourism along with the locations of projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the last two years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). There are no pending proposals.

STATEMENT

Central financial assistance sanctioned to the state Government of Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94 and 1994-95

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Amount sanctioned (RS. in Lakhs) 1993 -94</i>
1.	Tourist Complex at Orchha	21. 07
2.	Purchase of tents for Orchha	2. 00
3.	Publicity support	6. 50
4.	Fairs and Festivals	2. 00
Total		31. 57
		1994-95
1	Assistance for Orchha Festival	3. 10
2.	SIKO Hover Crafts, Upper Lake Bhopal	6. 22
Total		9. 32

Construction of Devanahalli Airport

(d) Does not arise.

2026. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

[Translation]

(a) whether the Indian Air Force authorities had objected to the Selection of the Devanahalli (near Bangalore) site for the construction of International airport there;

ITDC Enterprises in U.P.

2027. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

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

(a) the number and locations of ITDC enterprises in Uttar Pradesh where investment has been made during the last one year;

(c) whether an alternate site has been selected for the construction of International airport near Bangalore; and

(b) whether ITDC has prepared new schemes for the development of its units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). IAF authorities had objected to the proposal for setting up an airport at Devanahalli (near Bangalore), for operational reasons. The matter has been sorted out in consultation with Indian Air force. The airspace will be jointly operated / managed by the civil and defence personnel.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) During 1994-95, ITDC incurred plan expenditure of Rs. 10.47 lakhs on the following three existing units in Uttar Pradesh :

(c) No, Sir.

	<i>Name of the unit</i>	<i>Capital Expenditure (1994-95) (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1.	Hotel Agra Ashok, Agra	0.45
2.	Hotel Varasi Ashok, Varanasi	2. 23
3.	Transport Unit at Varanasi	7.79
	Total :	10.47

(b) and (c). ITDC's Annual Plan for 1995-96 and 1996-97 do not envisage any new plan scheme to be taken up in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

**Voluntary Retirement Scheme for
Textile Workers**

2028. SHRI RAMKAPSE :
SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount under voluntary Retirement scheme in textile mills is reimbursed by the Central Government to the State Governments under the National Renewal Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has approved a Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme for worker staff in the mills run by Maharashtra State Textile Corporation and Textile Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. and submitted a proposal in this regard to the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (e). The Government of Maharashtra has requested for assistance of Rs. 74.83 crores from the National Renewal fund for payment of gratuity and compensation under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme to the staff of the Maharashtra State Textile Corporation Ltd. and the Textile Corporation of

Marathwara Ltd. However, assistance from the National Renewal Fund has been provided for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in Central Public Sector Undertakings only.

[Translation]

Seizure of Drugs and Other Goods

2029. SHRI MOHAMMED ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the banned goods, narcotics and drugs seized at airports and seaports in the country during the last three months;

(b) the value of goods/drugs seized; and

(c) the details of prosecution filed in aforesaid cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Polyester Fabric Yarn Scam

2030. SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inquiry in the Polyester Fabric Yarn Scam has been completed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ;

(c) the number of Customs officials involved therein; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the

Government against the guilty officers and exporters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Investigations conducted so far have resulted in detection duty evasion by way of fraudulent exports to the tune of Rs. 55 crores by 111 exporters out of which 33 exporters have been arrested. An amount of Rs. 13.3 crores of customs duty has been voluntarily deposited by some of the exporters (subject to realisation of cheques/drafts)

(c) Five Customs officials are suspected to be involved in the fraud.

(d) The suspected officers have been placed under suspension. Action against the guilty officers and exporters will be taken as per law.

[Translation]

Withdrawal of foreign Exchange

2031. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has apprised the Government about the sudden and at large scale withdrawal of the foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to enact any law in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The movements in India's foreign exchange reserves, which reflect the developments in the country's balance of payments, are being constantly monitored both by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The Government and the RBI, through periodic discussions and consultations, take steps to modify the existing policy measures and institute new measures, as and when necessary, to strengthen the country's external trade and payments situation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Banks Loans in U.P.

2032. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) The total amount of loans provided by various banks in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh during 1994-95 ;

(b) the percentage of such loans in comparison to total deposit in these banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The bank credit of scheduled commercial banks in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh as at the end of March, 1995 was Rs. 368148 lakhs constituting 35.9 per cent of the corresponding deposits in the state.

Branches of State Bank of India in South Africa

2033. SHRI ASTBUHA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has opened its branches in South Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cloth from Pineapple fibre

2034. SHRIMATHI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of State for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to manufacture cloth from the fibre of pineapple; and

(b) if so, the scheme formulated by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]**Single Window Scheme**

2035. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have started any single window scheme to promote foreign trade;

(b) if so, the details of its main benefits thereof;

(c) the main benefits to the city of Surat under this scheme and the extent upto which work has been carried out in Surat under this scheme;

(d) the efforts made under this scheme to provide priority to the city of Surat;

(e) whether the Office of DGFT would also be opened in Surat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d). The Department of Revenue have introduced a single Window Scheme w.e.f. October '95, on experimental basis, for clearing import consignments within 24 hours to 48 hours at Madras, Calcutta and Bombay ports. The scheme envisages submission of documents for import consignments at one counter and collection of the cleared documents after 24 or 48 hours. Surat area shall also benefit from this Scheme to the extent that import consignments through Bombay port shall be cleared expeditiously.

(e)& (f) An office of DGFT headed by a Dy. DGFT has already started functioning at Surat w.e.f. 15.11.95. Exporters of Surat, Valsad and Dangs districts area will now get their licences and export benefits at Surat itself.

[*English*]**NIFT Centres**

2036. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of National Institute of Fashion Technology Centres functioning in the country at present; state-wise; and

(b) the number of NIFT Centres likely to be opened especially in Bangalore during 1995-96, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) At present the following six Centres of National Institute of Fashion Technology are functioning in the country: Delhi, Bombay-Marashtra, Gandhinagar-Gujarat, Madras- Tamilnadu, Hyderabad-Andhra Pradesh and Calcutta- West Bengal.

(b) Government is considering the opening of new centres of the NIFT at Bangalore, Bhopal and Goa, subject to the concurrence of the Planning Commission.

Welfare Board for Tobacco Workers

2037. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend welfare benefits to tobacco workers as has been extended to beedi workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to form a Tobacco workers Welfare Board ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a Tobacco Workers Welfare Board.

Indian Labour Abroad

2038. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for Indian labour in the foreign countries has been reduced;

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

(c) the efforts being made to explore the possibilities of

more employment for Indian labour abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Job opportunities for Indian workers in foreign countries are found out either by the Recruiting Agents registered with the Ministry of Labour or by the Project Exporters or by the individual workers themselves. It is also dependent on specific needs of the concerned foreign employers and the willingness of the workers to enter into suitable contractual arrangement in this regard.

Rice to China

2039. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH :
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI :
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR:
SHRI BRISHIN PATEL:
KUMARI UMA BHARTI:
SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ:
SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has sought additional one million tonnes of rice from India during May, 1995;

(b) whether this was in addition to shipment already sent

to China during 1995;

(c) if so, the total quantity of rice and sugar provided to China, during 1995 till-date;

(d) the details of other foreign countries where India supply rice, wheat, sugar and other agricultural products;

(e) the total quantity of rice, wheat, sugar and other agricultural products exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, till-date, country-wise ; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of agricultural products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There have been no exports of rice and sugar to China during the current financial year.

(d) and (e) A statement is attached.

(f) Steps taken to enhance exports in this sector, include simplification of inspection procedures, removal of Minimum Export Price and Quantity restrictions on selected items, provision of concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extension of benefits available under the scheme of EOU/EPZs to agriculture sector and permitting 50% sale in the domestic tariff area, assistance to exporters for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, promoting export of identified products through brand promotion campaigns; arranging buyer-seller meets and participation in international fairs/exhibitions.

STATEMENT

Item	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96 (upto AUG.95)	
	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE
Pulses	34309	5344.12	43601	7358.55	59497	9035.74	20,229	3,762.29
Rice								
Basmati	324790	80064.42	527233	106126.81	468696	85776.04	135899	30,044.58
Non-Basmati	255619	17495.70	240454	22544.29	422727	32345.32	1320377	88,628.78
Total Rice	580409	97560.12	767687	128671.10	891423	118121.36	1,456,276	118,673.36
Wheat	36749	1020.98	390	20.58	58206	3085.15	23,364	1,143.86
Other Cereals	17058	1016	148316	3402.27	68595	2567.21	6964	479.13
Tobacco								
Unmanufactured	70607	35557.19	90493	36825.50	45811	17482.05	28,604	13,963.02
Manufactured	17646	11846.8	14183	9294.65	12588	7404.24	3979	2,306.90
Total Tobacco	88253	47403.99	47403.99	46120.15	58399	24886.29	32,583	16,269.92
Spices	128720	39342.20	182361	56690.64	157643	60648.33	83098	28,634.90
Cashew	58399	74485.16	69832	104530.99	76900	124196.99	46307	50,466.21
Cashew CSNL	4258	380.62	3625	288.85	3564	229.44	324	47.84
Total Cashew	62657	7485.78	73457	104819.84	80464	124426.43	46631	50,514.05

Item	1992-93			1993-94			1994-95			1995-96 (upto AUG,95)	
	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
Sesame & Niger	67705	11621.61	39052	7350.79	61240	14223.65	17228	5,335.13			
Seeds											
Groundnut	4343	772.39	236461	17112.29	51247	9863.99	7282	1,554.69			
Spirit & Bever		4164.84		4601.34		4580.70		2,098.73			
Guar gum Meal	62379	10318.61	74496	14082.06	63123	14278.33	32124	7,497.01			
Oil Meals	3678839	154528.98	4820744	232392	389691	179470.60	1386590	60,925.11			
Shellac	5011	4106.99	5971	6547.39	4665	4603.22	2299	2,041.21			
Sugar and Mola.	485098	35350.63	204532	17807.75	51558	6208.93	56146	5,174.77			
Hort/Fior Prod.		1490.69		1883.65		2871.01		3,599.56			
Fruits & Vege.		31242.40		41434.49		48855.18		20,136.22			
Proc. Fruits & Juices		11976.26		15510.13		19613.39		7,519.97			
MISC Proc. Items'		10843.51		12841.97		18075.58		8,235.57			
Meat & Meat Prep		25710.58		34451.98		39489.45		18,981.67			
Total (AGRI)		568680.68		753299.21		704904.54		362,577.15			

Country-wise details of exports are available in the monthly bulletin of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, copies of which are available in the parliament Library.

Wool Project

2940. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any "wool Project" in the country particularly in the Junagarh District of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed for the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) While the Central Wool Development Board has set up several Wool Projects in the country; it has no specific proposal to introduce any "Wool Project " in Junagarh District of Gujarat.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Complaint Against Customs Officials

2041. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign diplomats have complained against the harassment by Customs officials at the Indira Gandhi International Airport ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY) : (a) and (b) . Yes, Sir. This Ministry has received a letter from the chief of protocol, Ministry of External Affairs that some foreign missions had reported non-cooperative behavior by customs officials posted at Indira Gandhi International Airport. The main complaint was that the diplomats who were holding photo identity cards issued by the Airport Security were not allowed to enter the customs area meant for arrival of passengers.

(c) The Central Board of Excise & Customs got the matter verified and restored the said facilities.

Exporter's Problems

2042. SHRI TARA SINGH :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake new

initiative to identify and redress the problems faced by the major exporting companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the exporting companies have submitted any suggestions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to redress their problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). With a view to providing a forum for inter-action at a functional level with Trade and Industry Associations, it has been decided to set up a Core Group which includes . inter alia. Member (Customs) and the Director General of Foreign Trade. The Apex bodies like CII, FICCI, ASSOCEM, FIEO are also Members of this Group. Suggestions are received. inter-alia , from the members as well as exporting companies for discussions in the Core Group. This Group identifies the operational problems relating to Export and Import Policy and Procedures. Based on the deliberations of the Group; the need for making modifications in the Export and Import Policy and Procedures, is examined and changes. as deemed appropriate, are incorporated. A number of such changes including modifications of important schemes contained in the Export & Import policy. have already been effected during the current year.

Night Stay of Travellers

2043. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make arrangement for the night stay of the passengers at Madras, Pune and Bhuvaneshwar Airports;

(b) whether the Government have held any talks with the State Government regarding the acquisition of land for the purpose;

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

(d) the arrangements made for the stay of air passenger?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Existing rooms and dormitory type accommodation for transit passengers exist at Madras international Airport. No such facility exists at

Pune and Bhuwaneswar airports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) At Pune and Bhuwaneshwar airports, the number of flights and number of transiting passengers are very limited.

Direct Tax Laws

2044. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Group has been constituted in the Central Board of Direct Taxes to recommend simplification of Direct Taxes laws;

(b) whether the Group has submitted their recommendation; and

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations and action taken by Government on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY):(a) The Central Board of Direct Taxes has constituted four study Groups of officers of Income-Tax Department with a view to removing procedural hardships and simplify some of the complicated legal provisions.

(b) & (c). Recommendations of some of the groups have been received and are under process.

ESI Hospitals and Dispensaries in Gujarat

2045. SHRI N.J. RATHVA :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ESI hospitals/ dispensaries functioning at various places of the country; particularly in Gujarat till-date;

(b) whether the Government propose to upgrade some ESI hospitals / dispensaries in the Gujarat State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of ESI hospitals/ dispensaries being run in rented buildings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) There are at present 122 ESI Hospitals and 1433 Dispensaries functioning in the country. The number of ESI Hospitals and Dispensaries functioning in the State of Gujarat is 9 and 121, respectively.

(b) and (c). A proposal to convert the 225 bedded Chest Hospital at Naroda into a 300 bedded General Hospital was received in the ESI Corporation in July, 1993. The Corporation sought certain clarifications from the Government of Gujarat. The same are still awaited.

(d) There is no ESI hospital functioning in the rented building. However 1071 dispensaries. Including 41 ESI dispensaries in Gujarat, are functioning in rented buildings.

[Translation]

Welfare of Beedi Workers

2046. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released for the welfare of beedi workers of Maharashtra during 1993-94, 1994-95 till-date;

(b) whether the amount released for the welfare of beedi workers has been fully utilised; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a):

(Rs. in thousands

<i>Year</i>	<i>Final Estimates</i>	<i>Actual Expenditure</i>
1993-94	1,40,90	1,37,41
1994-95	1,69,67	1,60,97
1995-96 (till September)	1,43,07(BE)	40,91

(b) Small amounts remained unutilised.

(c) A few posts of Medical Officers in dispensaries remained vacant.

[English]

Welfare Scheme for unorganised Labour

2047. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to formulate an action plan for the welfare of the unorganised labour; and

(b) if so, the response of State Governments there on ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). In a series of State labour Ministries Conferences held by the Union Labour minister, the States have been urged to give special attention to the problems of unorganised labour-implementation of Minimum Wages Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act etc. This apart, they have been called upon to implement measure for providing social security for these workers including through group insurance schemes of LIC which covers 23 occupations in the unorganised sector. The States have been further called upon to take special measures of labour protection for certain categories of workers like the beedi workers who often work on home based systems of employment. The States have also been advised to work coordinately with the Directorate General of labour Welfare in channelling resources of the Welfare funds for special assistance to beedi etc. workers for providing housing, educational, recreational etc. facilities. The response from the State Governments has been very positive.

SCICI Expansion Plan

2048: RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether SCICI propose to launch a 100 million-dollar foreign currency fund incorporated abroad as a part of its strategy to launch new financial products as reported

in Hindustan Times dated November 2, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of the plan; and

(c) the present status thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) (a) to (c). SCICI has reported that in order to fund projects in the infrastructure sector, it is considering to launch for an US Dollar 100 million infrastructure fund and is working out the details with overseas investment bankers. The main terms proposed are that it would be a 10 year fund to be set up overseas and subscribed by overseas funds. The fund would be utilised to invest in equity and / or debt instruments of companies involved in infrastructure projects.

Banks Loans to Entrepreneurs in Assam

2049. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of entrepreneurs in Assam given bank loan during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) the number of educated unemployed persons whose names were recommended by the District Industrial Centres but not given loan so far; and

(c) the time by which all the eligible persons are likely to get the loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). presumably, the hon'ble Member is referring to loan sanctioned to the entrepreneurs under the prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, launched on 2nd October, 1993 for providing self-employment to the educated unemployed Youth.

According to the Development commissioner (Small Scale Industries) DC (SSI) , the target prescribed, the loan applications of the educated unemployed youth recommended by the District Industries Centres (DICs) and those sanctioned by the banks in the State of Assam are indicated below :

<i>Years</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Number of applications Recommended by DICs</i>	<i>Sanctioned by the bank</i>
1993-94	805	1072	818
1994-95	6600	8778	6404

Banks are under instructions to dispose of loan applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks. The banks have been advised to dispose of the applications within the prescribed time limits.

State Government Lotteries

2050. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of millions of families being ruined through different systems of lotteries run by State Governments and other Government Agencies;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to bring any legislation to regulate state lotteries;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the so called instant lotteries which have lately replaced the single-digit lotteries in different states;

(e) if so, whether the Government have assessed the impact of this new system of lotteries on the social and economic life of the society; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY):

(a) Lotteries have been started by some of the State Governments to augment resources for development projects. In the absence of a study on the subject, no definite conclusion can be drawn about the harmful affects of lotteries on the economic condition of people.

(b) & (c) : The State Government are fully competent to decide the conduct or otherwise of lotteries under entry 34 of the State List without any permission/direction from the Government of India.

(d) : The State Governments are competent not only to run their own lotteries but also to authorise private agencies to run lotteries in their respective States.

(e) and (f) : No such assessment has been made.

Import of Urea

2051. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to decanalise the import of urea;

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

(c) whether his Ministry have discussed this issue with all concerned authorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e). An Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted by this Ministry to consider the feasibility and modalities of decanalisation of import of urea. Its recommendations are yet to be received by the Government.

Under Invoicing in Import of Plastic Raw Materials

2052. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of under invoicing in import of various plastic raw materials have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the impoters for their such fraudulent activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Details are being collected from all the field formations.

Defrauding of Bank of India in Bombay

2053. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent duping of Bank of India by the officials in foreign exchange department of the bank in Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) (a) : Bank of India has reported that no incident of duping of the bank by the officials in Foreign Exchange Department in Bombay has occurred in the recent past.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Production of Natural Rubber

2054. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the

Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has become self-sufficient in the production of natural rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to achieve the self-sufficiency in the production of rubber?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Currently 96% of the demand for Natural Rubber is met by local production. The production and Consumption is as follows .

	<i>Production</i>	<i>Consumption (Tonnes)</i>	<i>Production as % of Consumption</i>
1994-95	471.815	485.850	97%
1995-96 (projected)	511.000	530.000	96%

(c) The Rubber Board is implementing various schemes to increase production and productivity. These include:

- (i) Production and distribution of high yielding planting materials to rubber growers;
- (ii) Rendering Advisory, extension and training services;
- (iii) Encouraging group processing and marketing among small holders;
- (iv) Undertaking research on cultivation, production and processing of rubber;
- (v) Making available financial and technical assistance for new planting and replanting with improved varieties; and
- (vi) A world Bank assisted Rubber project which is under implementation from 1993-94 to enhance production and quality of rubber.

Performance of Private Corporate Business Sector

2055. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study/made by RBI on financial performance of private corporate business sector 1994-95 has noted that country's top 925 non-financial and 105 financial companies have recorded an average post tax profit growth of 73.9 per cent in 1994-95 over the previous year:

(b) if so, how many companies were covered by the study and other main factors mentioned in the study report, and

(c) to what extent it was more in comparison to 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir. As the study is based on the bridged unaudited financial results published in various financial dailies the analysis indicative.

(b) and (c). The study covered 1030 companies of which 925 are non-financial companies and 105 financial companies. Some of other salient features are as follows:-

- (i) Sales registered a rise of 30.5 per cent during 1994-95.
- (ii) Gross profits and profits before tax increased by 46.2 per cent and 70.1 per cent during 1994-95.

Bank Loan to SSIs in Gujarat

2056. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of loan applications received from small scale industries by the public sector banks in Gujarat during 1993-94 and 1994-95 and the amount sanctioned to them so far;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide timely financial assistance to the small scale units to save them from going sick;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, according to the latest available data furnished by RBI, loans disbursed by scheduled commercial banks to small scale industrial (SSI) units in the State of Gujarat as at the end of June 1992 and June 1993 (latest available) is as under:

(Rs. Crores)

	No. of Accounts	Amount Outstanding
1	2	3
June 1992	39697	241.34
June 1993	15230	233.16

(b) to (d). RBI has issued instructions to all scheduled commercial banks that applications upto a credit limit of Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those for over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks from the date of receipt of applications. Banks have also been advised that requests for increase in credit limits should be considered expeditiously and decision taken promptly and in any case within six weeks.

Seizure of Drugs

2057. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of narcotics/drugs seized in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the arrangements made for coordination with enforcement agencies on the borders;

(c) the origin of the drugs so seized and their linkages;

(d) the action being taken to identify king pins; and

(e) the details of the drug cartels identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) As per available information, a statement showing details of narcotic drugs seized in the country during the last 3 years is enclosed.

(b) Coordination meetings of Central and State enforcement agencies are held regularly. Border meetings with enforcement agencies of Pakistan and Myanmar are also held periodically.

(c) Drugs from South West Asia, South East Asia and drugs of Indian and Nepali origin have been seized.

(d) and (e). Instructions have been issued to enforcement agencies that special efforts should be made in all investigations to identify king-pins and cartels. It may not be in public interest to give details of the identified drug cartels.

STATEMENT*Statewise Seizures (in Kgs.) of Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substance -year 1993*

<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Opium</i>	<i>Heroin</i>	<i>Ganja</i>	<i>Hashish</i>	<i>Methagualone</i>	<i>No. of case</i>	<i>No. of Arrests</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	-	3613	-	-	215	218
2. Arunachal Pradesh	3	-	2458	-	-	12	12
3. Assam	1	4	5193	-	-	198	201
4. Bihar-	4	19278	684	37	124	126	
5. Goa -	2	32	15	-	35	36	
6. Gujarat	29	1	165	95	-	209	212
7. Haryana	187	-	-	108	-	151	154
8. Himachal Pradesh	12	-	-	75	-	71	72
9. Jammu & Kashmir	4	13	1	11	-	36	37
10. Karnataka	6	6	3615		2331	213	217
11. Kerala	-	1	86	2	-	20	22
12. Madhya Pradesh	373	22	1372	22	11	741	752
13. Maharashtra	81	150	7937	3862	11442	388	1404
14. Manipur	-	4	24620	-	-	323	328
15. Meghalaya	50	3	4261	13	-	39	40
16. Mizoram	3	7	272	-	-	120	122
17. Nagaland	-	5	11266	2	-	114	116
18. Orissa	4	1	339	-	-	91	92
19. Punjab	475	18	-	78	-	319	324
20. Rajasthan	775	141	1151	1538	-	197	203
21. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu	329	110	3684	1	291	2468	2503

<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Opium</i>	<i>Heroin</i>	<i>Ganja</i>	<i>Hashish</i>	<i>Methagualone</i>	<i>No. of case</i>	<i>No. of Arrests</i>
23. Tripura	-	4	32	-	-	15	16
24. Uttar Pradesh	139	50	3616	699	689	5646	5732
25. West Bengal	2	11	5653	3	-	172	173
26. Delhi435	139	189	1016	203	588	597	
27. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Pondicherry	-	-	1	-	-	4	4
29. A & N Islands	-	-	4	-	-	1	1
30. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. D. N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Chandigarh	103	13	-	14	-	8	9

Statewise Seizures (in Kgs.) of Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substance -year 1994

<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Opium</i>	<i>Heroin</i>	<i>Ganja</i>	<i>Hashish</i>	<i>Methagualonc</i>	<i>No. of case</i>	<i>No. of Arrests</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	-	35516	-	-	383	404
2. Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	1631	-	-	47	50
3. Assam	3	5	12648	-	-	116	122
4. Bihar	-	8	9207	694	-	189	198
5. Goa	-	8.250	16	11	-	35	37
6. Gujarat	40	34	578	688	16921	279	294
7. Haryana	128	-	14	312	4	136	143
8. Himachal Pradesh	4	-	1	170	-	88	93
9. Jammu & Kashmir	-	26	188	101	-	41	43
10. Karnataka	-	0.005	2681	0.130	2999	130	137

<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Opium</i>	<i>Heroin</i>	<i>Ganja</i>	<i>Hashish</i>	<i>Methagualone</i>	<i>No. of case</i>	<i>No. of Arrests</i>
11. Kerala	0.048	1	297	0.250	-	144	152
12. Madhya Pradesh	987	44	5342	7	-	1052	1110
13. Maharashtra	5	194	8487	168	721	659	694
14. Manipur	-	13	38576	-	-	894	941
15. Meghalaya	-	8	1034	-	-	87	92
16. Mizoram	-	7	528	19	-	99	104
17. Nagaland	-	0.134	15260	-	-	75	79
18. Orissa	0.317	-	3125	-	-	106	217
19. Punjab	375	32	-	26	-	300	316
20. Rajasthan	393	427	221	2612	17	403	424
21. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Tamil Nadu	40	28	44775	-	4529	2700	2850
23. Tripura	0.250	2	225	-	-	30	32
24. Uttar Pradesh	134	40	2507	589	322	5662	5969
25. West Bengal	135	4	3094	15	-	242	255
26. Delhi	11	98	1914	1577	13316	644	679
27. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Pondicherry	-	-	0.350	-	-	1	1
29. A & N Islands	-	-	31	-	-	3	3
30. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. D. N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Chandigarh	-	39	-	3	-	12	13

Statewise Seizures (in Kgs.) of Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substance -year 1995

<i>State/U.T.</i>	<i>Opium</i>	<i>Heroin</i>	<i>Ganja</i>	<i>Hashish</i>	<i>Methagualone</i>	<i>No. of case</i>	<i>No. of Arrests</i>
1. Andhra Pradesh	-	-	9734	-	-	215	475
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.051	-	-	-	-	1	1
3. Assam	2	2	4641	-	-	63	80
4. Bihar	-	0.0	1997	41	-	42	31
5. Goa	-	0.0	17	4	-	16	18
6. Gujarat	18	10	2394	432	3681	199	377
7. Haryana	45	-	10	120	-	52	59
8. Himachal Pradesh	2	-	-	176	-	36	42
9. Jammu & Kashmir	4	503	12	557	-	44	42
10. Karnataka	-	-	6	-	-	2	2
11. Kerala	0.215	1	90	0.073	-	121	127
12. Madhya Pradesh	147	2	1173	5	-	117	123
13. Maharashtra	11	110	5430	84	2528	308	484
14. Manipur	-	1	6803	-	-	136	173
15. Meghalaya	-	1	2529	-	-	65	10
16. Mizoram	0.480	8	130	-	-	244	203
17. Nagaland	0.167	0.0	9781	78	-	44	77
18. Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Punjab	359	29	-	71	-	225	230
20. Rajasthan	292	191	40	682	-	155	213
21. Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

State/U.T.	Opium	Heroin	Ganja	Hashish	Methagualone	No. of case	No. of Arrests
22. Tamil Nadu	29	14	2624	-	1848	1779	1799
23. Tripura	-	1	398	-	-	35	-
24. Uttar Pradesh	29	31	1592	352	4644	3447	3545
25. West Bengal	8	11	2272	17	-	209	99
26. Delhi	30	26	2934	255	3072	627	631
27. Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Pondicherry	-	0.004	1	-	-	5	5
29. A & N Islands	-	-	8	0.095	-	3	2
30. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. D. N. Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Chandigarh	35	88	-	0.280	-	19	15

[*Translation*]

Bank Loans in M.P.

2058. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loans sanctioned by the nationalised banks to the farmers in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the farmer in the State have to face difficulties to get the loans sanctioned in time from the banks; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that farmers in the State do not face difficulties in getting the loans sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the scheduled commercial banks, which include the nationalised banks, have provided an amount of Rs. 207.15 crores, Rs. 194.47 crores and Rs.200.68 crores during

the years 1992, 1993 and 1994 respectively as direct finance to farmers in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The commercial banks are required to grant atleast 18% of their net bank credit to agriculture. RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks to make every effort to achieve the stipulated target. Banks have been urged to draw up special credit plans with a view to achieving a distinct and marked improvement in the flow of credit to agriculture..... Banks have also been advised to identify the areas and the activities which they could conveniently concentrate upon and draw up their action plan accordingly. For timely and adequate credit for agriculture production, farmers satisfying certain criteria are extended flexible line of credit in the form of cash credit facility to meet their composite credit requirements. The facility is available to farmers having irrigation facility and also to those who do not have such facility but who in addition to cultivation of crops undertake allied activities like dairy, poultry, etc. and/or other non-farm activities and who have satisfactory track record in the conduct of their bank/borrowal accounts. RBI has also asked commercial banks to finance high-tech activities like aquaculture, floriculture, tissue-culture, bio-technology, etc.

[English]

Joint Venture with Latin America

2059. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope for joint venture with Latin America; and

(b) if so, the details of the possibilities explored by the Government in that direction.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Setting up of joint ventures between Indian companies and the foreign companies is a continuous process and largely depends on entrepreneurial initiatives, based on commercial and economic considerations. Companies from Latin America have also shown some interest in establishing joint ventures with Indian companies.

Government has been encouraging Indian companies for exploration of possibilities of joint ventures through increased exchange of business delegations, participation in trade fairs etc.

Productivity Linked Bonus

2060. SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the employees contributing Provident Fund all over India are very much grieved over inordinate delay in giving the approval of new productivity linked bonus scheme;

(b) if so, the reasons for this delay; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to redress the grievance of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). The employees of the E.P.F.O are covered under the Productivity Linked Bonus Scheme. The Scheme was due for review in 1991-92. Pending final review and on the recommendation of the E.P.F. Organisation, the existing P.L.B. Scheme has been extended for the period upto 1994-95. The employees have since been paid bonus as due and admissible

under the existing scheme for the year upto 1994-95. The P.L.B. scheme suggested by the National Productivity Council and approved by the Central Board of Trustees, E.P.F. involves additional expenditure. As such, a final decision in the matter can be taken only after obtaining necessary financial approvals for which necessary action has been initiated.

Production OFI Tea

2061. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the tea produced in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise and Territory wise;

(b) whether the production of tea has declined during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any scheme to increase the production of tea is under consideration of the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Statement indicating State-wise production of tea in major tea producing States during 1992, 1993 and 1994 is enclosed.

(b) and (c). According to the latest available data, production of tea during January-October, 1995 is estimated at 625.38 million kgs. as compared to 646.72 million kgs during the corresponding period of 1994 indicating thereby a decline of 24.34 million kgs. However, the month-wise production in October and November, 1995 are reported to be very good. Decline in production during the early part of the current year has been on account of adverse agro-climatic conditions in some of the tea growing areas.

(d) and (e). In order to increase production, Tea Board has been operating various developmental schemes. The Board has also prepared a perspective plan to increase production of tea which includes short term measures such as optimisation of inputs and improved agricultural practices, medium term measures such as improvement of irrigation and drainage, rejuvenation, pruning and infilling and long term measures such as replanting and extension planting by bring new areas under tea.

STATEMENT*State-wise production of tea during 1992, 1993 and 1994.**(Production in Million kgs)*

<i>States</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994*</i>
Assam	412.01	402.95	399.33
West Bengal	150.69	168.02	156.50
Others	7.72	7.75	8.10
Total North India	570.42	578.72	563.93
Tamil Nadu	103.07	108.65	110.75
Kerala	54.63	66.69	65.14
Karnataka	4.20	4.00	3.96
Total South India	161.90	179.34	179.85
All India	732.32	758.06	743.78

* Estimated

Modvat Scheme

2062. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
 PROF. PREM DHUMAL:
 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
 SHRI DATTA TRAYA BANDARU:
 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have initiated moves to revamp the MODVAT scheme after revenue officials detected leakage of revenue from misuse of liberalised norms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted a 15-member committee in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this committee will submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). National Institute of Public Finance and Policy have been entrusted to conduct a study on the various aspects of the modvat scheme and to make suggestions for improvement in its functioning and to prevent its misuse.

The Committee has been offered the assistance of few officers to enable it to complete the study quickly.

Outstanding Performance by ITDC

2063. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation has recorded an outstanding performance during 1994-95 as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated October 7, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to further improve the performance of ITDC?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIGHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A statement is attached.

(c) Improvement in performance is a continuous process and the steps taken/being taken in this regard include aggressive marketing efforts, renovation/upgradation of existing properties, monitoring and control of operating costs, introduction of Customer Satisfaction Scheme and Total Quality Management Scheme etc. and development of Human Resource through training.

STATEMENT

Statement showing division-wise Financial performance of ITDC alongwith other highlights for 1994-95 compared to previous yers.

Name of Unit/Division	1994 -95		1993-94		Percentage increase over 1993-94	
	Turnover Loss	Net Profit/ Loss	Turnover Loss (Rs. in crores)	Net Profit/ Loss	Turnove Loss	Net Profit/ Loss
I Hotels Division	144.75	22.71	117.30	8.29	23.4	173.9
II Ashok Travels & Tours	22.44	0.29	20.20	0.23	11.1	26.1
III DFT Division	61.47	20.24	46.55	15.48	32.1	30.7
IV Head Quarters & Others	7.27	-0.08	3.59	0.02	102.5	-
ITDC as a whole	235.93	43.16	187.64	24.02	25.7	79.7
	1994		1993-94	% Increase		
Other Highlights	(Rs. in crores)		(Rs. in crores)			
Dividend	5.67		1.95	190.8		
Foreign Exchange Earnings	74.49		59.19	25.8		
Expenditure on Plan Schemes	8.82		7.28	21.2		

[Translation]

Devaluation Impact on Export

2064. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some exporter have stopped their exports for fear of likely devaluation of Indian Rupee in the international market; and

(b) if so, the extent to which success has been achieved and the steps taken by the Government to check the devaluation of rupee against U.S. Dollar to prevent its adverse effect on export and to maintain the growth rate of export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Sir, we have not received any representation from exporters stating that they would stop their exports because of likely devaluation

of Indian Rupee. With a shift to a market-determined exchange rate system, a correction was required in the nominal exchange rate which has taken place in recent months. The recent change in exchange rate has corrected the erosion in competitiveness and will help ensure export growth and contain import-growth. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) intervened in the foreign exchange market to stabilise rates at levels consistent with underlying fundamentals. The RBI has also under-taken a number of measures to augment the supply of foreign exchange as also to reduce the demand. These included (i) a hike in the interest rate on Non-Resident External Rupee term deposits; (ii) exemption of Cash Reserve Ratio requirements in respect of increase in NRE in NRNR deposits over the level outstanding as on 27.10.1995 and FCNR (B) deposits over level outstanding on 24.11.1995; (iii) increase in the interest rates on Post-Shipment Export Credits denominated in US Dollar (PSCFC) for maturities beyond 90 days and upto 6 months; and (iv) an interest rate surcharge on import finance. In addition, the Government has recently made some relaxations of the requirements in regard to the issue of GDRs./FRNs/FCCBs, remittances into India of these proceeds and their utilisation.

[English]

Aircrafts with AI

2065. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the fleet composition of Air India;

(b) whether the Government propose to purchase new aircraft for A.I.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to modernise and expand A.I. fleet?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The composition of Air India fleet is as under:-

Type of Aircraft	Number of Aircraft
B 747 - 200	9
B 747 - 300 (Combi)	2
B 747 - 400	4

Type of Aircraft	Number of Aircraft
B 400 - B4	3
A 310 - 300	8
Total	26

(b) to (d). A tentative medium term fleet plan of Air India covering the period 1994-95 to 2001/02 has been drawn up which envisages increase of fleet strength from the existing 26 aircraft to 54 aircraft by the year 2001/02. Air India has recently signed an agreement with Boeing Airplane Company in January, 1995 for acquisition of two B747 - 400 aircraft to be delivered in July and August, 1996. With this induction, Air India plans to retire one old B747 - 400. The Plan also envisages the induction of the MCLR aircraft from 1997/98 onwards and a simultaneous phasing out of its entire fleet of B 747 - 200s and 300s Combies.

Indo-Mauritius Trade

2066. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in which Indo-Mauritius trade has been established;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to expand trade relations with Mauritius;

(c) if so, the new areas identified for this purpose;

(d) whether any high level discussion was held in that regard with the Prime Minister of Mauritius when he visited New Delhi last; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). It is the endeavour of the Govt. to expand trade relations with Mauritius by:-

- 1) Exchange of Industry & Trade delegation;
- 2) Holding of exclusive Indian Exhibitions/Fairs;

- 3) Holding of periodic officials level bilateral discussions to resolve bottlenecks;
- 4) Holding of regional conferences of Commercial Representatives of Indian Missions to identify emerging opportunities.

As against the export turnover from India to Mauritius of Rs.268.55 crores in 1993-94, exports from India to Mauritius during 1994-95 reached Rs. 357.89 crores thus showing a rising trend.

It is primarily for the trade and business organisations of the two countries to select items for export and import from each other depending on the requirements and competitiveness of the goods. However, the main items of export from and import by India are:

Export Items: Cotton yarn, fabrics, madeups, manmade yarn, fabrics, manufactures of metals, meat & preparations, transport equipments, plastic and linoleum products, natural silk yarn, fabrics, madeups, marine products etc.

Import Items: Metaliferous ores & metal scraps, computer software, organic chemicals, medicinal pharmaceuticals products etc.

(d) and (e). The recent visit of the Prime Minister of Mauritius was part of a continuing programme of regular high level exchange; aimed at consolidating, strengthening and diversifying India's multi-faceted relationship with Mauritius and various bilateral matters were discussed during the high level meetings.

Performance of R.R.B.s

2067. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the performance profile of Regional Rural Banks during each of the last three years with positive highlights and areas of failures, separately, state-wise;

(b) the details of the steps taken in the recent Past to streamline and strengthen the functioning of Regional Rural Banks; and

(c) the growth perception of Regional Rural Banks during the next five years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Several steps have been taken to strengthen the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Some of them are:

- i) RRBs are now permitted to extend loans to the non-target group to the extent of 60% of their fresh lendings.
- ii) Guidelines for non-fund business like provision of lockers, issuance of guarantees etc. have been liberalised.
- iii) RRBs with loan disbursal of less than Rs. 2 crores in 1997-93 have been freed of their service area obligations and permitted to relocate loss making branches.
- iv) Liberalised investment avenues have been made available to RRBs including participation in the sponsor banks' credit portfolio through non-risk sharing participation certificates to be issued by the latter.

49 RRBs out of total of 196 RRBs in the counter have been taken up for comprehensive restructuring including cleansing up of balance sheets through infusion of equity during 1994-95. Experience with these 49 RRBs will guide the approach in later years to other RRBs. The objective is to transform the presently weak and ailing RRBs into financially viable and effective instruments of decentralised rural banking.

Export Houses

2068. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of top 100 exporters/export houses including Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) the value of exports by each during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) the value of export subsidy or aircraft received by each; and

(d) the names of business houses of which the private sector companies in the above list form part of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). As per

information received from the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi and based on export performance during the preceding year, the names of top 100 exporters/export houses, including public sector undertakings, alongwith the value of exports by each during the year 1993-94 and 1994-

95 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No such subsidy is granted.

(d) Government does not maintain such information.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of Exporters/ Export House	Value of Exports (in Crores Rupees)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
1.	M M T C Limited, New Delhi.	1201.5038	3535.0379
2.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Bombay	1255.4540	1309.0563
3.	Ganapati Exports Ltd. New Delhi	428.1644	971.4039
4.	Hindustan Lever Ltd. Bombay	241.3133	592.2535
5.	Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. Calcutta	713.4925	528.7732
6.	Su-Raj Diamonds (India) Ltd. Bombay	410.024	528.7003
7.	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. Visakhapatnam.	596.8781	470.6544
8.	B Vijay Kumar & Co. Bombay	329.6400	430.1800
9.	National Minerals Development Corpn. Ltd. Hyderabad.	400.0000	378.7700
10.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. Bangalore.	414.5288	369.3422
11.	I T C Limited Calcutta 700071	622.3547	349.5451
12.	Cadila Exports Limited Ahmedabad 380009	6.2587	338.1981
13.	Suashish Diamonds Ltd. Bombay 400004.	249.6683	299.6934
14.	Ganapati Commerce Ltd. New Delhi 110048	56.8519	266.0362
15.	National AG Co-op Mkt Fed of India Ltd. New Delhi 110 014.	313.9733	228.2208
16.	Ganapati Combines Ltd New Delhi	47.4661	223.4333

S. No.	Name of Exporters/ Export House	Value of Exports (in Crores Rupees)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
17.	Beautiful Diamonds Ltd. Bombay	190.1053	222.3811
18.	Proj & Equip Corporation Ltd. New Delhi.	165.3683	215.0020
19.	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd. New Delhi.	219.8127	213.9112
20.	Everest Gems, Bombay	200.3156	211.7932
21.	Mahendra Brothers, Bombay	169.6084	205.4308
22.	Gitanjali Gems Ltd. Bombay	127.7250	203.9582
23.	Century Textiles & Industries Ltd. Bombay	225.4404	200.0448
24.	Dimexon Diamonds Ltd. Bombay	163.3644	195.8950
25.	Jayant Oil Mills, Bombay.	65.7505	180.1146
26.	M S Shoes East Ltd. New Delhi.	94.7220	177.0129
27.	Reliance Industries Ltd. Bombay	59.5679	174.4508
28.	Indian Barytes & Chemicals Ltd. Madras.	11.62	174.4508
29.	Asian Star Co. Ltd. Bombay	143.7497	171.9539
30.	Tata Exports Ltd. Bombay	500.0189	152.2873
31.	K P Sanghvi & Sons, Bombay	106.2605	142.8780
32.	Karp Diamonds Ltd. Bombay	72.3397	134.3751
33.	Ashok Leyland Ltd., Madras.	141.2194	130.1971
34.	B Arunkumar & Co., Bombay	123.1422	129.6012
35.	M Suresh and Co., Bombay	91.0876	122.1303
36.	National Aluminium Co. Ltd. Bhubaneshwar.	257.8189	121.3989
37.	Gitanjali Exports Corpn. Bombay	167.2998	120.9855

S. No.	Name of Exporters/ Export House	Value of Exports (in Crores Rupees)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
38.	Ratilal Becharilal & Sons Bombay 400004	118.0224	120.5923
39.	Ceat Limited Bombay	110.2105	116.2406
40.	Cadila Laboratories Ltd. Ahmedabad	6.2587	115.3618
41.	Bombay Dyeing & Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Bombay	50.9165	112.1209
42.	Grasim Industries Ltd. Nagda	58.7773	109.2759
43.	Alpine Industries Ltd. Indore	92.4996	108.3184
44.	P D Kothari & Co. Bombay	73.9586	106.8198
45.	Gem Granites Madras	82.8248	105.6385
46.	I.G. Petrochemicals Ltd. Bombay	45.939	102.3306
47.	Kirolskar Cummins Ltd. Pune	108.0459	101.2344
48.	Apeego Limited, Bombay	21.7875	94.7203
49.	Namaste Exports Ltd. Bangalore	83.6638	93.3573
50.	Crompton Greaves Ltd. Bombay	92.3851	93.0990
51.	Mafatlal Fine SPG & Mfg. Co. Ltd. Bombay	103.6650	93.0365
52.	Bhansali & Co. Bombay	90.2210	91.5662
53.	V M Salgaocar & Bros Limited Goa	98.0634	89.2726
54.	Bajaj Auto Limited Pune	73.1341	88.3232
55.	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Bombay	86.8095	87.9418
56.	Steel Authority of India Ltd. New Delhi.	524.3900	86.9100
57.	Forbes Gokak Limited Bombay	60.1391	86.5742

S. No.	Name of Exporters/ Export House	Value of Exports (in Crores Rupees)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
58.	Castlerock Fisheries Ltd. Bombay	41.2424	83.0124
59.	Shrenuj & Company Limited Bombay	70.4340	82.9456
60.	Jaysynth Dyechem Ltd. Bombay	64.3639	82.8330
61.	Cham Ice & Cold Storage, Porbandar.	49.9371	82.7000
62.	Shreeji Gems, Bombay	71.3192	81.7259
63.	Woolworth (India) Ltd. Calcutta.	41.0483	81.1540
64.	V S Dempa & Co. Ltd. Goa	95.5487	81.1242
65.	Motor Industries Co. Ltd. Bangalore.	59.4205	79.1540
66.	Birta Jute & Industries Ltd. Calcutta	48.9845	78.4982
67.	Keshri Export Bombay.	66.87	78.1958
68.	Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd. Bombay	67.0913	77.8546
69.	Vardhman SPG & Gen. Mills Ltd. Ludhiana	37.2362	77.1291
70.	Satnam Overseas Limited New Delhi.	65.9150	76.3578
71.	Kirtilal Kallidas Diamond Exports Bombay	62.8798	76.1469
72.	M R F Limited Madras	83.9741	76.1469
73.	Suresh Brothers Bombay	64.3773	75.2188
74.	Pepsi Foods Limited New Delhi.	43.4156	74.2852
75.	Raymond Limited Bombay	66.5659	74.2852
76.	Modern Malleables Limited Calcutta	50.5571	73.8838
77.	Indian Aluminium Company Ltd. Calcutta	93.3600	73.4900
78.	Divya Expor Enterprises Kerala	59.6867	73.1825
79.	Crapco Industries Ltd. Calcutta	27.60	73.1160

S. No.	Name of Exporters/ Export House	Value of Exports (in Crores Rupees)	
		1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4
80.	Thiagarajar Mills Limited Madurai	56.8202	72.7957
81.	Al-Kabeer Exports Limited Bombay	58.5686	72.4614
82.	Premier Mills Limited Coimbatore	50.0284	71.7804
83.	Indian Rayon & Industries Ltd. Calcutta	66.1346	71.2569
84.	M A Khizar Husain & Sons Madras	66.7587	70.8193
85.	Indo Rama Synthetics (I) Ltd. New Delhi.	27.1383	69.1658
86.	Universal Diamonds Bombay	67.0653	69.0390
87.	Lupin Laboratories Ltd. Bombay	35.7726	68.4946
88.	Sesa Goa Limited, Bombay	147.6555	67.4161
89.	G T N Textiles Limited. Alwaye (Kerala)	55.8800	66.5206
90.	Rallis India Limited Bombay	54.1067	65.9971
91.	Goenka Trading Company Bombay	49.9088	65.5769
92.	Goenka Trading Corporation Calcutta	50.27	65.5769
93.	Punihani International, New Delhi.	38.3753	65.5035
94.	Alsa Marine and Harvests Ltd. Madras	74.9300	65.3778
95.	Blue Star, Bombay.	36.67	65.1290
96.	Mafatlal Industries Limited Bombay	86.9487	64.5761
97.	IPCA Laboratories Limited Bombay	44.6593	64.2595
98.	ATIC Industries Limited Valsad (Gujarat)	68.9149	61.5940
99.	Vijay Silk House Limited Bombay	54.8660	61.0391
100.	Cotton & Textiles Corporation, Bombay.	14.7870	60.9909

High Deposit rates of NBFCs

2069. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of the non-banking financial companies have been offering normally high deposit rates and have also, in recent months, introduced some innovative schemes to attract deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the RBI have recently conducted investigations into the deposit mobilisation system of the NBFCs and the malpractices, if any, indulged in by them;

(d) if so, the details of the investigations conducted and the results thereof;

(e) whether the RBI has issued any guidelines for keeping a tap on the NBFCs in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not whether the RBI propose to issue the guidelines for surveillance of these NBFCs; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL): (a) to (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Increase in the Wages

2070. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of living has increased over the years but there has been no increase in the wages including dearness allowance of the employees working in the factories, shop and other establishments; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to pay dearness allowance to the workers in the factories, shops and other establishments and to enhance their daily wages too keeping in view the high cost of living?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). Wages in organised sector are settled by and large through collective bargaining. In the unorganised sector, wages are fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under the

Minimum wages Act, 1948 both the Central Government and State Governments are the appropriate Governments for the fixation/revision of minimum rates of wages in the scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdiction. The Act provides for revision of minimum rates of wages in a period not exceeding five years. The Act also make an optional provision for special allowance alongwith basic minimum rates of wages. The Central Government on its part, has made a provision of special allowance alongwith the minimum rates of wages in all the 40 scheduled employments in its sphere. The special allowance is linked to the Consumer Price Index Number and is revised every six months. Based on the recommendations made by various fora, the Central Government has requested the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to make provision for special allowance alongwith the minimum rates of wages. The State Governments have also been requested to revise the minimum rates of wages once in two years wherever such variable component linked to Index Number has not been provided in the minimum rates of wages.

Expansion of Runway of Calicut Airport

2071. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to expand run way at Calicut Airport in Kerala;

(b) the estimated cost of construction of the proposed run way;

(c) whether land has been acquired for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has finalised a project at a cost of Rs. 89.88 crores, to strengthen and extend the runway to 9000 ft. at Calicut airport.

(c) Of the Total 43.79 hectares of land, 35 hectares of land has been acquired. Remaining land is in the process of acquisition by the State Government.

(d) The work is likely to commence by 31st December, 1995.

Business Generated by Life Insurance Corporation in West Bengal

2072. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted to assess the business generated by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in West Bengal during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) No such exclusive study has been conducted during the last 2 years. However, every month figures are collected in respect of new business figures in the form of number of policies, sum assured and first premium income. The figures are then consolidated for a financial year in respect of all Divisions of LIC in West Bengal.

(b) Following are the details of new business figures of LIC in respect of all the Divisions in West Bengal for the last two financial years:

	1993-94	1994-95
1. No. of Policies	931055	1000578
2. Sum Assured (Rs. in Lakhs)	310097.00	399883.00
3. First Premium Income (Rs. Lakhs)	9756.33	10608.84

(c) Study of growth rates pertaining to business in the States of West Bengal as against all India show that growth rate in the State are higher in respect of policies and first premium income. The growth rate for the year 1994-95 is less while for the year 1993-94 it was higher than the all India figure as may be observed from the following statement:

Growth Rate (%)

	<i>West Bengal</i>		<i>All India</i>	
	<i>93-94</i>	<i>94-95</i>	<i>93-94</i>	<i>94-95</i>
1. No. of Policies	10.4	7.5	1.16	1.4
2. Sum Assured	18.0	29.0	16.3	32.1
3. First Premium Income	24.0	8.7	18.1	5.3

[Translation]

Labour Welfare Schemes

2073. SHRI. CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes under operation for the labour level, Industrial pace and labour welfare;

(b) the details of the monitoring machinery provided for the proper implementation of these schemes; and

(c) the further steps taken to strengthen the monitoring machinery?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY):

(a) A statement is enclosed

(b) and (c). The Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) headed by the CLC(C) is responsible for the enforcement of labour laws, and focuses special attention on the unorganised sector.

Nine offices of Welfare Commissioners functioning in different parts of the country are responsible for providing welfare facilities to the workers under the welfare Fund Schemes referred to in part (a).

Periodic inspections under the different labour laws are carried out by the competent authorities to ensure compliance with the provisions of the different Acts. The officers of the Ministry and its attached/subordinate offices also conduct inspections to ensure that benefits of the welfare schemes are extended to the workers.

STATEMENT

(a) In order to protect the interests of the workers the Central Government has provided for special allowance, as part of the Minimum wages in all the scheduled employments in the Central Sphere. The Special Allowance is linked to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and is revised every six months. The State Govt./UT Administrations have also been requested to provide for variable D.A. linked with Consumer Price Index as part of Minimum Wages to be revised every six months.

Compulsory Provident Fund Scheme, ESI Scheme, Personal Accident Insurance Scheme, Pension Scheme, etc. are some of the important schemes for the benefit of different categories of workers extended under the various labour laws.

Besides, the Ministry of Labour are administering five welfare funds for the mines, beedi and cine workers under the following Acts of Parliament.

1. The Iron Ore, Manganese Ore and Chrome Ore Mines LWF Act, 1976.
2. The Mica Mines LWF Act, 1947.
3. The Limestone and Dolomite Mines LWF Act, 1972.
4. The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981, and
5. The Bedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976.

The Funds are utilised to implement welfare schemes for providing medical, educational, recreational, health, housing and water supply facilities to the workers.

For workers of poor families not covered under any insurance schemes or any Law/Statute, the Central Government has introduced a Personal Accident Insurance Security Scheme. This scheme is applicable to all persons in, the age group of 18-55 years who are earning members of poor families and meet with fatal accidents.

Some other schemes like Stat Welfare Fund Schemes for different categories of workers in the unorganised sector, Subsidised social security schemes for unorganised labour in 23 different occupation, group Insurance Schemes for landless

Agricultural Labour (LALGI) and Group Insurance Scheme for IRDP beneficiaries are also in operation for the benefit of workers.

The Scheme for ensuring industrial peace is contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 which provides a machinery for prevention and settlement of Industrial Disputes. A bipartite agreement known as 'Code of Discipline industry' was evolved in the year 1958 in the 15th Indian Labour Conference which provides for notices before strikes and lock-outs, recognition of unions and redressal of grievances of employees etc.

The Central Industrial Relation Machinery headed by the CLC(C) is also entrusted with the task of maintaining good industrial relations in the central sphere.

The Labour Relations Monitoring Unit in the Ministry of Labour monitors information on industrial relation throughout the country with the objective of taking timely action through preventive mediation for resolving industrial disputes and containing general industrial unrest.

Besides eleven Industrial Tribunal Cum Labour Courts have been set up under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for adjudication of industrial disputes in organisations for which the Central Government is the appropriate Government.

The comprehensive scheme of employee participation in Management was also introduced in 1983 to ensure better industrial relations.

[English]

Trade Centre in Ahmedabad

2074. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has set up an International Trade Centre in Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Union Government to the State Government for promoting exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Lal IMLI

2075. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of Lal Imli Woollen Mill is decreasing due to non-availability of adequate raw material; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to supply/provide the raw material to the stagnated mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Production of Cawanpore Woollen Mills (Lal Imli) of the BIC is decreasing due to various factors like obsolete machinery, excess manpower and acute shortage of working capital.

The BIFR has passed orders for winding up of the BIC. The appeal of BIC against these orders is pending before AAIFR pending final decision by the AAIFR, Government is releasing funds for payment of wages/salaries and bonus. In addition, funds have been provided for partially meeting their working capital requirements.

Financial Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

2076. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has submitted tourism development projects to the Union Government seeking financial assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the detail of the amount sanctioned by the Union Government for the development of tourism in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1994-95 and the criteria adopted in this regard for the year 1995-96?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The

proposals received from the State Government so far during Eighth Plan included construction of Tourist lodges, restaurants-cum-waiting halls and wayside amenities, provision of tented accommodation, floodlighting of monuments, etc.

(c) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 223.80 lakhs for the development of Tourism in Uttar Pradesh during 1994-95. Central financial assistance is provided on the basis of specific proposals received from the respective State Governments, merits of these proposals and their inter priorities each year including 1995-96.

Income Tax Against Foreign Banks

2077. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign banks figure prominently in a confidential dossier of the income tax department among the defaulters;

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

(c) the remedial action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The Income Tax Department monitors the cases involving arrears of tax particularly in bigger cases. Foreign banks also appear in such lists prepared by the Department.

(b) List of the foreign banks against whom income-tax demand of rupees one crore and above is pending as on 30.9.95 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) High priority is given to the work of collection/reduction of arrears demand and appropriate administrative, legal and other measures are taken to recover the same. Request is made to concerned appellate authorities for early disposal of cases. Wherever the recovery proceedings are stayed by the Courts, steps are initiated to get the stay vacated. Coercive measures are also taken in suitable cases for speedy recovery of demand. In bigger cases, the dossiers are maintained and the recovery position is revived regularly.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Names of the foreign banks</i>	<i>Amount outstanding as on 30.9.1995 (Rs. in crores)</i>
1	2	3
1.	M/s Citi Bank N.A.	165.29
2.	M/s Banque National De paris	163.25
3.	M/s Standard Chartered Bank	145.12
4.	M/s American Express Bank	103.58
5.	M/s Oman International Bank Saoyg	41.81
6.	M/s Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corpn. Ltd.	37.63
7.	M/s Bank of America	30.60
8.	M/s B.C.C.I.	20.25
9.	M/s Deutsche Bank AG	13.60
10.	M/s Banque Indo Suez	11.48
11.	M/s Bank of Nova Scotia	11.02
12.	M/s Bank of Tokya Limited	3.39*
13.	M/s Credit Lyonnais	2.65
14.	M/s Dresdner Bank	1.03

* Note: In view of information received from field formation on 5.12.95 stay for payment of demand has been granted to the Bank. Hence, technically it cannot be treated as a defaulter.

Capital Investment

three years; and

[Translation]

(b) the amount of investment actually made, State-Wise?

2078. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the year/wise amount of capital sanctioned for investment in the country by the Government during the last

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The requisite information are given in Statements I to III.

STATEMENT - I*Year wise Domestic Industrial Investment Proposals and Foreign Collaboration Approvals**(Rupees Billion)*

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995 (Till Sept.)
(a) Domestic Industrial Investment Proposals	783.8*	1298.7	768.2	1067.1	1134.9
(b) Foreign Collaboration Approvals	5.3	38.9	88.6	141.9	115.3

* During August - December, 1991

1 Billion = 100 Crore.

STATEMENT - II*Industrial Investment Proposals (State-Wise) (August 1991 - September 1995)*

<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>IEM Proposed Investment (Rs Cr)</i>	<i>LOI Proposed Investment (Rs. Cr)</i>	<i>Total Proposed Investment (Rs. Cr)</i>
Maharashtra	83252	4957	88209
Gujarat	88140	16396	104536
Uttar Pradesh	44796	4831	49627
Tamil Nadu	25251	7418	32669
Andhra Pradesh	32044	5629	37673
Haryana	15087	2362	17449
Madhya Pradesh	39808	1004	40812
Rajasthan	21994	1391	23385

<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>Proposed Investment (Rs Cr)</i>	<i>IEM Proposed Investment (Rs. Cr)</i>	<i>LOI Total Proposed Investment</i>
Punjab	15765	2543	18308
Karnataka	17836	4071	21907
West Bengal	13741	1386	15127
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8418	64	8482
Delhi	6276	29	6305
Kerala	5024	1364	6388
Himachal Pradesh	6156	317	6473
Daman & Diu	2117	51	2168
Bihar	4907	514	5421
Pondicherry	1948	354	2302
Goa	2855	102	2957
Orissa	4825	3630	8455
Assam	2495	1852	4347
Jammu & Kashmir	168	6	174
Chandigarh	122	0	122
Sikkim	25	5	30
Meghalaya	226	0	226
Andaman & Nicobar	261	0	261
Arunachal Pradesh	35	1	36
Nagaland	53	0	53
Tripura	1038	0	1038
Lakshadweep	4	0	4
Mizoram	0	0	0
Manipur	0	0	0

<i>States/UTs</i>	<i>IEM Proposed Investment (Rs Cr)</i>	<i>LOI Proposed Investment (Rs. Cr)</i>	<i>Total Proposed Investment</i>
More Than 1 State	0	323	323
	44667	60600	505267

IEMs : Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum application filed for items under delicensed sector

LOIs : Letter of Intent issued in respect of items under licensed sector

STATEMENT - III

*State-wise Breakup of Foreign Direct Investment Cases
Approved during the Period from August, 1991 to June,
1995*

<i>State</i>	<i>Investment Approved (Rs. Crore)</i>
Maharashtra	7214
West Bengal	3701
Delhi	3575
Tamil Nadu	2453
Gujarat	2414
Orissa	1744
Andhra Pradesh	1306
Madhya Pradesh	990
Uttar Pradesh	821
Karnataka	784
Punjab	514
Rajasthan	458
Haryana	432
Himachal Pradesh	280
Pondicherry	115

<i>State</i>	<i>Investment Approved (Rs. Crore)</i>
Goa	91
Kerala	85
Bihar	79
Chandigarh	72
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	47
Arunachal Pradesh	11
Daman & Diu	5
Assam	1
Andaman & Nicobar	1
Tripura	1
Lakshadweep	**
Others	7892
Total	35088

** - Negligible

[English]

Seminar on Australian Wool

2079. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to set up some more textiles laboratories in the next two years to help the woollen industry to improve its quality and productivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a two day seminar on Australian wool and its role and utility in the development of the Indian woollen industry was organised jointly by the Indian Woollen Mills Federation and International Wool Secretariat recently;

(d) if so, the main decisions arrived at in the seminar; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, the Central Wool Development Board has proposed to set up three more Wool Testing Centres and one Industrial Service Centre to provide testing facilities to the woollen industry by the end of the VIIIth Five Year Plan.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In the context of rapid development of the woollen industry in India and its exports, it was felt in the seminar that the Indian Woollen Industry, International Wool Secretariat and the major wool growing countries like Australia and New Zealand should co-operate with one another and share the complete knowledge about raw wool and its specifications, testing methods and marketing.

(e) The Government intends to improve the quality and output of indigeneous wool for meeting requirements of the Industry.

Interest Rates on Post-Shipments

[Translation]

2080. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the rate of interest on post-shipment;

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have any memorandum to check the above rate of interest;

(d) if so, whether the Government have taken any decision to check the above enhancement in the rate of interest; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the details of the interest rates (old and revised) on post-shipment credit are as under:

	<i>Export Credit</i>	<i>Rate of Interest (%age per annum)</i>	
		<i>Old Rates</i>	<i>New Rates (effective October 31, 1995)</i>
<i>Post-shipment export credit denominated in US Dollars</i>			
i)	Demand Bills for transit period (as specified by FEDAI)	7.5	7.5
ii)	Usance Bills. (for total period comprising usance period of Export bills, transit period as specified by FEDAI and grace period wherever applicable)		
a)	Upto 90 days	7.5	7.5
b)	Beyond 90 days and upto six months from the date of shipment	7.5	9.5
iii)	Export Credit not otherwise specified for post-shipment export credit denominated in US Dollars (PSCFC)		

(c) to (e). RBI has reported that with a view to rationalising the interest rates on PSCFC and encouraging a quicker turn-around of credit, effective from October 31, 1995, the rate of interest has been prescribed at 7.5% per annum for a total period upto 90 days and for credit beyond 90 days and upto six months from the date of shipment, the rate of interest has been prescribed at 9.5% per annum. Further, banks have been granted freedom to fix their own interest rates on export credit not otherwise specified for PSCFC.

[English]

Scam-hit Banks

2081. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Scam-hit banks may wait 20 years for monies" appearing in Indian Express September 25, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Settlement applications filed by Shri Harshad S. Mehta before the Additional Bench. Income-tax Settlement Commission, Bombay have been rejected for very valid reasons.

(c) Claims have been filed by the banks against the Harshad Mehta Group before the Special Court which will decide them in accordance with the priorities of the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating the Transaction in Securities) Act, 1992.

Tax Evasion

2082. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of tax evaded Revenue theft recorded during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export Status to Input Suppliers to Exporters

2083. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have granted deemed export status to suppliers of inputs to exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the overall impact of this facilities on exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Paragraph 121 of the current Export and Import Policy specifies certain categories of supply of goods which are accorded Deemed Export status.

(c) Deemed Exports enable domestic suppliers to be more competitive and thereby provide them more opportunities to compete with import of similar goods on level terms. A large number of such domestic suppliers have already benefitted under the Scheme.

Unemployment in Beedi Sector

2084. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to create a safety net for beedi and tobacco workers who are facing unemployment;

(b) the details of this safety net; and

(c) the other welfare programmes proposed for beedi and tobacco workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration at present to create a safety net against unemployment for beedi and tobacco workers in the country as there is no significant threat of unemployment among beedi workers at present.

(c) A list of ongoing welfare schemes for beedi workers in the country is enclosed as statement.

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme</i>
<i>Health:</i>	
1.	Static-cum-Mobile/Static Allopathic and Static Ayurvedic Dispensaries for Beedi Workers.
2.	Scheme for Reservation of Beds in T.B. Hospitals for Beedi Workers.
3.	Scheme for Domiciliary Treatment of Beedi Workers. .
4.	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Cancer.
5.	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers suffering from Mental Diseases.
6.	Scheme for Treatment of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Workers) suffering from Leprosy.
7.	Grant of Financial Assistance to Beedi Workers for purchase of Spectacles.
8.	Maternity Benefit Scheme for Female Beedi Workers.
9.	Scheme for payment of Monetary Compensation for Sterilisation to Beedi Workers.
10.	Re-imbusement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Heart Diseases.
11.	Re-imbusement of expenditure as financial assistance to Beedi Workers in respect of Kidney Transplantation.
<i>Social Security:</i>	
1.	Group Insurance Scheme for Beedi Workers.
<i>Housing:</i>	
1.	Build Your Own House Scheme for Beedi Workers.
2.	Housing Scheme for Economically Weaker Section of Beedi Workers.
3.	Grant of subsidy to Co-operative Societies of Beedi Industry for construction of worksheds and godowns.
4.	Group Housing Scheme for Beedi Workers.
<i>Education:</i>	
1.	Award of Scholarship to the children of Beedi Workers (including Gharkhata Beedi Workers).
2.	Composite Scheme for Financial Assistance to the School going children of Beedi Workers for supply of one set of dress, slates, note books and text books.

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Scheme</i>
3.	Payment of incentives on passing final University/Board examinations from High School onwards.
4.	Scheme to provide incentive/financial assistance of Re.1/- to female children of Beedi Workers, on the basis of attendance in schools.
	<i>Recreation:</i>
1.	Establishment of Audio Visual Sets/Cinema Vans/Exhibition of Films.
2.	Organising sports, games, social and cultural activities for Beedi Workers.
3.	Holiday Home Scheme for Beedi Workers.
4.	Supply of T.V. sets to the Beedi Workers industrial Co-operative societies.
5.	Establishment of Community Hall in Beedi Workers Housing Colony with colour T.V. set.

[Translation]

[English]

Flight to Nairobi and Capetown

2085. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received some proposals from the Government of Gujarat to start direct flight for Nairobi and Capetown via Johannesburg from Ahmedabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on September 30, 1995;

(c) the details of the progress made so far in this regard;

(d) the time by which this proposal is likely to be accorded approval; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Proposals have been received from the Government of Gujarat for starting direct flights from Ahmedabad to Nairobi and Johannesburg.

(c) to (e). Due to inadequate traffic potential, the proposed services are not considered economically viable at present.

Survey Regarding Unorganised Labour

2086. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any statistical-cum-demographic survey in respect of various categories of unorganised labour engaged in the collection of raw hides and skins to formulate programmes for their socio-economic upliftment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). No specific statistical-cum-demographic survey has been conducted in respect of labour engaged in the collection of raw hides and skins. However, as a part of its statistical survey relating to working and living conditions of Scheduled Caste workers, the Labour Bureau under the Ministry of Labour have done survey of the SC/ST workers engaged in the tanning industry. Areas covered include Agra, Sholapur, Madras and Indore. A similar survey in Ghaziabad is still going on.

Mulberry Cultivation

2087. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state: -

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat have requested the Union Government for providing financial assistance for cultivation of mulberry in the State; [Translation]

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Government of Gujarat have not requested for any financial assistance from Central Silk Board for cultivation of mulberry in the State.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Foreign Banks in India

2088. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign banks, country-wise in India; and

(b) the capital thereof, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). The names of the foreign banks operating in India and their capital, as reported by Reserve Bank of India, are given below:

S.No.	Name of th Foreign Bank	Country	Capital as on 31.3.95 (in Crores of Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1.	American Express Bank	USA	15.68
2.	Bank of America	"	0.20
3.	Citibank N.A.	"	158.00
4.	Chase Manhattan	"	38.08
5.	British Bank of Middle East	U.K.	12.75
6.	Standard Chartered Bank	"	39.00
7.	Barclays Bank	"	20.60
8.	Banque Nationale De Paris	France	1.00
9.	Banque Indosuez	"	7.00
10.	Societe Generale	"	40.75
11.	Credit Lyonnais	"	15.65
12.	Bank of Tokyo	Japan	56.18
13.	Sakura Bank	"	17.98
14.	Sanwa Bank	"	15.00

S.No.	Name of th Foreign Bank	Country	Capital as on 31.3.95 (in Crores of Rs.)
1	2	3	4
15.	Deutsche Bank	Germany	0.20
16.	Dresdner Bank (opened on 21.8.95)	"	31.67
17.	Commerz Bank (opened on 1.12.95)	"	Rupee equivalent of Us \$ 10 MIO
18.	ANZ Grindlays Bank Plc	Australia	2.20
19.	Hongkong Bank	Hongkong	49.00
20.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	U.A.E.	0.20
21.	Mashreq Bank	"	8.63
22.	Oman International Bank	Sultanate of Oman	5.04
23.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait	Bahrain	0.20
24.	Bank of Nova Scotia	Canada	16.39
25.	ABN Amro Bank	Netherlands	15.00
26.	ING Bank	"	31.33
27.	Sonali Bank	Bangladesh	0.20
28.	State Bank of Mauritius	Mauritius	31.36
29.	Development Bank of Singapore,	Singapore	31.34
30.	Bank of Ceylon (opened on 30.10.95)	Sri Lanka	13.89

[English]

Women Labour Cells in Assam

2089. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women labour cells functioning at present in Gujarat and Assam;

(b) whether the said cells are functioning all over the country;

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

(d) the details of achievements of these women labour cells since their inception?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY):
(a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Primary Education for Child Labour

2090. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has recently apprised the Central Government of an action plan for providing primary education to child labourers engaged in diamond cutting and

polishing, powerlooms, chemical, fire cracker and other units in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other States have also apprised the Government of similar action plans for implementation in their respective States; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) and (b). The Government of Gujarat has sought financial assistance to implement a programme to cover 5000 child workers in diamond cutting, polishing, manufacture of fireworks, chemicals, quarries, mines and other hazardous processes. Certain clarifications have been sought for from the State Government with regard to this project. In the meantime, Government have recently sanctioned two National Child Labour Projects for the State of Gujarat: one each in the districts of Panch Mahal and Surat covering children working in carpet weaving, diamond polishing, powerloom industries. Under these two projects, a total of 2000 children will be provided education in 40 special schools with provision for vocational education, non-formal education, stipends, nutrition etc.

(c) and (d). Under the National Child Labour Project Scheme with the Ministry of Labour, a major activity undertaken is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc. to the children withdrawn from employment in the hazardous occupations. Accordingly, project proposals for establishment of such schools for children withdrawn from employment in various hazardous occupations, the nature of which differs from State to State, are received from time to time. Examination of such project proposals for financial assistance is a continuous process. During current financial year 63 such project proposals have been approved for assistance in 11 States in the country.

Review of Export-Import Policy

2091. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any review of the export-import policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pass book scheme and Export Promotional Capital Goods Scheme have also been reviewed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Review of Exim Policy is a continuous process and changes are made therein as and when considered necessary.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Pass Book Scheme has been further liberalised to enable the exporters to import all items except those included in the Negative list of Imports. The EPCG Scheme has also been reviewed and now the indigenous suppliers of capital goods to zero duty licence holders have been allowed to import components at zero duty thereby enabling them to source their supplies at competitive rates.

Pending Bills of ITDC

2092. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance owes certain amount to the India Tourism Development Corporation for bills of ITDC-run hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) since when these amounts are due;

(d) the reasons for non-payment of hotel bills by his Ministry; and

(e) the time by which these bills are likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). As on September 30, 1995, bills totalling Rs. 1,17,740/- (Rupees one lakh seventeen thousand seven hundred and forty only) are payable to ITDC hotels by Ministry of Finance.

(d) and (e). The bills are being processed, and are expected to be paid shortly.

Changes in Duty Exemption Scheme

2093. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have initiated changes in the Duty Exemption Scheme and streamline export linked imports in response to persistent demands by engineering goods manufacturing exporters;

(b) whether several manufacturing exporters who did not enjoy the Super Star or Star Trading House status faced considerable liquidity problems in providing bank guarantees to the customs authorities; and

(c) if so, the details of norms to be modified to provide help to the engineering goods exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Keeping in view the suggestions received for modifying the Engineering Products Export (Replenishment of Iron and Steel Intermediates), a number of changes have been incorporated to make the Scheme operational. These changes include transferability of the advance intermediate licences issued to the Iron and Steel intermediates, import of spares upto 5% of the c.i.f. value of such licences and permitting bound rate of duty draw back to the engineering exporters. It has also been decided that the facility of giving bond to the customs authorities, will be extended to all the status holders, including Export Houses. In addition, Public Sector Undertakings have also been given this facility. Other manufacturer exporters, including engineering producers will be only required to give a reduced bank guarantee to the extent of 25% of the duty saved.

Use of Cars

2094. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ambassador cars are used by the Departments of Union Government and the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) whether the Maruti Industries Limited is a Public Sector Undertaking of the Union Government; and

(c) the reasons for purchasing cars from the private sector Hindustan Motors instead of purchasing cars from Maruti Industries Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Maruti Udyog Ltd. is a Non-Government Company under the Companies Act.

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

Maintenance of Hyderabad Airport

2095. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the

Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government are aware that due to lack of basic amenities at Hyderabad airport, the air passengers are facing a lot inconvenience;

(b) whether the passengers are also not being attended to properly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Basic facilities required at an airport already exist at Hyderabad airport. However, keeping in view the increase in the number of passengers and number of flights touching Hyderabad, the Airports Authority of India is developing Hyderabad airport as a model airport with all modern facilities of international standards.

Bio-Piracy in India

2096. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "2 US firms charged with bio-piracy" in India' appeared in 'The Business Standard dated October 12, 1995;

(b) if so, the details of facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government propose to identify the Indian collaborators in this 'bio-piracy';

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the preventive measures taken against such 'bio-prospecting' or 'bio-piracy'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Prior to the Rio Convention on Bio-diversity, genetic resources were regarded as the common heritage of mankind to be made freely available for research. However, in the Convention on Bio-diversity, which was ratified by India on 18-2-1994, sovereign rights over germplasm have been articulated. Pursuant to India's ratification, the Ministry of Environment and Forests is preparing a regulatory framework to regulate the outflow of genetic resources. Identification of Indian collaborators in such alleged bio-piracies would be relevant after the introduction of

the regulatory framework.

Suggestion to Boost up the Exports

2097. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Hindu' on November 8, 1995 under caption "Exporters suggest panel on trade and tariff".

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received by the Government and the reaction of the Government thereon;

(c) the present status of the proposal/other suggestions received from Exporters regarding administrative/policy changes suggested to boost the exports; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to reorient the export policy, administration infrastructure and operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHIR P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Federation of Indian Exports Organisations (FIEO) has recently submitted an Export Strategy Paper for achieving exports of Us \$ 100 billion by 2001. In the Strategy Paper, FIEO have suggested setting up of National Commission on Trade & Tariff (NCTT) to oversee, arbitrate and ensure coordination in the decisions of the Central Government and the State Governments among other suggestions. It may however be stated that export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other concerned institutions including FIEO. All suggestions for export promotion including those by FIEO in the Export Strategy Paper, are welcome. Exports have been made into a national priority and the Government is very keen to provide an export friendly environment to the exporting community backed by proper infrastructure.

New Monitoring System for Commercial Banks

2098: SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the off-site surveillance system introduced by RBI from March, 1995 has failed to achieve the objective for which it was introduced;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether many of the commercial banks have expressed their difficulties in submitting quarterly reports to the RBI as stipulated under the aforesaid mechanism;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether instead of the quarterly reports, they propose to introduce a new monitoring system for greater check on the banking industry; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Pursuant to the new supervision strategy approved by the Board for Financial Supervision, a formal supervisory reporting system (SRS) was proposed to be set up and made operational, beginning financial year April, 1995. The first tranche of returns called through RBI circular dated February 28, 1995 was mainly for "testing" the returns in terms of the reporting capabilities of the respondent banks. According, banks were required to report the position as at the end of September, 1994. Banks were also advised that the returns finalised afterwards on the basis of feed back would constitute the formal reporting system which would be fully operational as from March, 1995.

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that since some of the banks had expressed some difficulty in compiling the returns, it has reviewed the formats. RBI has further reported that it has also been decided that the revised formats would constitute the formal reporting system and will come into effect from end December, 1995.

(e) and (f). No, Sir.

Development of Calicut Airport

2099. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has authorised any agency or organisation to collect funds from abroad for the development of Calicut Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any amount has been handed over to the Government by the agency so far;

(d) whether any special facility has been provided at Calicut Airport exclusively for the use of those who donated to the

Calicut Airport Fund;

(e) whether any room/area at Calicut Airport premises has been set aside for the use of such agency contributories; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The State Government of Kerala has formed a Malabar International Airport Development Society (MIADS) under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister of Kerala. This society is authorised to collect funds from abroad for the development of this airport.

(c) A sum of Rs. 14.60 Crores has been received by Airports Authority of India so far from MIADS.

(d) and (e). No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Drugs Smuggling

2100. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smuggling of drugs between Pakistan and India is on increase;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to identify the transit points and to stop the smuggling of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). Drug trafficking is a clandestine activity, and therefore, it cannot be said definitely whether smuggling of drugs between Pakistan and India is increasing or otherwise. However, the seizure of heroin of golden crescent origin has increased from 220 kg in 1993 to 369 kg in 1994 and 357 kg in 1995 (Up to October). By virtue of proximity to Golden Crescent region, all the States along the Indo-Pak border are vulnerable to smuggling of drugs.

Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. BSF and Coast Guards, who are deployed on land and coastal

borders have been vested with powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to the Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDPS Act.

Bank Securities Scam

2101. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress report of Action Taken on the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Bank Securities Scam;

(b) the total claims against Harshad Mehta and his group with interest as on September 30, 1995;

(c) the amount recovered upto September 30, 1995 bank-wise;

(d) the steps taken and in progress for the recovery of the balance;

(e) the action taken against various officials involved in or indicated for the bank scam, so far; and

(f) the total estimated loss to the banking system under the bank scam and the total amount transferred by the Government to the banks to enable the banks to meet the situation created by the scam upto September 30, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Some of the developments that have taken place after the revised action taken report on the JPC recommendations was laid in Parliament in December, 1994 are as follows:

- (i) CBI have registered 64 cases and have completed investigations in 60. Chargesheets have been filed in 21 cases. Regular departmental action has been recommended in 14 cases.
- (ii) Departmental proceedings have been completed in respect of 35 officials of public sector banks and their subsidiaries and punishment has been imposed resulting in dismissal of 14 officials, compulsory retirement of 2 officials and scale reduction/withholding of increments in respect of 4 officials.
- (iii) RBI have issued show cause notices to two more foreign banks imposing penalty of Rs. 1.15 crores for violation of instructions of the RBI on PMS.

(iv) Department of Supervision of RBI has been entrusted with the responsibility of supervision of all India financial institutions and registered non-banking financial companies.

(v) The Public Debt Rules, 1946 have been amended prescribing a new form for the transfer of Stock in RBI in SGL Accounts relating to Government Securities.

(b) to (f). The claims made by banks on Harshad Mehta Group amounted to about Rs. 1560 crores (excluding interest claims). No amounts have been released by the Special Court to any bank as yet from the attached properties. The actual losses to the banking system would crystallise only after the pending cases are finalised and settled and the distribution of the attached assets is decided by the Special Court. No funds have been made available to the banks for this purpose. Government have only provided recapitalisation support to nationalised banks for meeting capital adequacy requirements.

Miyourpur Air Strips

2102. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation consisting of officials from Ministry of Civil Aviation and U.P. Airways visited the Miyourpur air strips in Sonbhadra, U.P.;

(b) if so, the purpose of the said visit;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop/convert the existing air strips to a commercial airport; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. This visit was undertaken to assess the various facilities available/required for operation of commercial flights.

(c) and (d). The airstrip belongs to U.P. Government and it is for the State Government to decide on the plan to develop the airstrip.

Unemployment

2103. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the present levels of employment and unemployment in the country;

(b) the sector-wise details thereof and the trends over the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that high-tech growth in the wake of liberalisation does not reduce employment or fails to provide additional employment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c). A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Employment and Unemployment in the country at the end of 1994-95 are estimated to be 320.50 million and 18.69 million respectively.

The estimates of employment in different industries/sectors in the last three years (1992-95) are indicated below:

Estimates of Employment : 1992-95

<i>Industry/Sector</i>	<i>Employment (Million)</i>		
	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1994-95</i>
1. Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing.	195.69	197.89	200.48
2. Mining & Quarrying.	2.67	2.75	2.85
3. Manufacturing.	33.73	34.46	36.11

<i>Industry/Sector</i>	<i>Employment (Million)</i>		
	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94</i>	<i>1994-95</i>
4. Electricity, Gas & Water Supply.	1.10	1.12	1.14
5. Construction.	12.91	13.07	13.58
6. Trade and Transport, etc.	32.69	33.62	35.00
7. Financing, Insurance, Real estates & Business services.	2.45	2.57	2.68
8. Community, Social & Personal Services.	27.07	27.85	28.66
Total :	308.31	313.33	320.50

Unemployment by the end of March, 1993, March, 1994 and March, 1995 are estimated to be 17.10 million, 18.87 million and 18.69 million respectively.

Employment has been given a major thrust in the development strategy of the Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 which envisages a accelerated employment generation through faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas with relatively high employment potential. The main elements of the employment strategy of the Eight Plan are as follows:

- (i) A faster and geographically and crop-wise diversified growth of agriculture;
- (ii) Faster growth of activities allied to agriculture and agro-based industries;
- (iii) Development and productive utilisation of wastelands;
- (iv) Promotion of non-agricultural, particularly manufacturing activities, in rural areas;
- (v) Special attention to the growth of the small and decentralised manufacturing sector;
- (vi) Large scale expansion of construction of infrastructure and residential accomodation;
- (vii) Strengthening of basic health and education

facilities, particularly in the rural areas; and

- (viii) Faster growth of the services and informal sector activities through greater ease of entry and suitable support system.

[*Translation*]

Operation by Private Airlines

2104. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the private Airlines have sought permission from the Union Government to operate from the international airports of the country;
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for the same;
- (c) whether the permission has since been granted; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Private airlines are permitted to operate both from domestic and international airports subject to operational restrictions.

- (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Reversion Projects by State Government

2105. SHRIM.V.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives of private corporations have opned that project approvals once given should not be reversed unless for demonstrable reasons;

(b) if so, whether the Government are taking any final decision in regard to the projects already approved and later on reversed by the State Governments;

(c) whether the Committee which approved foreign investment has taken up this issue;

(d) if so, whether any concrete guidelines are being worked out for such projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Extension of Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing and Marketing) Act, 1971

2106. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:
SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHROAGUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested for long term extension to the "Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing & Marketing) Act, 1971;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government; thereon;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has approved the continuation of the "Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement, Processing & Marketing) Act, 1971 with effect from 1st July, 1995 to 30th June, 1996.

Amendment in Fiscal Policy/Loan Policy

2107. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made comprehensive changes/ amendments in the fiscal policy and the bank loan policy announced for the second half of 1994-95;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government held deliberations with various affected commercial federations of industries in order to implement the above policies or amendments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (e). Major fiscal policy changes are announced in the Annual Budget of the Government while monetary and credit policy changes are normally made twice a year, through the slack season (April-September) and the busy season (October-March) policies.

Some highlights of the busy season credit policy announced by Reserve Bank of India on September 29, 1995 are indicated below alongwith the dates of implementation of policy changes:

<i>Policy changes</i>	<i>Implemented</i>
(a) Banks to be allowed to fix own interest rates for deposits of over 2 years.	Effective October 1, 1995
(b) To increase Reserve Bank of India's refinance facility to Banks against Government and other approved securities.	Effective September 30, 1995
(c) To increase the ceiling of interest on Non-Resident	Effective October 1, 1995 (further

<i>Policy changes</i>	<i>Implemented</i>
External (Rupee) deposits to 10 per cent.	raised to 12 per cent effective October 31, 1995)
(d) Revision of loan system of delivery of bank credit by reducing cash credit component to 60 per cent.	To be effective December 31, 1995
(e) To raise minimum period of ready forward transaction in Government securities to 3 days.	Effective September 30, 1995

Thereafter, other credit policy changes implemented include (i) removal of Cash Reserve Ratio (GRR) for increase in NRE and Non-Resident Non-Repatriable deposits over October 27, 1995 level. (ii) rationalisation of interest rates on post shipment credit US dollars, both effective from October 31, 1995 and (iii) reduction in GRR on not demand and time liabilities from 15 per cent to 14.5 per cent effective November 11, 1995.

Before the annual Budget for Central Government is presented to Parliament, the Government holds meetings with federations of industry and other groups.

The views and suggestions made by Commercial and other groups in various meetings memoranda etc. are kept in view by Reserve Bank of India while formulating its credit policies.

Unemployment Among Beedi Workers

2108. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'ILO report defies old views on creating jobs' appearing in 'Times of India' dated February 27, 1995;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent further unemployment and underemployment as well as to rehabilitate those rendered jobless especially the beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is felt that there is no significant threat of unemployment among beedi workers at present. Nor there is

any mention of it in the Newspaper report referred to in (a) which deals mainly with unemployment situation in developed countries, while noting that changes in unemployment conditions in South-Asia have on the whole been positive.

However, employment has been given a major thrust in the development strategy of the Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 which envisages accelerated employment generation through faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors, and areas with relatively high employment potential. Besides, a number of special employment programmes are being implemented important among which are IRDP, JRY, EAS NRY and PMRY.

Employment Avenues

2109. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of increase in the avenues of employment during each of the last two years since the economic liberalisation and investment of foreign capital in the country;

(b) whether the said increase is in accordance with the expectations; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). The Government had accorded the highest priority to promoting sustainable, employment intensive growth in its economic reform policies. As a result, the employment opportunities created in the country increased from 3.00 million in the crisis year of 1991-92 to 7.18 million in 1994-95. The year-wise estimates of employment opportunities created are as follows:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Employment opportunities created in Million</i>
1.	1991-92	3.00
2.	1992-93	6.58
3.	1993-94	5.02
4.	1994-95	7.18

Registered SC/ST and Handicapped

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to fill up these reserved vacancies?

2110. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SC/ST and handicapped persons registered with the various employment exchanges State-wise, particularly in the Gujarat State as on September 30, 1995;

(b) the details of employment provided to handicapped and SCs/STs persons during the last three years State-wise;

(c) whether the quota reserved for the handicapped and SCs/STs has been filled;

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY):
(a) Information as on June 1994 (latest available) is furnished in the Statement-I attached.

(b) Information for the year 1992, 1993 and 1994 (January-June) is furnished in the Statement-II attached.

(c) to (e). As per the demand of employers, the Employment Exchanges submit the list of the handicapped candidates as also the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes for filling up of the vacancies reserved for them.

STATEMENT - I

Number of job-seekers on the live register of employment exchanges as at the end of June, 1994.

<i>(in thousands)</i>			
<i>State/Union Territories</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>	<i>Physically Handicapped</i>
1	2	3	4
<i>States</i>			
1. Andhra Pradesh	355.4	65.5	37.6
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.1	2.1	-
3. Assam	76.8	143.8	3.6
4. Bihar	376.3	242.8	15.1
5. Goa	1.4	@	0.5

(in thousands)

<i>State/Union Territories</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>	<i>Physically Handicapped</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
6. Gujarat	170.3	89.7	13.9
7. Haryana	109.3	@	6.9
8. Himachal Pradesh	94.5	15.1	4.8
9. Jammu & Kashmir	8.7	0.9	0.7
10. Karnataka	194.9	31.2	20.0
11. Kerala	370.5	18.6	25.3
12. Madhya Pradesh	275.6	193.7	19.7
13. Maharashtra	535.7	118.9	24.5
14. Manipur	1.9	61.5	1.2
15. Meghalaya	0.3	18.6	0.1
16. Mizoram	—	39.1	@
17. Nagaland	1.0	21.9	0.1
18. Orissa	111.7	71.9	9.1
19. Punjab	172.9	@	9.6
20. Rajasthan	124.9	58.7	16.2
21. Sikkim *			
22. Tamil Nadu	817.4	14.0	45.3
23. Tripura	12.6	14.3	2.4
24. Uttar Pradesh	426.1	9.5	25.1
25. West Bengal	459.0	88.5	46.3
<i>Union Territories</i>			
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	0.7	0.2

(in thousands)

<i>State/Union Territories</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>	<i>Scheduled Tribes</i>	<i>Physically Handicapped</i>
1	2	3	4
27. Chandigarh	41.6	0.1	0.8
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.2	0.9	0.1
29. Delhi	142.4	19.5	5.4
30. Daman & Diu	0.2	0.3	@
31. Lakshadweep	—	6.4	0.1
32. Pondicherry	10.4	@	1.2
Total :	4892.1	1348.3	335.7

Note: 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning this state.

2. @ Less than fifty.

3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

4. — Nil.

5. All the job-seekers on the live Register of Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

STATEMENT - II

Number of Placements effected by the employment exchanges during the year 1992, 1993 and 1994 (Jan.-June).

(In thousands)

<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>			<i>Schedules Tribes</i>			<i>Physically Handicapped</i>		
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
	<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
States									
1. Andhra Pradesh	3.6	2.4	0.7	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
2. Arunachal Pradesh	@	@	-	-	@	@	-	-	-
3. Assam	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	@	@	@

(In thousands)

<i>State/UT</i>	<i>Scheduled Castes</i>			<i>Schedules Tribes</i>			<i>Physically Handicapped</i>		
	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994</i>
	<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>		
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>
4. Bihar	0.9	1.6	1.2	1.9	4.0	1.9	@	@	@
5. Goa	-	@	-	-	-	-	@	@	-
6. Gujarat	2.3	2.1	0.9	4.3	4.4	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.3
7. Haryana	1.0	1.3	0.4	-	@	-	0.1	0.1	@
8. Himachal Pradesh	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	@	@	@
9. Jammu & Kashmir	@	@	@	@	@	-	@	@	@
10. Karnataka	1.7	2.6	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
11. Kerala	1.3	1.5	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.6
12. Madhya Pradesh	2.5	3.2	1.6	3.9	4.7	3.4	0.2	0.5	0.2
13. Maharashtra	6.3	4.7	2.2	2.1	1.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.2
14. Manipur	@	@	@	@	0.1	0.1	@	-	-
15. Meghalaya	@	@	@	0.1	0.1	@	@	-	@
16. Mizoram	-	-	-	0.3	0.4	@	-	-	-
17. Nagaland	@	@	@	0.4	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
18. Orissa	1.1	0.7	0.2	1.3	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.1	@
19. Punjab	2.5	1.7	0.4	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	@
20. Rajasthan	1.7	1.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
21. Sikkim *									
22. Tamil Nadu	5.1	5.2	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.1	0.5
23. Tripura	@	@	@	0.1	@	@	@	@	@
24. Uttar Pradesh	5.6	3.8	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	@

(In thousands)

State/UT	Scheduled Castes			Schedules Tribes			Physically Handicapped		
	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
	<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>			<i>(Jan-June)</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25. West Bengal	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	@
<i>Union Territories</i>									
26. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
27. Chandigarh	0.4	0.3	0.1	-	-	-	@	@	@
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	@
29. Delhi	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	@	@	@	0.1	@
30. Daman & Diu	@	@	@	@	@	@	-	@	-
31. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	@
32. Pondicherry	-	@	@	-	-	-	@	@	@
Total :	38.6	34.9	13.6	18.2	19.3	8.7	4.3	4.5	2.2

Note: 1. * No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

2. @ Less than fifty.

3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

4. - Nil.

[Translation]

Employment Opportunities in the Organised Sector of Gujarat

2111. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers engaged in organised sector of the country particularly in Gujarat State;

(b) whether the employment opportunities have declined in organised sector in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY):
 (a) The employment in the organised sector (all establishments in the public sector and all non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) in the country as on 31.3.1995 was estimated at 274.09 lakhs, out of which 17.18 lakhs was in Gujarat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[English]

Bank Branches in Assam

2112. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the bank-wise locations of public sector banks in Assam;
- (b) the branch-wise amount deposited and loans disbursed during each of the last three years in the State;
- (c) whether the branches of the banks achieved their targets fixed for disbursement of loans; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL): (a) The details of bank-wise location of branches of public sector banks in Assam as on 20th June 1994 are given in the Statements. [Placed in Library See No. LT 8536/95]

(b) The information regarding branch-wise amount of deposits and credit of banks is not available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

(c) and (d). RBI has reported that the total outlay under Annual Credit Plan for 1994-95 aggregated to Rs.8-47.54 lakhs. The banks have granted advances amounting to Rs. 6249. 56 lakhs. RBI has also reported that the main reasons for low level of credit in Assam are the relatively poor industrialisation of the State, receipt of funds in Government accounts during the year-end resulting in temporary increase in the deposit level etc. Bankers have requested the State Government to develop the required infrastructural facilities which would facilitate both industrialisation and agricultural development for increasing credit absorption capacity of the State. The issues relating to deployment of bank credit are monitored regularly in the State Level Bankers Committee meetings.

Pending Investigation in Income-Tax

2113. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Income Tax Officers-male/female against whom inquiry on the grounds of possessing disproportionate assets is pending for the last three years;
- (b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the

Government against these officers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) There are seventeen male and one female officers against whom inquiry on the grounds of possessing disproportionate assets is pending for last three years or more.

(b) In eight cases criminal prosecutions and/or departmental proceedings have been initiated. The remaining 10 cases are at preliminary inquiry stage.

(c) Steps have been taken for speedily conducting the inquiry.

Loan Waiver Schemes

2114. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has stressed that the loan waivers by the Union and the State Governments should be stopped immediately;

(b) whether the Central banks have expressed their concern over the falling levels of priority sector loans which continued to be a problem area for banks during 1994-95;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have since taken a final decision in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL): (a) It has been the consistent stand of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that generalised loan waivers or write off of loan obligations through whatever modalities without reference to the merits of individual cases are not in the interest of the rural credit agencies or the rural poor. Government of India endorses the stand of RBI.

(b) to (d). RBI have reported that in absolute terms, the priority sector advances of public sector banks have risen from Rs. 53197 crores as on the last Friday of March 1994 to Rs. 61794 crores on the last Friday of March 1995. However, the percentage of priority sector advances to net bank credit has declined from 37.75 in March 1994 to 36.56 in March 1995. The fall in the percentage of priority sector lending can be attributed

to factors such as greater emphasis laid on the profitability of banks, prudential norms stipulated by RBI in regard to income recognition, provisioning and capital adequacy and high translation and risk costs involved. RBI have advised all banks to make every effort to achieve the stipulated target for priority sector lendings including lending to agriculture. Banks have also been advised that failures on their part to achieve the target could invite bank specific policy measures. RBI have also recently taken a number of steps such as introduction of Agricultural Credit Card to enable farmers with good track record to secure production credit instantly, cash credit facility, financing of innovative and high-tech agricultural projects and establishment of Rural Infrastructural Development Fund to ensure enhanced credit to agricultural sector.

Visit to Myanmar by Commerce Minister

2115. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State for Commerce visited Myanmar in the month of February this year; and

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Minister of State for Commerce visited Yangon from 17-19th February, 1995 to co-inaugurate the India Trade Exhibition which was held in Yangon from 17-25th February, 1995. He also took the opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest with Myanmar Government authorities.

UN report regarding Human Development in India

2116. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news item captioned "UN report ranks India low in Human development" appearing in the Economic Times dated August 27, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the remarks made by the UN report against India on human development; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The report

appeared in the New Delhi Edition of Economic Times dated 28 August, 1995.

(b) and (c). No remarks have been made as such against India in the Human Development Report. In the said report, countries have been ranked according to Human Development Index (HDI) devised in the report. This Index has three components: life expectancy at birth; educational attainment, comprising adult literacy with 2/3rds weight, and a combined primary, secondary and tertiary enrolment ratio, with one-third weight; and income. The basic data for calculating the Index has been taken from UN report on population, UNESCO on education and the World Bank for income. As such there is less scope for any subjectivity on the part of the writers of the Report in calculating the HDI for different countries.

Licence of Private Airlines

2117. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to cancel the licences of the those private companies which have not started their flights on prescribed routes;

(b) whether any enquiry committee has been set up in regard to the violation of rules; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The actual deployment of air services vis-a-vis the approved schedules of all the scheduled airlines is monitored by the Director General of Civil Aviation and corrective measures are taken as and when required.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Hawala Racket

2118. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Revenue Intelligence has received any complaints in July, 1995 regarding a massive fraud/hawala racket of about 84 million dollars in collaboration with Nariman Point branch of South India Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the investigation made in this regard; and

(c) the preventive action taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir. Investigations made by Director General of Revenue Intelligence indicated outward remittances of US \$ 8.42 million (Approx. Rs.270 crores) without corresponding import of goods.

(b) and (c). The information is being further investigated by Department of Banking, RBI, CBI, Directorate of Enforcement and Income-tax Authorities and appropriate action in accordance with law would be taken.

Export of Cotton

2119. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought permission for enhanced quota of cotton export;

(b) if so, the policy of the Government in this regard and quantity of cotton allowed for export by cotton growing states, State-wise vis-a-vis demand made by them;

(c) how does it compare with the quota allowed for the last three year rationale therefor; and

(d) the details of representation received from the Government of Maharashtra in this regard and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra have requested for release of export quota of minimum two lakh bales.

(c) and (d). Overall quantity of cotton to be released for export depends on the demand and supply scenario in the country, taking into account the interests of all sections.

Export of Tea

2120. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the GATT Treaty is likely to affect on export of tea; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). The GATT Treaty has resulted in reduction of tariffs by a number of major importers of Indian tea. It is likely to have a positive impact on exports of tea depending upon the competitiveness of Indian tea in the international market.

Banks for Financing Risk Venture Capital and Seed Money

2121. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has mooted a proposal to the RBI for setting up of special banks to finance risk venture capital and seed money;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have not yet received any such proposal.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

BOP Position

2122. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a marked improvement in India's balance of payments position during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). India's balance of payments during 1994-95 exhibited strength and resilience. There was a continued accretion to the foreign exchange reserves which, including gold, reached an unprecedented level of US \$ 25.2 billion at the end of March, 1995.

Exports during 1994-95 showed a robust growth. Imports rose sharply in line with the expansion in economic activity. There was an appreciable improvement in the performance of invisible receipts. The current account deficit in 1994-95.

although estimated to be larger than in the preceding year, was clearly justified and sustainable. The accumulation of reserves in 1994-95 was largely supported by strong capital flows, which were, as in the preceding year, dominated by inflows of foreign investment, direct and portfolio.

(c) The developments in India's balance of payments are constantly monitored both by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India and policy measures are modified and instituted, as and when necessary, to strengthen the country's trade and payments situation.

Fleet of Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot

2123. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be

pleased to state:

(a) The number of passenger and other aircraft with Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot, separately;

(b) whether these aircraft are sufficient;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the number thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The number of operational aircraft with Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot at present, category-wise, is as follows:-

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Type of Aircraft</i>	<i>No. of Aircraft</i>
1	2	3
Air India	B747 - 200	9
	B747- 300 (Cambi)	2
	B747 - 400	4
	A310 - 300	8
	A300 - B4	3
Indian Airlines	A - 300	10
	A -320	30
	A737	15
Vayudoot	Dornier	3, weteased

(b) While the available aircraft are sufficient to operate the existing schedule of services, Air India has weteased aircraft in order to expand its services on existing routes and to introduce services on new routes.

(c) and (d). A tentative medium term fleet plan of Air India covering the period 1994-95 to 2001/02 has been drawn up which envisages increase of fleet strength from the existing 26 aircraft to 54 aircraft by the year 2001/02.

Indian Airlines has plans for induction of new aircraft during

1996-97 to meet the requirements of short-haul routes.

Fleet composition of the Indian Airlines

2124. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the fleet composition of the Indian Airlines as on April 1, 1995;

(b) which are the domestic airports where the Indian

Airlines is operating with the type of aircraft in operation;

(c) whether these airports are having navigational and landing facilities for bigger aircraft;

(d) the names of the airports which do not have these facilities; and

(e) the steps being taken to upgrade the facilities at these airports and the time frame of completing the projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The fleet composition of the Indian Airlines as on April 1, 1995 was as follows:

Airbus A 300 - 10

Airbus A 320 - 30

Boeing 737 - 20

Fokker F-27 - 02

(b) Indian Airlines is operating to 54 airports with B737/A320/A300 type of aircraft. The names of these airports are enclosed as statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Airports Authority of India is further upgrading the facilities by installing Simple Approach Lights at 20 airports.

STATEMENT

List of Airports

1. Agartala

2. Agra

3. Ahmedabad

4. Amritsar

5. Aurangabad

6. Bagdogra

7. Bangalore

8. Bhavnagar

9. Bhopal

10. Bhubneswar

11. Bhuj

12. Bombay

13. Calcutta

14. Calicut

15. Chandigarh

16. Cochin

17. Coimbatore

18. Delhi

19. Dibrugarh

20. Dimapur

21. Goa

22. Guwahti

23. Gwalior

24. Hyderabad

25. Imphal

26. Indore

27. Jaipur

28. Jammu

29. Jamnagar

30. Jodhpur

31. Jorhat

32. Khajuraho

33. Leh

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Quantity Consumed (Mn.Kg.)</i>	<i>Percentage Share</i>
34.	Lucknow		
35.	Madras		
36.	Madurai		
37.	Mangalore		
38.	Nagpur		
39.	Patna		
40.	Port Blair		
41.	Pune		
42.	Rajkot		
43.	Raipur		
44.	Ranchi		
45.	Silchar		
46.	Sri Nagar		
47.	Tezpur		
48.	Trichy		
49.	Trivandrum		
50.	Udaipur		
51.	Vadodra		
52.	Varanasi		
53.	Vizag		
54.	Puttaparthi		

Development of Tourism

2125. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign firms have shown interest to invest capital in the development of tourism in our country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Foreign companies as well as individuals have shown keen interest in investment and collaboration for development of hotel and other tourism related projects in India by way of equity participation or technical, franchise and marketing, management agreements. From August 1991 to September 1995, the Government and the Reserve Bank of India have approved 124 such proposals from foreign companies, individuals and NRIs involving an investment of Rs. 1892.92 crores. This includes one proposal from an NRI for setting up a restaurant at Surat, Gujarat,, involving an investment of Rs. 21.00 lakhs.

Production of Textiles

2126. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the present share (percentage) of the Cotton and Synthetic fibre in the clothing of the country, and

(b) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to protect the of the cotton-growers, stabilisation of cotton prices and boosting export of cotton fabrics and garments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The quantity of cotton, man-made fibre/filament and other fibres consumed in clothing and textile industry during the year 1994-95 alongwith the percentage share has been as under:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Quantity Consumed (Mn.Kg.)</i>	<i>Percentage Share</i>
1	Cotton	2051	65.4

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Percentage Consumed (Mn.Kg.)</i>	<i>Share</i>
1		2	3	4
2.	Man-made Fibre/ Filament Yarn		981	31.3
3.	Other natural fibres (SILK, WOOL FLAX)		105	3.3
		Total :	3137	100.0

(b) The measures taken to protect the interests of the cotton growers, stabilisation of cotton prices and boosting exports of cotton fabrics and garment include the following:

1. In order to ensure remunerative prices for the cotton growers Government announces Minimum Support Price (MSP) for cotton every year, CCI enters the market and makes purchases of cotton whenever the cotton prices tend to decline and come closer to the MSP level (.). The CCI is the main agency for the implementation of minimum support price policy. CCI's market operations maintain an upward pressure on cotton prices so that they remain reasonable above the MSP level. In order to boost the exports of textiles, and clothing, including cotton fabrics and garments, Govt. have been taking a number of steps which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets; fairs and exhibitions; enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production; special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production; ensuring increased availability of export credit etc.

Posting of Spouses at same Station

2127. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy of the Government to post husband and wife at the same station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to advise the private sector banks to scrupulously follow the spirit of the policy of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Based on the guidelines issued by Department of Personnel and Training, detailed guidelines have been issued to public sector banks. The guidelines provide that where both spouses are employed in public sector banks, the husband and wife may be posted at different branches at the same station or at neighbouring stations depending upon location and number of branches. This is, however, subject to administrative convenience, availability of vacancies, rural/semi-urban branch experience and compliance of instructions regarding agreement with bank unions, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Borrowing Limit of R.B.I.

2128. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank Credit to Central Government has exceeded the limit fixed by RBI during the current financial year;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The net issue of ad hoc treasury bills as on 31.11.1995 was Rs. 10195 crore. A spurt in net issue of ad hoc treasury bills arises

basically due to mismatch between receipts and payments day to-day and is not an indicator of the likely year end figure. Government is, however, closely monitoring the situation.

Primary Dealers

2129. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has commenced enlisting Primary Dealers in the Government securities Market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(c) the details of main purpose/function of such Primary Dealers; and

(d) the details of guidelines/regulations formulated by the Government for enlisting/functioning of Primary Dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has granted 'in principle' approval to the following six entities to be accredited as primary dealers in the Government securities market:

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Entity</i>	<i>Place of Head Quarters</i>
1.	Discount and Finance House of India Ltd.	Bombay
2.	Securities Trading Corporation of India Ltd.	Bombay
3.	ICICI Securities and Finance Company Ltd.	Bombay
4.	State Bank of India (Subsidiary)	Bombay
5.	Punjab National Bank (Subsidiary)	New Delhi
6.	Canara Bank (Jointly with other banks)	Bangalore

(c) The details of main purpose/function of the primary dealers include.

- (i) Strengthening the infrastructure in the government securities market;
- (ii) Ensuring development of underwriting and market making capabilities for government securities outside the Reserve Bank of India;
- (iii) Improving secondary market trading system and encouraging voluntary holding of government securities amongst a wider investor base;
- (iv) Providing liquidity and improving turnover in government securities market; and
- (v) Acting as an effective conduit for conducting open market operations.

(d) Subsidiaries of banks of financial institutions and companies predominantly doing business in Government Securities market and having net owned funds of minimum of

Rs. 50 crore are eligible to apply for Primary Dealership.

Passes for Entry at Airports

2130. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entry passes issued to officials of city Police and Airport Authority of India are not being honoured by Custom Officials at the Airports in Delhi; and

(b) is so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The entry passes issued to officials of city Police and Airport Authority of India are normally being honoured by Custom Officials at the Airports in Delhi;

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

[Translation]

Concession to Senior Citizens

2131. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH;
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA;
SHRI RAM PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide concessions in air fare to senior Citizens;

(b) if so, the extent of concessions and the age from which such concession is to be given;

(c) whether the Government propose to lower the age so that more people could avail of this concession; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines is already providing a concession of 50% on normal economy class fare on the domestic sectors to passengers who are sixty five years or more in age on the date of their travel.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Committee to assess losses in IA

2132. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister or CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to assess the reasons for losses of Indian Airlines has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the reasons assessed by the Committee; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

New Airlines by Private Sector

2133. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals from private sector in India for introducing new Airlines in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Consideration of proposals for grant of permission to commence air services is an on-going process. At present there are six Scheduled and 18 Non-scheduled/ATOs operating in the private sector. In addition 'No Objection Certificates' have been issued to 28 applicants to commence private Air Transport Service.

Handloom Textiles Items

2134. DR P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines for the exclusive purchase of all hand spun, hand woven khadi and handloom textiles by all Departments/Ministries are reserved from khadi and village Industries Commission/Women Development Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the KVIC has enable to supply the entire purchase of Ministries/Departments and will be made from Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH);

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the extent to which the Government support is provided;

(f) the number of rate contracts have been awarded to Women Development Organisations; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). In 1989 the Government issued orders that all requirements of handwoven and handspun khadi are required to be exclusively purchased from Khadi and Village Industries Commission on single tender

at prices fixed by the Commission. Similarly, all requirements of handloom textile items are to be procured from Handloom units notified by the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles through the nodal agency of the Association of Corporations and Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH) on single tender at prices fixed by the Ministry of Textiles with the stipulation that to the extent of their availability with KVIC, these items would be procured from KVIC. To the extent KVIC cannot supply these would be required to be purchased through ACASH.

The KVIC units are treated at par with Small Scale Sector units and are allowed price preference upto 15% of the price quoted by large scale units. At the same time State Women's Development Corporations and the Organisations of women workers will be treated at par with KVIC for the purpose of price/purchase preference.

(f) A Women Development Organisation was awarded the rate contract for blanket (barracks) in 1992.

(g) Does not arise.

Bird Hit Incidents to Indian Airlines

2135. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of bird hit to the Indian Airlines flights which occurred during July-October, 1995; and

(b) the steps being taken to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The number of incidents of bird hit to the Indian Airlines flights during July-October, 1995 was 34.

(b) Airfield Environment Management Committees have been set up at each airport to take steps for prevention of bird strikes like speedy removal of garbage and checking of illegal deskinning activities around airports. Action plans have been formulated at major airports for combating the bird menace. Airport authorities have taken measures like levelling of operational areas, construction of effective drainage system to prevent water logging, planting of dhub grass, pigeon proofing of buildings, installation of incinerators and s caring of birds etc. in order to reduce the sources of bird attraction to airfield areas.

[Translation]

Heritage Hotels

2136. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the inherited havelis and buildings into heritage hotels to boost tourism in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir. While the Government of India provides capital/interest subsidies for the conversion of heritage properties into Heritage Hotels, the conversion of old havelis and buildings into Heritage Hotels is to be initiated by the owners/lessees and not by the Government.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[English]

Development of Indore Airport

2137. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to develop Indore Airport as an International Airport;

(b) whether the Government have taken any decision about this demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d). Airports Authority of India is developing Indore airport as model airport with provision of custom and immigration facilities for limited international operations as and when required. There is no proposal to

develop Indore as an international airport.

International Airports Renamed after National Leaders

2138. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of International airports in the country renamed after national leaders in the past;

(b) the number of requests received from the State Government for renaming the more international airports after their national Leaders;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has also requested the Union Government to rename the Ahmedabad international airport to be taken as Sardar Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad; and

(d) if so, by when the decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). The Airports at Delhi and Calcutta have been renamed as "Indira Gandhi International Airport" and "Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport" respectively. The international and domestic terminals at Madras airport have been renamed as Madras International airport - Anna International terminal and Madras International Airport Kamraj Domestic Terminal respectively.

A request has recently been received from the Maharashtra Government to rename Bombay International airport as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj airport. However, it had already been decided in 1988 to rename this airport as Jawaharlal Nehru International airport after bringing it to international standards.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the existing policy, the domestic airports are named after the cities/towns where these are located and therefore, change in the name of Ahmedabad airport is not being contemplated at present.

Tourist Attraction

2139. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI HARKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether all tourist attractions desired by the tourists from any part of the world are existing in India;

(b) whether the Union Government are unable to take full advantage thereof whereas the small countries like Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia are far ahead of us;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Inadequate infrastructural facilities is the primary constraint in the development of tourism in the country. Steps are being taken to improve the infrastructural facilities by way of providing financial assistance to State Governments as well as attracting private sector investment.

Air Linking of District Headquarters

2140. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to air-link to all district headquarters in the country; and

(b) if so, by when is it likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). No time-frame has been fixed to airlink all the district headquarters in the country. However, to ensure that air transport services grow in a balanced manner throughout the country, route dispersal guidelines have been issued requiring operators of trunk routes to provide defined minimum capacity in the North East, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshwadeep islands. Regional airlines are being encouraged to airlines far flung and hitherto unconnected districts and towns.

Visit of Foreigners in N.E. States

2141. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited in the North Eastern States during this year till date, State-wise;

(b) whether some festivals are being organised in the region to attract tourists:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) According to the information available from the State Governments, the number of foreign tourists who visited the North Eastern States till November, 1995 are as given below:-

<i>State</i>	<i>Number of Foreign Tourists</i>
1. Assam	212
2. Arunachal Pradesh	24
3. Meghalaya	803 (till October)
4. Nagaland	194
5. Manipur	207
6. Mizoram	56 (till September)
7. Tripura	65

(b) to (d). The festivals being organised in the North Eastern States to attract tourists include the following:-

1. Tea Festival (Assam)
2. Nongren Dance Festival (Meghalaya)
3. Kut Festival (Manipur)
4. Chapcharkut Festival (Mizoram)
5. Boat race Festival (Tripura)

Delay in IA Flights

2142. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines flights are mostly delayed now-

a-days and the passengers are preferring private airlines due to the uncertainty over the timings of IA flights;

(b) if so, which are the flights delayed in the months of October-November 1995 and reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken for keeping the punctuality of the flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). No, Sir. 1881 flights were delayed or cancelled out of a total 6543 flights during October, 1995 due to adverse weather, airport restrictions, technical snags etc. Statistics for the month of November, 1995 is being compiled.

(c) All delays are investigated and remedial action, as necessary, is taken.

Conversion of Air Taxi Operator into Airlines

2143. DR. SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the status of several Air Taxi Operators has now been converted to be Airlines in the recent past;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted, if any, by the Government for conversion of Air Taxi Operators into schedule airlines;

(c) the details of such Air Taxi Operators who have been awarded the status of airlines along with those whose applications in this regard are pending; and

(d) the advantage likely to be accrued to an Air Taxi Operator when awarded the status of airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the minimum requirements for an operator of scheduled air transport services include a fleet size of three aircraft, three sets of flight crew per aircraft, approved maintenance facilities and observance of route dispersal guidelines.

(c) The following six private operators have so far been given the status of scheduled airlines:-

1. M/s. Archana Airways Pvt. Ltd.
2. M/s. Damania Airways Ltd.

3. M/s. East West Airlines

4. M/s. Jet Airways (India) Pvt. Ltd.

5. M/s. Modi luft Ltd.

6. M/s. NEPC Airlines

Other interested applicants will be given scheduled airlines permit as and when they fulfil the prescribed criteria.

(d) As scheduled operator, the airlines can publicise its approved schedule, is not required to take approval for each flight and can sell tickets to individual passengers.

Janata Hotels in Important Tourist Places

2144. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had a proposal for opening of a chain of Janata Hotels in important tourist places;

(b) if so, the details of the places where such hotels are had to be opened;

(c) if so, whether any allocation was made during the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Does not arise.

Extension of Dibrugarh Airport

2145. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for extension of length of Air-strip at Dibrugarh Airport;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There is a

proposal, at a preliminary stage, for extension of runway at Dibrugarh airport to 7500 ft. subject to the availability of land.

Raids on Industrialists

2146. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item published in the Statesman dated November 1, 1995 under the caption PMO sought details of raids;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Investment in Construction of Yatri Niwas in Srirangapatna

2147. SHRI G. MADE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of the tourism projects and construction of Yatri Niwas in Karnataka during the Year 1995-96, and

(b) the details of the work taken up and completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Twelve Tourism projects/schemes including four Yatri Niwases at an estimated cost of Rs.325.00 lakhs have been prioritised for central financial assistance for the State of Karnataka during the year 1995-96. On the receipt of complete proposals formulated according to Central Government guidelines, Central Financial Assistance will be extended to the State Government, on the basis of merit, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

[Translation]

Purchase of Aircraft

2148. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to purchase small, medium and big (Air buses, Boeing, etc.) aircrafts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). A tentative medium term fleet plan of Air India covering the period 1994-95 to 2001/02 has been drawn up which envisages increase of fleet strength from the existing 26 aircraft to 54 aircraft by the year 2001/2002.

Air India has signed an agreement with Boeing. Airplane Company in January, 1995 for acquisition of two B747 - 400 aircraft to be delivered in July and August, 1996. With this induction, Air India plans to retire one old B747-200. The Plan also envisages the induction of the MCLR aircraft from 1997/98 onwards and simultaneous phasing out of its entire fleet of B747-200s and 300s Combies.

Indian Airlines has plans for induction of ten aircraft (150 seater) in 1996-97 for augmenting the fleet.

[English]

Private Airlines/Air Taxes

2149. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI PAWAN DIWAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of private airlines/air taxis operators in the country;

(b) the date from which these companies have started operating;

(c) the amount of internal air travel tax outstanding against each Company;

(d) the penalty imposed by the Government on the erring companies;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to recover this amount; and

(f) whether the Government propose to suspend/cancel the permission/licence granted to the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b). Details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(c) and (d). Details are given in the enclosed statement-II and III respectively.

(e) and (f). Action has been initiated to recover the outstanding amounts under the provisions of the Inland Air Travel Tax Rules, 1989.

STATEMENT - I

Names of Private Scheduled/Air Taxi Operators and date on which Permit was issued to them.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>A. Scheduled Operators</i>	<i>Date of Issue of Permit for Scheduled Status</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	East West Airlines	20-11-1994
2.	Jet Airways	13-02-1995
3.	Damania Airways	20-11-1994
4.	Modiluft	20-11-1994
5.	NEPC Airlines	20-11-1994
6.	Archana Airways	20-11-1994

<i>B.</i>	<i>Non-Scheduled/Air Taxi Operators</i>	<i>Date of Issue of Permit for ATO</i>
1.	Sahara India Airlines	30-12-1993
2.	Jagson Airlines	13-02-1992
3.	India International Airways	28-02-1990
4.	Transbharat Aviation	28-02-1991
5.	Aerial Services Pvt. Ltd.	04-01-1993
6.	Delhi Gulf Airways	08-03-1990
7.	Saraya Aviation	22-02-1993
8.	U.P. Air	30-03-1990
9.	Udan Academy	17-09-1992
10.	Megapode Airlines	15-11-1993
11.	Span Aviation (I) Ltd.	19-01-1995
12.	Mesco Airlines	20-01-1995
13.	VIF Airways	31-05-1995
14.	Gujrat Airways Ltd.	19-07-1990
15.	Elbee Airways	16-10-1995
16.	K C V Airlines	18-04-1995
17.	UP Air Services	21-04-1995
18.	Span Air Pvt. Ltd.	24-11-1995

STATEMENT - II

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Carrier</i>	<i>Amount Outstanding (Rupees in Lacs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	M/s. Jagson	3.31 (Jn. 94 to Dec. 94 Except Nov. 94)
2.	M/s. Jagson Airlines	18.64
3.	M/s. Dawania Airways	155.00 (Sep. 1995)

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Carrier</i>	<i>Amount Outstanding (Rupees in Lacs)</i>
1	2	3
4.	M/s. East West Airlines	152.00
5.	M/s. NEPC Airlines	78.00
6.	M/s. Modiluft	689.00
7.	M/s. Span Aviation	11.00
8.	M/s. Continental Aviation	74.86 (1991-92& 92-93)
9.	M/s. City Link Airways	60.15 (1992-93)
10.	M/s. Raj Aviation	46.64
11.	M/s. Air Asiatic	57.58
12.	M/s. Goaways	6.80

Note:- Presently, Sl. No. from 8 to 12 are not in Operation.

STATEMENT -III

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Carrier</i>	<i>Penalty Imposed (in Rs.)</i>
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Damania Airways	4,00,00,000/-
2.	M/s. Jagson Air lines	8,03,000/-
3.	M/s. East West Airlines	78,500/-
4.	M/s. Saraya Aviation	3,000/-
5.	M/s. U.P. Airways	12,000/-
6.	M/s. Sahara Airlines	18,70,500/-
7.	M/s. NEPC Airlines	12,52,500/-
8.	M/s. City Link Airways	18,47,000/-
9.	M/s. Air Asiatic	18,20,000/-
10.	M/s. Raj Aviation	15,00,000/-

Tourism Projects for Mysore

2150. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any project to Union Government for improving facilities to tourists in Mysore City;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been accorded for the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD): (a) to (d). Based on the proposals received from the State Government of Karnataka, the central Department of tourism has sanctioned Rs. 57.30 lakhs for the following projects/schemes in Mysore during the 8th Five Year Plan:

<i>Year</i>		<i>Name of Projects/Schemes</i>	<i>Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
93-94	1.	Upgradation of the Golf Course at Mysore.	37.30
93-94	2.	Flood lighting of St. Philomena's Church, Mysore	20.00
Total :			57.30

Establishment of New Airport

2151. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received proposals for the setting up of new airports from some State during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAMNABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, Various State Governments have suggested setting up of new airports. These are Devanhalli near Bangalore and Mangalore in Karnataka, Nedumbassery in Kerala, Androth in Lakshadweep Islands, Tura in Meghalaya, Lengpui in Mizoram, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Kargil and Kishtwar in J&K, Kundli in Haryana, Phillaur in Punjab and Ajmer in Rajasthan. The Central Government has given its no objection to Karnataka and Kerala Governments for construction of airports with private participation. Funds have been placed

at the disposal of the respective State Governments for construction of airports at Androth, Tura and Lengpui. Since suitable site is not available at Itanagar, Airports Authority of India is developing the Lilabari airport in Assam to meet the requirements of Arunachal Pradesh. State Governments of Maharashtra, J&K and Rajasthan have been requested to acquire the land for constructing the airports at Shirdi, Kishtwar and Ajmer respectively. At Sindhudurg, Maharashtra Government has been asked to construct the airport on Build Own Operate (BOO) basis. At Phillaur, State Government of Punjab has been advised to identify the land to study the feasibility of setting up of an airport. The proposal of State Government of Haryana has not been accepted as Delhi airport is adequate to cater to the traffic flow. The work at Kargil airport in J&K has commenced in September, 1995.

Capital Subsidy for Heritage Hotels

2152. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the scheme of capital subsidy for heritage hotels;

(b) the names and locations of the heritage hotels which have received the capital subsidy with the amount sanctioned and disbursed?

(c) the name and locations of heritage hotels whose applications for capital subsidy are under consideration; and

(d) whether the other schemes for assistance for specified tourism areas from the Tourism Development Fund are under consideration or stand rejected?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Salient features of the scheme of capital subsidy for heritage hotels are:

i) Capital subsidy of Rs. 5 lakhs or ten percent of the cost, whichever is less, will be available for developing any monuments/structure over 75 years old into a heritage hotel and the project should be approved by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

ii) The project should be located outside areas covered by a corporation/municipality and there should not be more than hundred hotel rooms in approved categories in the area.

iii) The project should be appraised and accepted by a suitable financial institution. The subsidy is available only on those projects for which loans are sanctioned by Tourism Finance Corporation of Indian Industrial Finance Corporation of India or the State Financial Corporations.

(b) Only one hotel project 'Cross Country Hotels' Mukandgarh, Rajasthan, has availed of the capital subsidy of Rs. 5 lakhs.

(c) There is one application under process pertaining to M/s. Regal Splendour (P) Limited at Pehrsar, Rajasthan, which has fulfilled all the conditions.

(d). Tourism Development Fund has not been constituted.

Action Taken on JPC Report

2153. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. -1595 August 11, 1995 regarding the Action Taken on Joint Parliamentary Committee Report and state:

(a) whether the report of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has since been received;

(b) if so, the details of the findings thereof;

(c) the follow-up action being taken against those who are responsible for various irregularities; and

(d) if not, how much time the CBI is likely to take and the steps taken to get the investigation expedited?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) According to present indications given by Central Bureau of Investigation, the case is likely to be finalised by June, 1996.

11.09 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till twelve of the clock

[English]

12.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

.....(Interruptions)

12.01 hrs

At this stage, Shri Mohammed All Ashraf Fatmi and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.30 p.m.

12.01 hrs

The Lok Sabha then Adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock

[English]

15.33 hrs

The Lok Sabha Reassembled at Thirty-Three Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, resignation of Shri Surkhram for this scam of Rs. 65,000 crore. Such a huge scam of national property.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yava, please hear me. That is over. Now, we take up Papers to be laid on the Table. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad.

15.34 hrs

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report of the Commission of Railway Safety for 1993-94 under the Railway Act, 1989 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, I beg to lay on the Table--

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commission of Railway Safety for the year 1993-94, under section 10 of the Railway Act, 1989.

[Placed in the Library, *See* No. LT 8414/95]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.
- (ii) Annual Report of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith AuditedAccounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No LT 8415/95]

Annual Report and Review by the Government of the Working of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi for 1994-95

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 8416/95]

Notifications under (Export Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Sir, on behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act 1963:—

- (i) The Export Inspection Council Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No.S.O. 2064 in Gazette of India dated the 14th July, 1995.
- (ii) The Export of Fresh, Frozen and Processed Fish and Fishery Products (Quality Control and Inspection and Monitoring) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 730 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 1995.
- (iii) The Export of Processed Meat Products

(Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O.2681 in Gazette of India dated the 7th October, 1995.

[Placed in the Library See No. LT 8417/95]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1993—94.

(ii) Annual Report of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in the Library See No. LT8418-95]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) Annual Report of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) of item (2) above.

[Placed in the Library, See No. LT 8419/95]

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the MMTCLimited and the Ministry of Commerce, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in the Library, See No. LT 8420/95]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Projects and Equipment Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in the Library, See No. LT 8421/95]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in the Library, See No. LT 8422/95].

Notifications Under Section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

(i) G.S.R. 529 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to all goods donated or purchased out of cash donations, for the relief and rehabilitation of the people affected by the earthquake in the States from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon subject to certain conditions.

(ii) G.S.R. 563 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 30/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988, so as to replace Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1987' by 'Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995'.

(iii) G.S.R. 569 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide full exemption from excise duty to cotton waste when the same is cleared from a unit in free trade zone or from a 100 per cent export oriented undertaking.

(iv) G.S.R. 589 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt processed embroidery from the whole of the basic excise duty.

(v) G.S.R. 590 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 1995 together with an

- explanatory memorandum fixing the rate of duty of Rs. thirty per metre length of the machines per shift, for embroidery machines utilised for manufacturing embroidery in the piece, in strips, or in motifs on a base of cotton, man-made silk or woollen fabrics.
- (vi) G.S.R. 601 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 82/92-CE, dated 27th August, 1992.
- (vii) G.S.R. 602 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods when supplied to the United Nations or an international organisation for their official use or supplied to the projects financed by the said United Nations or an international organisation and approved by the Government of India from the whole of the basic and additional duties of excise leviable thereon.
- (viii) G.S.R. 608 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 60/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (ix) G.S.R. 609 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to polyester filament yarn, dyed, printed, bleached or mercerised from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon, subject to certain conditions.
- (x) G.S.R. 617 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 15/94-CE, dated the 1st March, 1994.
- (xi) G.S.R. 714 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd November, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 35/95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (xii) The Central Excise (Twelfth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 591 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 1995, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 639 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th September 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 23/95-CE, dated the 30th May, 1995.
- (xiv) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 28/95-CX dated the 21st June, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt the duties of excise on the paper used for calendars and telephone/address books etc and procured by Child Relief and You: DDA Slum Wing (Barat Ghar) Bapu Park, Kotla Mubarakpur, New Delhi.
- (xv) The Adhoc Exemption Order No. 33 14/95-CX dated the 31st July, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to 'Mobile Viklang Sahayata Van' from the duties of excise being purchased by Delhi Bharat Vikas, New Delhi.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8423/95]
2. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961:-
- (i) S.O. 2518 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995, regarding exemption to "The Victoria Technical Institute, Madras" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1933-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions
- (ii) S.O. 2519 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Servants of the People Society, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 and 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.
- (iii) S.O. 2520 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The SOS Children's Village of

- India, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (iv) S.O. 2521 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Shree Nasik Panchavati Panjrapole, Nasik" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (v) S.O. 2522 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "Navajivan Trust, Ahmedabad" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (vi) S.O. 2523 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Shri Ram Chandra Mission, Uttar Pradesh" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (vii) S.O. 2525 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (viii) S.O. 2526 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (ix) S.O. 2527 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Asiatic Society of Bombay" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (x) S.O. 2528 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi, Guwahati" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xi) S.O. 2529 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Punjab Istri Sabha Relief Trust, Punjab" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xii) S.O. 2530 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Maharashtra State Bharat Scouts & Guides, Bombay" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xiii) S.O. 2531 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Ramakrishna Vivekananda Mission, Barrackpore, West Bengal" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xiv) S.O. 2532 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Bengal Social Service League, Calcutta" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xv) S.O. 2533 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Krishna Gopal Ayurvedic Dharmarth Aushdhalaya Trust, Ajmer" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 subject to certain conditions.

- (xvi) S.O. 2534 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Press Trust of India Limited, Fort, Bombay" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1991-92 and 1993-94 subject to certain conditions.
- (xvii) S.O. 2535 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Ramana Maharshi Centre for Learning, Bangalore" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xviii) S.O. 2536 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relation, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-96 and 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xix) S.O. 2537 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Tibetan Homes Foundation Bureau of His Holiness The Dalai Lama, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xx) S.O. 2538 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (General Fund) New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxi) S.O. 2539 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The German Leprosy Relief Association Rehabilitation Fund, Madras" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1994-95 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxii) S.O. 2540 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College Trust and Management Society, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiii) S.O. 2541 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Swaminarayan Aksharpath, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxiv) S.O. 2542 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Bharat Scouts and Guides, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1989-90.
- (xxv) S.O. 2543 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Bharat Scouts & Guides, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1990-91 and 1991-92 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvi) S.O. 2544 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Madhya Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Govindpura, Bhopal" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97 and 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxvii) S.O. 2545 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Asian Institute of Transport Development, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the Assessment years 1996-97 and 1998-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxviii) S.O. 2547 published in Gazette of India dated

- the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Shri Ramachandra Mission, Uttar Pradesh" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995 and 1996 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxix) S.O. 2548 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97 and 98-99 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxx) S.O. 2549 Published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, Calcutta" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 and 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxi) S.O. 2550 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Sri Aurobindo Society, Calcutta" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-96 and 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxii) S.O. 2551 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The SOS Children's Village of India, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-96 and 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 2553 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Shri Anandpur Trust, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1993-94 and 1995-96 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxiv) S.O. 2554 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The India Trade Promotion Organisation, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1995-96 and 1997-98 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxv) S.O. 2555 published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 1995 regarding exemption to "The Maharashtra Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Pune" under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-95 and 1996-97 subject to certain conditions.
- (xxxvi) The Income-tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 612 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th July, 1995.
- (xxxvii) The Income-tax (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 617 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 1995.
- (xxxviii) The Income-tax (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 671 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1995.
- [Placed in the Library, See No. LT. 8424/95]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-
- (i) G.S.R. 568 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification Nos. 229/88-Cus. and 152/94-Cus. dated the 1st August, 1988 and the 13th July, 1994 respectively.
- (ii) G.S.R. 581 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to make woven fabrics liable to additional duty at rates determined by the Fabrics (Additional Duty) Rules, 1995.
- (iii) The Fabrics (Additional Duty) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 582 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th August,

- 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) G.S.R. 583 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 357-Cus., dated the 2nd August, 1976.
- (v) The Additional Duty Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 584 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (vi) G.S.R. 587 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to extend the full exemption from Customs duty on Typhoid Vaccines in all forms.
- (vii) G.S.R. 593 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to machinery, instruments, tools, including accessories of such machinery, instruments and tools required for setting up of indigenous manufacturing facilities in the ordnance factories for the manufacture of armaments, when imported into India by the ordnance Factory Board, Calcutta, from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (viii) G.S.R. 596 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 93/95-Cus. dated the 18th May, 1995.
- (ix) G.S.R. 603 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 146/94-Cus., dated the 13th July, 1994.
- (x) G.S.R. 607 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 39/94-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1994.
- (xi) G.S.R. 614 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 155/94-Cus., dated the 13th July, 1994.
- (xii) G.S.R. 615 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to plant, machinery, equipments, spares, when imported by or on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India for expansion and modernisation of Currency Note Press at Nasik and Bank Note Press at Dewas from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 627 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 177/90-Cus., dated the 31st May, 1990 upto the 31st December 2000.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 638 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 73/94-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1994 upto the 21st March, 1996.
- (xv) G.S.R. 666 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 257/92-Cus., dated the 12th August, 1992.
- (xvi) A copy of the Ad hoc Exemption Order No. 1258/95 dated the 21st September, 1995 together with an explanatory memorandum prescribing the basic customs duty of 20 cent ad valorem on 55000 (fifty five thousand metric tonnes of vegetable oils, edible grade in loose form to be imported by National Development Board on or before the 31st October, 1995 so as to augment availability of the edible oil at reasonable price.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8425/95]

- (4) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English)

English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.-

- (i) The Life Insurance Corporation of India (employees) Pension Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 525 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1995.
- (ii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 595 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995.
- (iii) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Development Officers (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 596 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995.
- (iv) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class I Officers (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 597 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995.
- (v) The Life Insurance Corporation of India Class III and Class IV Employees (Revision of Terms and Conditions of Service) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1995 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 669 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th September, 1995.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 8426/95]

5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 17A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972:-

- (i) The General Insurance (Employees) Pension Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 585 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 1995.
- (ii) The General Insurance (Rationalisation of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Officers) Amendment Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 592 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995.

(iii) The General Insurance (Rationalisation of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Development Staff) Amendment Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 593 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1995.

(iv) The General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff) Amendment Scheme, 1995 published in Notification No. S.O. 594 (E) in Gazette of Indian dated the 30th June, 1995 .

[Placed in the Library, See. No. LT 8427/95]

6) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended on the 31st March, 1995 together with Auditor's Report thereon:-

(i) Ratlam Mandsaur Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Mandsaur (M.P.)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8428/95]

(ii) Rajgarh Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sehore (M.P)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8429/95]

(iii) Patliputra Gramin Bank, Patna (Bihar)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8430/95]

(iv) Jhabura Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, jhabura (M.P)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8431/95]

(v) Marathwada Gramin Bank Nanded (Maharashtra)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8432/95]

(vi) Kakathiya Grameena Bank, Warangal (A.P.)

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8433/95]

(vii) Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Pithoragarh (U.P)

- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8434/95]
- (viii) Indore Ujjain Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Ujjain (M.P.)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8435/95]
- (ix) Barabanki Gramin Bank, Barabanki (U.P.)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8436/95]
- (x) Allahabad Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Allahabad (U.P.)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8437/95]
- (xi) Chandrapur Gadchiroli Gramin Bank, Chandrapur (Maharashtra)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8438/95]
- (xii) Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raigarh (M.P.)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8439/95]
- (xiii) Golconda Grameena Bank, Hyderabad (A.P.)
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8440/95]
- (7) A copy of the Coinage Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coins of Five Rupees (containing Copper 75 percent and Nickel 25 percent coined to commemorate the occasion of "50th Anniversary of Food and Agriculture Organisation 1945-1995") Rules, 1995 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 512 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 1995 under sub-section (3) of section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8441/95]
- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-
- (i) The Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) (Amendment) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No. IRS/1/656/95 in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 1995.
- (ii) The Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement) (Amendment) Regulations, 1994 published in Notification No. IRS/11615/DRD in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 1995.
- (iii) The Allahabad Bank Officer Employees' Acceptance of Jobs in private Sector Concerns after Retirement (Amendment) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No. HO/Legal/0285 dated the 15th July, 1995.
- (iv) The Andhra Bank Officer Employees' Acceptance of Jobs in Private Sector Concerns after Retirement (Amendment) Regulations, 1995 published in Notification No. 666/20/Legal/407 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1995, together with a corrigendum thereto in Hindi version, published in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 1995.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8442/95]
- (9) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8443/95]
- (10) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-
- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8444/95]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8445/95]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the

- Bank of India for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8446/95]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8447/95]
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8448/95]
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year 1994-95 alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8449/95]
- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8450/95]
- (viii) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8451/95]
- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8452/95]
- (x) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8453/95]
- (xi) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab and Sind Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8454/95]
- (xii) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year 1994-95, alongwith Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8455/95]
- (11) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of Travancore for the year 1994-95, along with Accounts and Auditors' Report thereon, under sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8456/95]
- (12) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Financial Corporation for the year 1993-94, alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (3) of section 38 of the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951.
- (ii) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Accounts of Delhi Financial Corporation for the year 1993-94, under sub-section (7) of section 37 of the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Delhi Financial Corporation for the year 1993-94.
- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reason for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
- [Placed in the Library. See No. LT 8457/95]
-

15.35 hrs

[English]

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Fifty-Fourth and Fifty-Sixth Reports

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka): Sir, I beg to present a copy of each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto:

- (1) Fifty-Fourth Report on Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas - Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-Second Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Tenth Lok Sabha) - Reservation for and employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
- (2) Fifty-Sixth Report on Ministry of Industry (Department of Heavy Industry) - Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-Eighth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Tenth Lok Sabha) - Reservation for the employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

15.36 hrs

[English]

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Thirty-fourth Report

[English]

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): I beg to present the Thirty-fourth Report (Hindi and English version) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

15.37 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND
CHEMICALS

Twenty-fourth Report

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): I beg to present the Twenty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 19th Report of the Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants relating to Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals for 1995-96".

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

15.38 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): On behalf of Shri Vidyacharan Shukla, Sir with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 11th December, 1995 will consist of:-

- (i) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995 and consideration and passing of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1995 as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (3) Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1995-96.
- (4) Consideration and passing of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full participation) Bill, 1995.
- (5) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1995 and consideration and passing of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1993 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

- (6) Discussion on the Resolution for rejection of an Arbitration Award given in the Compulsory Arbitration Reference No. 1 of 1991 under the JCM Scheme.
- (7) Discussion on Motion regarding Eighth Five Year Plan, 1992-97.

[Translation]

DR SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, sanction of the Central Government should be accorded to the proposals for provide drinking water to a population of about 20 thousand and plans for the conservation and raising up of ground water level, at the earliest and funds should be provided for the same.

The Central Government should provide Rs. 106.59 crore to make the nine rivers of Madhya Pradesh pollution free and Rs. 188.66 crore for National ponds conservation scheme in accordance with the costs approved by the Government, at the earliest for implementation of the approved projects of National River work schemes in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Prem Dhumal - absent.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir there is a need to start construction of the high power T.V. Transmitter (H.P.T.) at the Taragarh hills in Ajmer which had been approved earlier and an announcement to this effect had already been made.

There is also a need to introduce a new train on the newly constructed broad-gauged line from Delhi to Ajmer via Jaipur for the convenience of general public.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.C. Thomas - absent

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA - Absent.

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL - Absent.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad): Sir, the following proposals should be included in the List of Business for the next week:-

1. Construction of an overbridge over the railway level crossing at Shikohabad.

2. Declaration of tehsil Baah as a backward area.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, the following items may be included in the List of Business for the next week -

(1) The second communication circle set up in Uttar Pradesh by the Ministry of communications, which is not functioning presently should be transferred to Bareilly for the convenience of the districts concerned.

(2) Arrangement of additional bogies by the Railway Ministry to meet the requirements of producers in Bareilly (UP).

15.41 hrs

RESOLUTION RE: REVIVAL OF SICK PUBLIC
SECTOR UNDERTAKING - *CONTD.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up Private Members' Business - further discussion of the Resolution moved by Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri.

Shri Syed Masudal Hossain - Absent.

Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me. I will say only a very few words in support of this Resolution.

Since this discussion has been going on for quite a long time and I think cutting across party lines Members in general have agreed in one voice that the question of sick industries and the ever increasing number of sick industries is something which the Government must tackle. It is not something that should be kept in neglect, as it has been kept in neglect for a long time. The Government has chosen to turn a blind eye to sickness in industries for quite a long time. They have not allowed adequate funds so that the sick industries may recover from their sickness. On the other hand, it seems to have been the hidden agenda to close down as many sick industries as possible. The BIFR for one thing has not been given sufficient power. For instance, the BIFR has no directive powers so far as the Government is concerned. If the BIFR thinks that a revival package is suitable for a particular sick industry and if the

Government does not agree to invest the amount of money that is proposed in the revival package, then good bye to that revival package. BIFR cannot do anything about that, So, the BIFR also has not been given any teeth, any directive power, and in particular we find this in some of the very sophisticated industries in which there are very skillful workers where their skill has been developed over a very long period of time, where we can really take pride in our country's industries, it is in these areas that we find this sickness, But as I was saying there has been no attempt to diagnose the reasons for this sickness.

I would like to refer to the wagon industries. The wagon industries are more or less captive industries of the Government. It is for the Railways that the wagon industries operate. Now, when the Railway Ministry decides in its mysterious wisdom not to give sufficient orders so that the full production capacity of the industry is utilised, what happens is that naturally the industry falls sick. If there are no Government orders, then the industry cannot run.

As I was saying, the wagon industry is a case in point that where it is possible for the Government to ensure the health of a particular industry, even there we find that this has not been done. This is a consequence of the New Economic Policy that the Government has taken up.

So far as the wagon industry is concerned, there has been a long struggle going on. We have come here again and again, we have met the Minister again and again, we have gone to Railway Ministry again and again and since many of these wagon industries are situated in West Bengal, the Left Front Government in West Bengal and the Chief Minister of West Bengal have taken certain initiatives. After this struggle, we find today that the Government has accepted certain revival package for some of the wagon industries like Braithwaite and Angus. Our experience of the past few years tells us that even after a package has been agreed upon by all parties and when the workers have made the requisite sacrifices in order to make the industry run, the money is not forthcoming. Unless the Government provides the funds that are needed for a particular revival package, how can that revival package succeed? How can the industry make a transition from sickness to health? Therefore, in the case of Braithwaite I am very happy to say that the package has been agreed upon and we are waiting for the order from the BIFR. But unless the Government, unless the Industry Ministry ensures that the requisite funds are given to the wagon industries and unless the Railway Ministry ensures that the requisite orders come from the Railway Ministry, it will not be possible for these industries to move from a state of sickness to a state of health. Therefore, this is an area in which I would require an assurance from the Government that the funds which have been promised in the agreed upon revival

package, would be provided by the Government in due time.

The other point that I wanted to make, relates to the question of diagnosis of sickness. How is it that in so many public sector undertakings today, we find that at the top there are people who have been charged with so many irregularities? When we have a person at the top of a public sector undertaking and when that person is shifted or when he retires, immediately after that we find that all kinds of scandals break out, Workers point out various irregularities which the managements are carrying on, but the Government has no ear for the workers. We have been bringing it to the notice of the Government that for a long time, many irregularities have been going on in the NBCC, which is now called RBNN. There is a heavy leakage of public funds. If there is this leakage of public funds in public sector industries, then obviously such industries would fall into a state of sickness. We would like the Minister to ensure that when there is any such charge against people at the head of public sector industries, it would be investigated upon immediately. Honesty and probity in high places in the public sector must be ensured by the Government.

Finally the point that I want to make again arises out of a particular analysis that we have, that our parties have, in relation to such sickness. We find that the shares of a public sector concern that is going on very well, making profits, are sold off at a very low rate. So, the Government makes enormous losses by selling shares of these public sector companies. We know that recently the Government has to stop selling shares of public sector companies because they were making such heavy losses. But we would like to know as to what is the amount, what is the total figure of these losses incurred by selling of public sector shares. This is something that we would like to be enlightened about by the Government. As a matter of fact, if you look at the O.N.G.C., it is a profitable concern. Now what we find recently is that in this great euphoria that the Government is showing about bringing in private investment, particularly foreign investment, we find that in Bombay offshore, in the new oil fields of Muktha and Panna, where the O.N.G.C. had been entrusted with the work, and a company, a new company has been set up in which there is M/s. Reliance and there is M/s. Enron. This entry of Enron in the oil sector is to be looked into. This is a story, this is an untold story but it involves a very murky store which, if it comes to light, will set the whole nation in an uproar. I do not know how the Government has been able to enter into this kind of an agreement with Enron and with Reliance. In the partnership of Enron, Reliance and ONGC, ONGC is the smaller partner. In this contract, in this agreement we find that the oil to be produced by ONGC, using the infrastructure that has been put up by the ONGC, the expertise that has been developed by the ONGC, is to be divided into two parts - cost oil and profit oil. The costs of the contractor, that is Enron, are to be met out of this

(Smt. Malini Bhattacharya)

cost oil. That is, all the costs that Enron may make will be recovered from the oil that is derived from this oil field before ONGC can use any of this oil and we find not only this but the installation costs that the ONGC went through, the development costs that the ONGC went through, all these have been negated from the calculation of costs. In other words, what are we doing? Our own oil, developed by ONGC which is an Indian company, a public sector company with their own infrastructure is now being handed over without any cost to a foreign company and it will be sold back to our people at a much higher rate.

If this goes on why should not public sector industries be sick? This is the reason behind the sickness. And I think that the nation needs to know why these kinds of agreements were gone into. Today we have been discussing the telecom scam. I think this oil field scam is another scam that we need to investigate into.

I would abide by the time limit that you have set and I will not proceed any further. But I would like to say that these are some of the areas in which we would like the Government to answer because it is the Government that is accountable for this thing and for the sickness of public sector industries.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): Mr. Speaker, Sir I rise to support the Resolution moved by Chaudhuriji. Today you will find sick industries in almost all the states. The labourers are facing the problem of unemployment everywhere.

15.56 hrs.

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA *in the Chair*]

The Government of India do not have enough funds to provide required funds for the revival of sick units. Production is reduced by sickness in the industry and sometimes the quality of production goes down and thus the industry incurs loss. The second reason for sickness of industries is the appointment of big officers by the Government. A huge expenditure is incurred on their T.A. D.A. Highly qualified officers are appointed to run the factories efficiently but a huge amount is spent on them. They utilise the whole industry for their own comforts and the industries incur loss due to that.

In this Resolution a special mention has been made about Bengal that several industries are lying sick in the State. The same is the condition in the industries in Bombay. We get an

opportunity to visit all the States. Factories worth crores of rupees have been set up in various states, Suppose that all the factories of the country were set up with a cost of Rs. 21 thousand crores, today their cost will go up upto millions of crores of rupees. Some of these industries are working with old technology. Every now and then a mention of textile mills is made here. New machineries and technology should be installed there. It will raise the production. But it could not be done due to continuous loss. Our workers are busy in shouting slogans. It reduces production. Here conditions are different than that of Russia and China where workers are busy in their work after wearing black badges to show their resentment.

These factories were installed in this country for transformation of the country and making it self-sufficient. But this dream could not be realised. Now people are making objections to the issue of setting up of factories by foreigners for providing more employment opportunities. I feel that they are setting up duplicate factories here and quality of their production is inferior. It cannot improve the condition of this country and thus the country can not make progress. More and more labourers should get employment in the new factories. New machineries and technology should be provided if the production is to be increased. I would like to say something about Himachal Pradesh in this regard. Himachal Pradesh is a backward State where apple and potato are grown in abundance and several other fruit are also grown. The industries set up for these often become sick. The reason is that these industries are not getting any assistance. Most of the people who get assistance are those who run from one State to another after getting assistance. They run from U.P to Rajasthan and finally set up the industry in Harayana and get assistance from each and every source. This escapist policy is ruining the country. Such people get loan from various State Governments through their own contacts and utilise the money.

16.00 hrs

It is not monitored properly. Utilisation of this money should be monitored by banks, department of Industry and attention should be paid towards the implementation of plan projects for which loan was sought especially towards the proposed production and the number of persons to be employed in it. We should pay attention towards this weakness to avoid shortage of production. Such persons should not be allowed to misuse the loan taken for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as regards payment of income tax, I would like to know as to how many factory owners are paying tax. They owe hundreds of crores of rupees to the Government. Whenever we wish to do anything for welfare of labourers, they outrightly refuse their rights. Labourers lead a deplorable life. I

feel that the Government should pay attention towards their upliftment. It is not correct that people think that this government is not working for the welfare of labourers. Some people may be dishonest but all of them cannot be called dishonest. I would like to say that action should be taken against each and every dishonest person irrespective of his party affiliations. No one will take money with him. It is also not necessary that a rich man should be given all facilities in the heaven which he has got here. But if a person is dishonest and hurts the national interests who so ever he is, we all should raise voice against him. It is not right to take a decision without taking into account its consequences. We should reconsider it. I had got an opportunity to work with our leaders, whether he is Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi or Shri Rajiv Gandhi. In this country, if a person has ever committed dishonesty, he has not been spared. Today also our Government is paying attention to this evil and I think it will take proper steps to eradicate such evil. It is a fact that cases are referred to BIFR and even after two or three hearings no decision is given. Instead of giving any decision, they are asked to find out the reasons for referring the case to BIFR and they should make arrangements to run the factory after detecting reasons and monitoring them fully. But if the factory's condition is so poor that it is not possible to run it, labourers are rendered jobless. If the number of jobless labourers is high and Government cannot run the factory then the Government should hand over the factory to the labourers Co-operative society. This problem can also be solved by handing over the factories to their co-operative societies.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What did Shri Sukh Ram do?

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Panditji and you should know it. Discussion is not going on and I have also said nothing in this regard. Whenever he comes here, he will make you aware of the position. In case you do not agree with him, you will leave the House and if you agree you will appreciate him. But the factories should be handed over to co-operative sector. I think this will be a good step. The business of NAFED is being run by a co-operative society. It does not suffer any loss. If some loss is there it is distributed among all. The issue of labourers is very serious in our country. There are a number of Agricultural labourers who work for the country but they are homeless. Being homeless they sleep on the pavement as a result thereof they will fall ill. If the Government does not care for them they will become agitated and there may be a revolution. Such situation should not be allowed to be created in the country. The second thing is that big industrialists are making money, as I have just mentioned that in Himachal Pradesh people have been allotted agencies of TATA but they do not release trucks to the people who make bookings for trucks. Only one who gets his name registered with them can get a truck. But a number of

such complaints are received everyday. The hon. Minister knows this fact very well. He has also been the Chief Minister and today he is a Minister in the Centre. Moreover, he is a senior leader of our Party. I would like to request him to pay his attention towards this problem. There has not been any special contribution of Railways in the development of the backward states, be it Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, the Garhwal region or hilly areas of Kashmir. The Railways Policy made in the British period is still in existence. So far as the development is concerned I would like to say that Railway bogies are made in Calcutta on a large scale and when the Railway has covered more area in the planes as far as kilometres are concerned, then keeping in view this fact, factories manufacturing such bogies should also be set up in hilly areas so that the labourers of those areas could get work. In the hilly areas, specially in Himachal Pradesh, if apple juice is extracted on the spot and supplied to the people all over the country, on one hand, people will be able to drink juice and on the other hand, we can set up our factories. Moreover, labourers will also get its benefit.

I would like to say that the proposal put forward by Shri Choudhary Sahib is a right step to improve the condition of the labourers. Secondly, this Government has been helping the poor by setting up factories, be it in Mumbai or in Calcutta. The Chief Ministers of each State are helping the poor but I am of the opinion that no Government except Congress can do good for them. Today, we have also to keep in our mind their increasing number. They should be provided TV sets and other facilities also so that they can see their increasing population. Due to increase in population we cannot provide work to all of them. Our Government has started 'Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana' and 'Indira Rozgar Yoana' to give loans to the poor people to build their houses. Our Prime Minister Shri Rao is also taking keen interest in these schemes. But you always see reverse of the things. When your party was in power, this country was thrown to the dogs.

You had left this country in the critical condition by waiving of loans. But these loans could not reach the labourers. Your Government had done nothing which was in the interest of the labourers..... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): You are spreading corruption everywhere and putting allegation on us.....(Interruptions)

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR (Gopalganj): I agree to the fact that unless Telecommunication facilities are provided all over the country, we cannot make advancement in the field of industry but the Government should also pay its attention towards our Bihar State. Bengal is making progress because

(Sh. Abdul Gafoor)

Telecommunication facilities have been provided there. But nothing has been done in Bihar in this regard. You should make available Telecommunication facilities to my State also.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Abdul Ghafoor, you should address the Chair, please.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K.D. Sultanpuri, please conclude now. There is a long list.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: As I had been interrupted, I had to stop speaking. I would like to say that due to the policy of the Government this country has made progress and lakhs of labourers have got employment. As far as the question of ruining this country is concerned, all big Unions have created anarchy in this country by compelling to impose lock-outs in the factories and organising 'Gheraos' and thus they have tried to ruin this country. They should not have done such acts. It would have been in the interest of the country had the labourers been guided properly. If the guidelines of the States are proper then only labourers can get proper guidance. If states do not contribute to this work and we go on criticising the Government for its policies, it will not serve the purpose. All Ministers and Prime Minister do their best to safeguard the interests of the labourers but raising the issues here only will not help in solving the problems. I want that the conditions of the labourers may be improved. Some poet has said:-

"Resham ke Galeechon Par, Dhanwan Ke Bete Sotein Hain,
Jinki Badolat Sab Kuchh Hai, We Rat mein Beithe Rote Hain,
Dhanwan Khazana Bharata Hai, Kanoon Hifazat Karata Hai,
Mazdoor Bechare Apni Taqdir Ki Syahi Par Rote Hain."

With these words, I think you and I hope that you will excuse me for taking a little more time. I would request the mover of the resolution to withdraw it as the matter is already under the consideration of the Government. If he replaces his resolution with another one, we will take a decision on the basis of the merits of that resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I take just one moment. Since we have about 20 more minutes which is the allotted time and still about six or seven speakers to speak, I would request all the Members to be precise and brief as they usually are.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka): Many hon. Members have left the House. The time allotted to this resolution should be increased because we are discussing in the House a question involving the worker's interests.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): It is an important issue. So the time should be increased.

16.14 hrs

SHRI RATILAL VERMA: Mr. Chairman, the whole nation is concerned about workers today. All the public sector units are gradually becoming sick. As a result, the workers, of these units are confronted with the problem of earning a livelihood. After independence, some industries were set up in the Public sector as individual people could not afford to do so. The setting up of industries by the Government received appreciation and some units brought laurels to the country by setting new records but these industries slowly relapsed to a situation which has become a cause of shame for the nation. These industries have become sick today. The hon. Finance Minister has repeatedly said that no unit will be allowed to be closed down. Instead given financial assistance will be and units revived but grant of assistance apart, their condition is further deteriorating.

There are many reasons for the sickness of these units. They include bureaucratic interference, non-availability of raw material on time, non-availability of power and transport facilities etc. Everybody is aware of the condition of workers of these sick units which is a cause of national concern today. One of our friends said that the worker will revolt if his painful voice is not heard, he is not allowed to earn his bread and his problems are not solved. Thus, it is said:-

"Maangne se kise mila hai takhte -tawus
Aankhon ke aansuon se na pathar pighalne wale hein"

Therefore, strike with an iron fist end bring about a renaissance. It will lead to a great problem the day this happens. Hence, a worker should be given due respect and his demand should be met. The children of the workers of these sick units become dropouts and are coerced to laborious earning for their families. They work when they should play. Their condition is quite pitiable. Crocodiles tears are shed in the name of workers but no helping hand is extended to them.

Previously the Government of India used to give assistance to the sick units. But that is not the case now. Today, no attention is paid till a unit is on the verge of death and unless the workers or their unions raise a hue and cry. A unit cannot fall sick

if economic assistance is provided at the stage of detection of the symptoms itself.

Today, there is a ratrace for privatisation. It was preceded by an atmosphere of nationalisation during the tenure of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. With the passage of time, the socialistic model of society as envisaged by Pandit Nehru got transformed. Today, congressmen are in the race for replacing socialism with privatisation. The very thought of the future course of this trend sends a shudder down one's spine. Nobody knows what fate will the indigenous units and local production meet? Today, there is a great demand for American Jorjet sarees, Japanese sarees and watches etc. In the event of the advent of multinational companies, what will happen to the country's rural and suburban production? The people will face starvation in the absence of a livelihood and the indigenous units will whether away. The multinational companies should set up projects in rural and backward areas and construct roads, generate power and provide drinking water facility there if they really want to help and uplift us. But they will not do so.

Further, the Government should devise a comprehensive scheme for the revival of sick Public Sector units. This has not been done so far.

Mr. Chairman, some profit earning industries like BHEL and HMT are not now given facilities they used to get earlier. These facilities should be restored to them. The officers of the closed down units are still given emoluments to the tune of Rs. 10 -15 thousand, thus incurring loss to the state exchequer. They should be absorbed elsewhere or the old, closed mills should be revived forthwith by introducing new technology.

Mr. Chairman, the workers of the country are compulsorily sent home by enforcing Voluntary Retirement Scheme but they are not being given full compensation. The workers are forcedly retrenched. Once upon a time the workers were encouraged in our country but today, they are discouraged.

Mr. Chairman, the NTC mills lay closed today. Through you, I would like to say that not a single Session has passed without discussing the scope of re-opening of NTC mills but this has not been done so far. NTC mills are located in Veeramgaon and Bhavnagar in Gujarat. They are located in Maharashtra and Rajasthan but have been closed down everywhere. The condition of the workers of these mills is worse today. Every festival takes the toll of one-two workers in the shape of suicide. Workers commit suicide on every Diwali in Gujarat. Their condition has deteriorated to the extent that they are forced to send their children to labour instead of sending them to the school. Their wives and sisters are no exception. Their plight and predicament are beyond discription.

Mr. Chairman, thefts are taking place in those mills today. The officials are drawing their salaries and want to complete their service years that way alone. The machinery is being sold out. All the mills lay closed. Veeramgaon was once a very popular area of our state but today its condition has worsened due to closure of NTC mills. The closure of these mills has led to the deterioration of economic condition of the workers. Nobody is ready to tie a worker's daughter into a wedlock. A worker's social status is falling. Life has become difficult for him. He is sustaining his life by selling his household items etc.

Today, a labourer is not able to marry off his daughter.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government says that the case has been sent to BIFR. What is happening in the BIFR? How many data have been recorded? In this connection, I would like to put forth some figures. In March, 1992, there were 155 non-small scale industries and 6531 small scale industries (SSIs) of Gujarat in BIFR. In 1994, their number has increased to 184 and 7812 respectively. I would like to give the figures provided by the Government of India itself to say as to what effect the remedial measures taken by the Government of India has made. After remedying the situation, there were four non-small scale industries in 1992, 11 in 1993 and 16 in 1994 i.e., only these industries could recover and regain their health whereas the number of sick industries was 13982 in 1992 and 11376 in 1994 and 4 industries in 1992 and 16 in 1994 were revived. On the basis of these figures, can we claim that we are making a headway? This course of action will lead to the sickness of all the industries in the country. Therefore, I urge that its pace should be accelerated. The facilities granted under it do not actually go to the industries. Kailiko mill of Gujarat is involved in income tax wranglings. That mill should be given income tax concessions which is not being granted to it. This income tax issue is withholding the case in BIFR. This case is not making any headway. Some people muster courage and come forward but they too are being suppressed and discouraged.

The Government of India does not give funds to the banks in Gujarat. Gujarat being number one State in the cooperative sector, the industries are financed by the cooperative banks but the Reserve Bank of India is not according permission for opening more branches of the cooperative bank. This move should be encouraged.

Simultaneously, the Government of India should also grant exemption of income tax in backward areas of Gujarat in the same way the State Government has granted sales tax exemptions. The people will set up more industries in the backward areas of Gujarat if income tax exemption is granted.

Secondly, Gujarat is receiving huge deposits but the ratio

(Shri Ratilal Verma)

of loans granted in proportion to deposit in very less. It is a matter of pleasure that deposits of Gujarat are utilised elsewhere but the State should also get a major share of it so that the existence of sick industries is rooted out.

Lastly, I would like to say that it is very painful for an agrarian and developing country to have sick industries. There should be no sick industry in a developing country. I would request everybody to rise above party politics and unitedly make efforts and involve the participation of different union in reviving sick units and helping them out. Moreover, the Government should cooperate with such workers who want to take control and charge of any unit and run it. The Government should invite the representatives of the workers and seek their cooperation in reviving the sick units. It is said that nobody will set his own house afire. This way, the problem of the workers will also be solved as their representatives will have their participation in running the unit on a cooperative basis. This will also help fill the gap between the labour and the proprietor.

With this, I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The allotted time will be over at 31 minutes past Four. I think we can extend the time by half-an-hour.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Madam one hour, please.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is another Resolution also coming after this.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Madam, kindly extend the time by one hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, we are adding one hour to the allotted time. Yes, Shrimati Dubey.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like the resolution moved by Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: One moment. Yes, Shri Indrajitji.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Madam, I have one request. After the other speakers have spoken, the hon. Minister has to reply also. And, there is another Resolution - the next one. My only request is.....

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: The hon. Minister is leaving. who will listen to us now?

[English]

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: The Minister of State is also present.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Madam, through you, I am seeking the cooperation of the House that the next Resolution should, at least, be permitted to be moved, otherwise it will lapse. The main discussion on it can take place next time but it should not be shut out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, As I have already said, we can accommodate all the speakers if they are brief and precise. Then we can start the next Resolution also within the time limit.

Yes, Shrimati Dubey, please.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: MR. Chairman, I rise to strongly support the Resolution moved by Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri.

It has become very imperative to consider this issue under the present circumstances of increasing sickness of the Public Sector Undertakings leading to the sufferings of the employees and the workers. I would like to congratulate him for moving this Resolution at this juncture.

At the time of independence public sector undertaking were set up for the country's economic and industrial progress and with regard to setting up of big industries our first Prime Minister late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had termed them as the temples of India but I have to say it with great regret that the Government of the same party has left no stone unturned to shatter his dreams.

This Government is guilty of contempt of the constitution by way of demolition of Babri Masjid-Mandir structure and has been a total failure in safeguarding the public sector units termed and revered by Pt. Nehru as the temples, mosques and Gurudwaras of the country. Public Sector Undertakings have fallen sick and this sickness is spreading like a contagious disease. The Government is inviting the foreign countries under

the new economic and industrial policy. Foreign investment alone will not suffice to strengthen Indian economy. The Government's policy of constantly coercing the Public Sector units' closure will lead to a huge army of unemployed queuing behind us. As a result, we will have to face the discontentment and indignation of the people of the country. Therefore, we shall have to reconsider this policy. We shall have to consider afresh and review the situation of sickness of Public Sector Undertakings and take steps for the real economic and industrial progress of the country. We shall have to strengthen our Public Sector Undertakings, which constitute the backbone of the country, for the development of a developing country like ours.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that we will have to review it afresh. If any industry becomes sick, it is unilaterally referred to the BIFR. Thereafter, dates are fixed for hearing with long gaps. Then, an officer representing the Government side is sent to the BIFR and to avoid giving reply get a next date for that. Due to this, sick industry becomes more sick. Persons from BIFR's operating agency ICICI visit the company, observe it and then submit their report. Thereafter, a revival package visits and gives its approval. This process is so lengthy that Government role, in this regard, seems to be doubtful because if Government's reply is received in time and it keeps on explaining its viewpoint regularly and does not ask the BIFR time and again for fixing new dates for hearing, the fate of the sick industry may change. But due to prolonged process and their attitude our sick industries continue to suffer. Due to this, sufferings of the employees, workers of these industries and their families continue to increase.

When these companies are referred to the BIFR, Government is least bothered about them. In Uttar Pradesh, at Allahabad, "Triveni Structure Limited" and "Bharat Pump and Pressure Company" were sick and referred to BIFR. These sick companies are of international fame. These companies had got work orders worth Rupees two to two and half crores from our own country and abroad even in their sick condition but they did not have working capital. For the sake of these companies I approached the Minister of Industry and Minister of Finance for granting them financial help so that they can make timely supply in respect of these orders and make their earnings. But no one paid any attention to my requests. When I approached the Minister of Industry, he asked me to approach the Minister of Finance but when I approached the Minister of Finance, he told me that this matter falls under the Industry Ministry and he asked me to go there. I again approached the Minister of Industry. Then he told me that the matter had been referred to BIFR and he could do nothing in that regard. Thus, efforts had been made to close these two companies of international fame. In spite of that, after many efforts Triveni Structure Limited and Bharat Pump and Pressure Company came out of BIFR. Then it was

decided that these companies may be given budgetary help. It was also decided to give bank guarantee but even after the expiry of three months these industries have not been provided any help. As a result thereof, even today, these public sector undertakings are reeling under financial crunch. They are not able to complete their work orders. Therefore, I would like to draw your attention to your act that you have rendered the sick companies helpless by referring them to BIFR. The slow procedure of BIFR has made them more sick. In spite of that I would like to congratulate the people of the Union of "Bharat Pumps and Compressure" and TSL as well as their management who have helped us in our struggle for the revival of these industries. As a result thereof, these companies came out of the BIFR first but of no avail. Even today they have not been given any financial help from the Government. Earlier, they were denied financial help as they had been referred to BIFR but even after coming out of BIFR the Government has not shown any reaction. So far as the case for revision of Pay Scales is concerned, BIFR says that your revival package did not cover any provision regarding revision of pay scales. It means that one more package may be submitted to BIFR for revision of pay scales. These companies may be referred again to BIFR for consideration and the Government may deny financial help. Such conspiracy is being hatched.

I am pained to say that in these big companies, be it BCCL, Indian Telephone Industries, Triveni Structure Limited, Swadeshi Cotton Mill or Scooter India Limited, machines worth crores and crores of rupees installed there are allowed to rust. The Government is not bothered about the public money invested on these machines. These companies are not getting orders from foreign countries. Foreign companies had given work order to these companies with the expectation that they would get their supply in time but this Government is neither bothered about the prestige of the country nor that of the company. By referring these companies to the BIFR the Government is disowning its duties and doing injustice to them. In these companies VRS Scheme has been introduced. When management wants to give VRS to any of the employees, it means that it has started the harassment of that employee and he is asked to go to Madras otherwise he is threatened of expulsion from the company. They are threatened by saying that charge has been framed against them and they should either accept VRS otherwise they would be expelled from service. When a worker or employee seeks VRS, he is not given. But I have seen some cases where some employees or engineers want to accept VRS but company is not prepared to offer it. The amount involved in VRS has increased from rupees 200 crores to 700 crores. There is no agency to monitor the utilisation of this money. Management is behaving arbitrarily and using it with vengeance.

Thirdly, the worker want to serve in the company but he is

(Smat. Saroj Dubey)

not at fault if he does not get work in the company. The management arranges new cars and air-conditioned rooms for itself and in the name of sick mills arrange tours to Mumbai, Delhi and even foreign trips are conducted but the workers are not paid their money. If the labour class try to raise their demand through GATT or through any other means, he is sacked or atrocities are committed on them. If the labourers are not being paid then who is at fault?

Sir, I would like to submit that on one hand retrenchment is being done and on the other hand the multinational companies are being invited and the employment opportunities are being abolished. If the people are deprived of job opportunities and if there are no employment opportunities then the number of unemployed will shoot up. Is our country ready to face this challenge? If the unemployment increases will our country be able to make progress? If the youth of the country becomes jobless then the backbone of the country will be broken and then how the country will stand at its feet?

My submission to you is that Indian Telephone Industry, which was the biggest and the oldest industry and which was the basic industry at the time of its commencement had rendered basic services. The whole infrastructure was prepared by ITI and today the same ITI is running short of orders. The machines, worth crores of rupees, are lying idle be that in ITI, Raibareilly of Allahabad. The big officers here, have been serving now in the famous Himachal Company as high officials. They know everything about our ITI. They have been making our ITI worthless and the all orders are going to that company. The Indian Telephone Industry is on the verge of closure. There is the question of employment for 5 thousand labourers. The employees and the workers are facing problems but the management is out of the troubled water since the favourite officer of the Minister is serving there. He does not listen to the labourers and the employees. Nor does he listen to the union. Why would he listen, since he is the favourite of the Minister. He does not have any interest in ITI. He is always at the back and call of the Minister. Whenever there is a tender it is left out knowingly so that the company of the Minister may have the order. On one hand Bharat Pumpset Compressor and Triveni Structural Limited pick up orders from far and wide after being sick and on the other hand the Indian Telephone Industry where there are competent officers leave the orders and these orders are picked up by Himalayan Company. There is a big scam in that company. Our officers go to private compa.....(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: My submission is that the sick

companies can not be revived in this way. The aim behind the resolution of Sudarshan Ji, to ponder over the sick industries should be considered again. These should not be closed merely due to financial crunch. The hon. Minister should ponder over it again. BIFR could not achieve its goals. The composition and powers of BIFR should be expanded. It should be given such powers so that it can take steps for the revival of these industries. The amount being misused in the name of VRS and the exploitation of the labourers being done in the name of it, should be stopped.

With these words, I fully support the resolution and urge upon the Government that for the economic and industrial development of the country the public sector undertakings must survive. Keeping in view the current situation of the country, the Government should not adhere to the direction of the IMF and the World Bank and to revive all these industries, all possible assistance should be provided so that these industries are able to serve the nation and the country could make economic and industrial development.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would once again request the Members to be as brief as possible.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to make my point in brief. This Resolution should be supported by one and all because it has been brought here to draw the attention of the Government towards the problems of labourers that has been created due to sickness of industries under the Public sector. When the Janata Party Government came to power in 1977 injustice was done to some labourers of Jaipuria mills in my area and for this reason all the units of Jaipuria mills, Swadeshi Cotton Mills and along with it a Sugar mill of nearby Anand Nagar was nationalised. It was nationalised and brought under Government control as a unit of National Textile Corporation so that the problems of farmers and labourers could be solved by the Government but today their condition has deteriorated further.

The Government of India is making various statements for the revival of sick textile mills but so far nothing has been done in this regard. The sugar mill of Anandnagar is a part of National Textile Corporation but it is not a cotton or textile mill thus the Government is not paying any attention towards its revival expansion and development. Today an amount of rupees four crores payable to sugarcane growers has been outstanding against this mills. I request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards this mill and the workers and farmers dependent on it.

In the same way all the four units of Kanpur sugar works are

in a very bad condition. Out of these four units, two sugar mills are in my Parliamentary Constituency i.e Gouri Bazar in Padrauna Kathkuan and Madhora in Bihar. An amount of rupees 28 crores payable to farmers has been outstanding against these four mills as on date. The Government are of the view that production cost incurred by farmers has been rising and that would be compensated by increasing the prices of their produce. The price of sugarcane has been increasing but farmers are not getting the same. Last year an amount of rupees 28 crores payable to farmers was outstanding against these mills but now these mills are not in a position to function. The cases of all these four mills were sent to BIFR and the Government is not prepared to implement the decision given by BIFR. I urge upon you to say something in your reply about the action to be taken by the Government in regard to four units of Kanpur sugar works.

Madam Chairman, Indian Fertilizer and Fertilizer Corporation of India, Gorakhpur used to supply Urea in the entire Eastern Uttar Pradesh. But this unit is lying closed for the last four years and daily we read in newspapers the statements given by hon. Minister that a package of 2200 crore is being allocated by his Ministry. The Government is trying to revive all the 12 units of fertilizer manufacturing units referred to BIFR. I tried to read the report of BIFR which has stressed upon the need for a package of 2200 crore, but so far the Government could not find a source to finance this package. It means that the Government is not going to provide this renewal package. Earlier the condition of SAIL was deteriorating but the Government made efforts to revive it and succeeded. In the same way the condition of Public Sector Undertaking HMT, deteriorated during the last three-four years. The Government paid attention towards it and now it is becoming viable. In the same way the condition of Scooter India Limited in Lucknow deteriorated during the last four years. The Government decided to close it down. But later on labourers went on agitation and all the political parties joined them and thus the Government was forced to take a decision for its revival and now the condition of Scooter India has been improving for the last two years and now it is in a good condition.

Madam Chairman, I would like to say that all the sick units in the Public Sector can be revived if the Government is determined to do so. Therefore, the Government should be determined and clear its intention towards the revival, development and renewal of Gorakhpur fertilizer, Kanpur Sugar Works and sugar mill of Anandnagar which are the foundation of industrialisation in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and efforts should be made for their revival.

With this, I support this Resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Shri Mohan Singhji, you have indeed been very precise. There are still seven to eight speakers. So if everyone speaks for about three to four minutes, then, I think, we can complete our work within time.

Yes, Shri P.C. Chacko please.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO (Trichur): Madam Chairperson, I am very much thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Resolution. In fact, I have been reminded of the time constraint. You also have very kindly extended the time allotted to this subject. I would like to request you that even though the other important Resolution to be moved by Shri Indrajit Guptaji may be taken up today, yet the discussion on this Resolution may not be closed today itself because many other hon. Members would also like to participate in it.

This is probably an issue which is very much in the public attention today in this country and any suggestion which is coming from the hon. Members in this Parliament will be very useful for the Government to sort out this problem.

At the outset, I would like to say that this Resolution was not properly worded. My friend, Mr. Sudarsan Raychadhuri, who moved this Resolution has said that this House expresses its grave concern over the increasing number of sick public sector undertaking, and various things. Madam, all the hon. Members including Mr. Raychadhuri and those who spoke some knowledgeable Members, especially from the CPM side tried to cite some examples where due to industrial sickness, some undertakings are in difficulty. There is no harm in putting the entire blame on the Government because the Government is the custodian of this public sector undertaking. But the fact remains that the revival programme has to be a collective effort of the Government, of the workers and all the people concerned.

Now, probably the Resolution could have been worded in a different way that without going for a voting, we could have accepted this unanimously by this House. One of the recent examples I want to suggest - I am not going into the details.

Here, the industries Minister is sitting to answer all the points which are made in this House. The Industries Minister being a very senior leader of the Ruling Party, a person who is shaping the policy of the Party also, he can very authoritatively say certain things on behalf of the Government and what the Government's attitude towards certain things.

(Sh. P. C. Chacko)

Then, we have to keep one thing in mind, Heavy Engineering Corporation of Ranchi, one of the biggest public sector undertakings of this country, which was recommended by the BIFR. It was almost on the verge of closure; there was no rescue for that. I am sure that Mr. Raychaudhuri and other Members will remember the first things which this new Industries Minister has done after assuming the office. Many of the trade union leaders representing all the parties and trade union leaders associated with all the parties of this House have gone and met the Minister, when it was on the death bed. When there was no way out, when everybody pronounced that it is dead and no revival package was working, this Industries Minister has decided in spite of all the recommendations, that this will not be closed down. Madam, Rs. 175 crore guarantee was extended by this Government to this undertaking and today if this undertaking is working, it is due to the policy of this Government.

Without understanding this basic fact, they say that it is the neglect of the Government. I have been listening with very great sorrow that a very knowledgeable person from the CPM bench also - who started the discussion today - was saying that the Government is neglecting and that is the reason for this sickness. Is this a thing to say?

Madam, industrial sickness, as a matter of fact, started from the very day of industrialisation. Now, those people who appeared to be the champions of the public sector undertakings were abusing the public sector undertakings. When the industrial policy of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Government was announced in this country, when the mixed economy was announced, all those people who are defending the public sector today - as if they are the only people supporting the public sector - were all abusing that Nehru Government's policy by saying that this mixed economy would not work. So, the public sector was the mainstay and that was the backbone of the industrial policy of the Nehru Government and even today, this Government is encouraging and nourishing that policy.

What are the reasons for the sickness? I am sorry to say that no hon. Member has gone deeply into this problem. They find only one problem and that is, the Government is not supporting because it is a public sector undertaking of the Government of India. They should give finance; they should give guarantee; they should purchase; they should give sufficient orders; they should give raw materials; and they should give everything. And then, what is the role of the public undertaking on its own?

I have been associated with the Productivity Council. As the Minister of Industries in my State, I was the Chairman of the

Productivity Council for some time. I am sorry to say that the people who are saying about this industrial sickness should first understand that as long as and unless and until you accept the productivity concept, many more industries will stand sick in this country.

I do not want to name anybody or mention any party's name. But Madam, in this country some of the working class parties are against this productivity concept. Some of the trade union, especially of Mr. Raychaudhuri's who moved the Resolution I know that trade union, which he is representing, the CITU, is not prepared to join the productivity concept at all.

Even the Left Parties, like the CPI, the RSP and others are all agreeing with the concept of Productivity Council and they are becoming the members of the Productivity Council. Productivity is the basis on which we can build up these institutions and on the basis of which we can turn these institutions into profit-making institutions.

Madam, Chairperson, you come from West Bengal. There is a National Jute Manufacturing Corporation. The Central Government was offering the West Bengal Government to take over that unit and run it. They said that they will extend all possible assistance. You know what did the West Bengal Government say? They said that they are not prepared to touch it. So, where lies the responsibility?

Some people say that the wagon industry is in trouble. The captive units are there. The Government should give orders. The Government should give Working Capital. Year after year, the Budgetary support for the public sector undertakings is going on increasing and we have reached a point where we cannot continue further. From 1991 to 1995 - after introduction Liberalisation Policy by the Government - the total Budgetary support extended by the Government of India was Rs. 19,000 crore. Mr. Venkat Swamy was in-charge of the Textiles Ministry, he came forward with a proposal about National Textile Mills. How could these industrial sickness come to the area of textiles? Did you analyse this? When the mills are sick in the private sector, to protect the interest of the workers, the Government takes over certain mills. That means, the sick mills were inherited or taken over by the Government. What I want to say is that the industrial sickness did not come because of the policy of the Government.

Madam, Rs. 2835 crore worth of rehabilitation package is now being implemented. It is being discussed now among various political parties and a consensus is emerging and the Government of India is finding funds to the tune of almost Rs. 3,000 crore for the revival package of National Textile Mills along.

I know Mr. Sudarsan Raychaudhuri, who is also my very good friend, is a very committed person and a very sincere person. I have no two opinions about him. He should not say that this Government is neglecting and so on. We are planning to invest Rs. 3,000 crore for the revival of National Textile Corporation. The Government had guaranteed to extend Rs. 170 crore to Heavy Engineering Corporation. Thousands of employees are working in the Heavy Engineering Corporation. They are indebted to this Government. They are thankful to this Government. Should we not express our gratitude for this? ..

This Government is on the path of liberalisation. We feel that the public sector industries should be competitive. We should produce more and we should compete with the private sector. Then only we would be able to survive. By spending the poor people's money from the treasury, we are buying real estates, machinery and so on. Where are we going today? In spite of all these things, if we are able to achieve only 50 per cent of our target whom should we blame? If the industrial units are sick, if they are limping, and if they are making losses, I want to know where is this money going. We are abusing this Government. We are raising an accusing finger against the Central Government by saying that they are doing this or doing that. The Central Government do not have their own money. The Ministers, the Prime Ministers and so on do not have their own family property. They are not spending money from their own pockets. This is done from the hard-earned money of the poor people of India. When that money is going somewhere, should we not tell them that there should be sufficient productivity? Should we not tell them that we should attain optimum productivity? They should be able to compete in the market with the private sector industries.

So, industrial sickness is a very important subject. The whole House should come forward and say that they really appreciate the Government for taking certain steps. They can ask this government to be more vigilant wherever industrial sickness is there.

The National Renewal Fund was introduced by Dr. Manmohan Singh in one of his Budgets. There were many criticisms. Some people said that this is like retrenchment compensation. What happened in the last four years? How many people were retrenched? When technological upgradation is necessary, there, the workers are to be drawn. So, the National Renewal Fund was started. We are seeing everything through coloured glasses of politics. This, unfortunately, is the problem. Otherwise, the people like Mr. Raychaudhuri could have paraphrased it in a better way by which we could have agreed.

17.00 hrs

This topic should have the consensus of this House and it should have the consensus of the entire political parties of this country. The people of this country is paraphrased in such a way that it is made as a sectarian thing and you are trying to abuse the Government and to accuse the Government by using all these things. This is the Government which is led by the party which has built up the public sector undertakings in this country, developed it, nurtured it for the last half a century and we still believe that this is the philosophy of the public sector and that public sector should sustain and that should survive. For that, a wholehearted effort and joint action is necessary. And beyond this if we go and find fault with anybody, then we will be doing a great injustice to this topic.

With these words, I conclude.

Madam, thank you very much for having given me the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House had agreed that this discussion would be extended up to 31 minutes past five. Still there are several Members to speak. Unless the Members are very very brief and precise, we cannot abide by the agreed decision of the House.

Now, I call Shri Rameshwar Patidar to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone): Madam, Chairman, it is very clear that since the formation of new Government in June, 1991 as on date in 1995 so far 1165 industrial units in public and private sector have been closed down. Three lakh small, medium and big industrial units are sick. It is a fact that all these industrial units function and fall sick on the instructions of the Government. Whether they are sick or closed down, the Government should be held accountable for it. It is not unfair to blame the Government for it.

Madam Chairman, I would like to cite some examples as to how the malafide intentions and wrong policies of the Government make the industries sick. There is Bhilai Steel Plant in Madhya Pradesh and BRP used to be located nearby and bricks upto rupees 150 crore were purchased annually for Bhilai Steel Plant. But last year that unit was separated after making law and now bricks are being brought from TATA Refractory, Orissa.

17.02 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*]

(Sh. Rameshwar Patidar)

Every year rupees 15 crores are spent on their transport. Now an additional amount of rupees 25-30 crores are to be paid additionally as Sales Tax and Excise Duty since the separation of BRP unit from Bhilai Plant. This plant would not incur loss if both these units are merged together, Sales tax and transport charges can be saved. Now the present situation in this unit is that the officers and staff have been appointed since 1980 and around 75 per cent machines are lying idle at present and only 25 per cent machines are functioning presently. This is the main reason for sickness of industries and this problem has been increasing.

Mr. Chairman, Sir you know that rupees 800 crore were spent on setting up on fertilizer unit at Haldia but that unit could not start functioning. A few days ago the Technical Committee gave recommendation that this unit should be closed down and it need not to function. In spite of all this, rupees 18 crores are spent annually on salaries of employees and officers. A part from bonus they are being promoted. In this regard the Government should study both aspects of its policies. The industrial units which can be revived should be given assistance for revival and the other industries in respect of which technical Committee has given recommendation that they are not revivable should be closed down and not a single penny should be spent on them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I myself is the Member of Standing Committee of Lok Sabha on Petroleum and Chemicals. During the evidence of the officers of Haldia Plant it was told that it cannot be revived then why rupees 18 crores is being spent on salaries of officers and employees. It has been selected for auction. When it was asked that why it has not been sold so far. It was told that a bid of only one rupee was offered for it. When asked as to why the plant which was set up at a cost of Rs. 800 crore has been priced at Rs. 1 during the auction. It was also told that later on the bidder changed his mind. I would like to know the reasons for which public undertakings are facing such problems. Sick industries could be revived if their problems are identified at a proper time other wise these problem would continue and aggravate. In my area, there is a Nepa Paper Mill which produce newsprint. A ready stock 30,000 tonnes has been lying there but the Government has started the import of paper from Canada and Russia. Now due to this import the production is being dumped there and labourers are rendered unemployed. These industries are falling sick due to the policies of the Government. The Government do not provide assistance at a proper time and because of this these industries are facing closure. Political interference is one of the major reasons for their sickness. Hon. Narsimha Raoji belongs to Andhra Pradesh. Technical Committee has given decision that factory set up at Ramagundam cannot survive but Rs. 500 crores

assistance has been given for it. In the same way Rs. 500 crores assistance has been given for it. In the same way Rs. 560 crores assistance has been given for Talcher factory of Orissa which is not renewable. The Gorakhpur factory which could be revived with an assistance of Rs. 200 crore has not been provided the same. Thus they are compelling us for using the political influence. These industries could not work properly because of the discrimination in providing assistance. The funds recommended by BIFR for revival of these industries are not given at a proper time. It is given in piece and thus sickness of industry goes on increasing. Problem of labourer also keep on growing. I would like to cite another example. Hon. Ramlakhan Singh Yadav has said that Gorakhpur factory would be revived. The way in which the BIFR proposal has been presented, it does not seem that it would be given timely assistance and it would be able to revive.

The BIFR is powerless and cannot provide timely assistance. I would like to give another example. Central Jute Mill of Calcutta had been lying closed for years. At the time of formation of new industrial policy hon. Prime Minister suggested to run under it the Cooperative Sector. The Labourer who run it would be given facilities and their outstanding debts would be waived off. Central Jute Mill had a debt of rupees 45 crores but since the time it is being run by the labourers it has been earning an annual profit of four or five crores of rupees. Interest on this amount becomes equal to the principle amount. Government should decide to provide proper assistance at a proper time for the factories under the Cooperative Sector. Several Ministers have written about providing assistance to Central Jute Mill. In September, 1995 BIFR had made a recommendation to provide an assistance of rupees 10 crores from National Renewable Fund or any other source. Hon. Labour Minister of West Bengal also agreed to it and had written a letter to the Finance Minister on 3rd July, 1995. But so far it has not been provided. No assistance has been given even after recommendations from the Textile Ministry. In this way the industries being run by labourers are becoming sick again in the absence of this assistance. Now BIFR has become a machinery to close down the industry. There was a provision in the Act that BIFR would have a representative of labourers but it has not been implemented so far. There should be experts of the subject in BIFR. As long experts are not inducted in the BIFR there cannot be any timely disposal of work. At present hundreds of cases are lying pending with BIFR. The decision is not taken on these cases and the sickness of Industries goes on increasing. The sick industries are not in a position to recover at all and their sickness goes on increasing.

Earlier laws stipulated that an industry running sick for 7 years should be referred to the BIFR. As the things stand today, this period of seven years has been reduced to three years only,

but the question arises why we should let an industry remain sick for 3 years. Why should we let an industry incur loss and take action in that regard only after three years. Why we should allow any small sore become a big wound. A doctor could earn name and fame and make a big claim that he was asked to conduct an operation on the small sore. In the same way, the Government may also earn name and fame but it is not going to serve the interests of the country. The sickness of industries will go on increasing. I want that this kind of law should be changed. An effective committee could be constituted which could set right the sickness of sick industries properly.

There is only one BIFR at the Central level where cases are piling up. Thousands of cases are piling up. I would like to suggest that BIFR should be set up at the capital of each large State and City. Such BIFR should hear the cases of sickness from the State of under its jurisdiction only. Thus, cases could be disposed off quickly otherwise they cannot be disposed off.

I would like to make a demand in respect of the Central Jute Mill of Calcutta which is being run by the labourers. I want that the Government should waive off its dues of Rs. 45 crore. It should be granted a loan of Rs. 10 crores by the NRF and an effective committee should be set up which could ensure that sick industries are received properly only then the sickness of such industries could be set right. Unless and Until the Government spells out its policy and attitude, the sick industries could not be set right. The Government should take such a step whereby labourers could get benefit. I want to urge upon the Government and I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR (Chengalpattu): Mr. Chairman, Sir on behalf of my Party, A.I.A.D.M.K., I rise to speak on this Resolution regarding the revival of sick units in the public sector undertakings.

Sir, more than 160 thousand crores of rupees have been invested so far in the public sector units in the country which number about 250 enterprises, if a close scrutiny is made, about 50 per cent of them are either incurring loss or many of them are not working viably. It is understood that not more than 50 enterprises are earning profit after meeting all the liabilities. About 90 are just making their survival or working just above the break-even point. As per the figures available, the total profitability of the public sector undertakings has not been more than 3.5 per cent in any year. Whereas in the case of private sector, the profitability expected and earned by a unit will be more than 10 per cent after deducting all the liability expenses. Now, the question is whether we can continue those units which are sick continuously for several years or can we revive them so that they can become viable? I do not want to go into the

reasons why the public sector undertakings are not working viably. But I would like to point out some of them like inefficiency, bureaucratic management, cumbersome regulations which result in low efficiency of operations, lack of professional management, political interference in day-to-day operations, complete centralisation of control, red-tapism in the administration and over investment made in many units, over-staffing etc. are the main cause for the units becoming sick.

In the present situation, when the Government is encouraging privatisation liberalisation and globalisation of business firms and inviting private and foreign investments into the economy, it will, all the more, be difficult to earn profit after the revival of the sick units because those units which are working under private and foreign investments will be able to produce both consumer goods and industrial goods at reasonable prices and complete with those produced in the public sector units whose production cost is higher due to above reasons. In that case, instead of revival, the sickness of those units will further be aggravated. Therefore, the question of revival of the sick units will have to be considered selectively and carefully.

There are two kinds of sick public sector units. One is those units which were under the private sector but were taken over by the Government because of their being sick and were brought under public sector. If those units could not be run and managed viably and earn profit continuously for more than five years, then there is no reason for reviving them. Our country can ill-afford in continuing such units. The Government should not have gone in for taking over the privately-owned sick units, in order to provide continuous employment to the workers already employed in the sick units. The Government should have thought of providing alternative employment elsewhere by engaging them in the public works units. Because, when some privately-owned textile units had become sick, they were taken over by the Government. But many of them have again become sick under the N.T.C.

The other kind of sick public sector units are those which have become sick due to mismanagement, because of which the cost of the goods produced in those units is overrunning the market price, due to which they have been incurring loss continuously. In the case of these units, revival can be thought of with great care, by rationalising the various production and administrative units. Also creating research and development units in each organisation and adopting upgradation and new technology will go a long way in the production of goods which can compete in the market, both nationally and internationally, and earn profits, thus enabling the sick units into profit-making units.

(Sh. S.S.R. Rajendrakumar)

Recently, the Government wanted to sell the shares of some of the public sector units, in order to meet the budget deficit in the current financial year. They wanted to collect Rs. 7,000 crore by way of selling the shares but they could collect a paltry sum of Rs. 2,000 crore only. This, clearly shows that people are not interested in public sector units' shares. Under the circumstances, the Government should take all the factors into account before considering revival of a public sector unit. In fact, Government wanted to effect disinvestment in many of the units.

In this connection, I may point out that in my State of Tamil Nadu, under the able leadership of *Puratchi Thalaivi* the State-controlled units are working viably and are earning profits, and there is no question of the units becoming sick.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

*SHRIV.SVIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palakkad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Resolution moved by the Hon. Member Shri Roy Choudhuri. Sir, I have an important point to make with regard to sick companies. As per the existing policy, if a company is declared sick, all the units of the company irrespective of whether they are profit-making or loss-incurring are treated as sick. I feel that this attitude is not a positive one. Justice demands that if a particular unit is running profitably, that unit should be given special consideration. It is regrettable that the productivity and efficiency of the workers in such units are overlooked due to the ineptitude and mismanagement of other units. Ineptitude and efficiency cannot be treated at par.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to cite a glaring example of this attitude. The company in question is Instrumentation Limited which is a Public Sector Undertakings. The company was declared sick in 1993 and revival process has started under BIFR. But the fact is that the Palakkad unit of this company has been running profitably since its inception in 1974. The figures are self revealing. Let me quote a few figures from the profit and Loss Accounts of the unit for the last few years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Turnover (In lacs)</i>	<i>Profit (In lacs)</i>
1	2	3
1990-91	2961.00	813.00
1991-92	3309.00	845.00
1992-93	3345.00	820.00
1993-94	3718.00	898.00
1994-95	3415.00	650.00

Chairman, Sir, these figures speak for themselves. During a time span of 5 years, this unit has been showing considerable progress in total turnover and profit every year. Only in the year 1994-95, the pace of the progress has slightly slowed down. The reason for this periodical slowness cannot be ascribed to the less productivity of the unit. The actual reason is the confusion and indefinite atmosphere created by the declaration of the company as sick. If only the Government could do away with this atmosphere in which nothing is definite this unit will make further leap forward and excel its own earlier performances. I think it will be most pertinent to remember in

this connection that the Palakkad unit has been awarded ISO 9001 certificate for the excellent quality of its products. Chairman, Sir, I find it unpalatable that a unit that has been acclaimed and recognised for its productivity and quality be declared sick. I do not understand how it could be compared with another firms known for ineptitude and mismanagement even if they are sister units. So, it is my request to the Hon. Minister that in the discussion on revival packages for Sick Companies, a special consideration may be given to the Palakkad Unit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me make two suggestions with regard to Palakkad unit of the Instrumentation Limited.

* *Transtation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.*

1. The Palakkad Unit may be converted into an independent unit. It can function properly as a profit-making unit without any budgetary support.
2. Or this unit may be amalgamated with the Trichy Unit of BHEL. The products of these two companies are more or less identical. It is worth noting that BHEL has shown interest in taking over this unit. There are the two viable alternatives to save this Palakkad unit from the present state of indecision and confusion.

It is my request that the Government should not resort to any other measure like giving the unit to private sector on "Company as a whole" basis or include it in Joint Sector. There is a ray of hope in the fact that these two suggestions that I have given are under the consideration of the Government.

I have great faith in the Hon. Industry Minister who is a very senior and experienced leader. He has been extremely sensitive to the problems of workers. It is my request to the Hon. Minister that while taking a final decision, steps may be taken to do justice to the enthusiastic and efficient workers of the Palakkad unit.

Another matter is that since 1992 there has been neither pay revision nor proper distribution of bonus. The bonus that is given to the workers is a meagre 8.33%. This percentage is not fixed realistically as it has no comparison with the company's profit. The Management of the Unit is willing to give due benefits to the workers. But this willingness awaits the sanction by the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I conclude my short speech. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call the next speaker, I would like to make a request to hon. Members that we have an important Resolution to come up which will be moved by Shri Indrajit Gupta and we should at least take it up today. I would request the hon. Members to limit their time.

I now request Shri Lal Babu Rai to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI LALL BABU RAI (Chhapra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution brought forward by Shri Sudarshan Rai Chaudhury. Public Sectors were constituted for the industrial and economic growth of the country. Foreign investment is not just enough for strengthening Indian economy. I met the hon. Minister several times in connection with the revival of some mills coming under the National textile corporation and Kanpur

Sugar Textile Limited and also with regard to the revival of the Saran Engineering Works and Madhora Sugar Mills which come under the textile Ministry. Those mills have not yet been revived.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has sanctioned money to the extent of Rs. 500 crore and in some cases Rs. 200 crore for the revival of sick mills, but my request for a meagre sum of Rs. 6 crore for the revival of the Saran Engineering Works has not been acceded to by the hon. Minister. About 10,000 labourers of the factory are facing starvation. This is the only factory of the country which manufactures tools for U.P., Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa. The Government could not revive it. Similarly, the Madhora Sugar Mill is on the verge of closure. Ashok Paper mills, Sindri fertiliser factory, HEC at Hatiya are running in loss, they too will be closed. I could give the reason of their running in loss. The Bokaro Steel Plant is a public sector unit but the Government does not purchase goods from the HEC for this unit. It purchases goods from private sources, due to which the conditions of HEC is very bad. This is running in loss. I would like to tell the Government that the HEC at Hatiya makes all kinds of products. The Bokaro Steel Plant does not buy goods from this factory while it buys from other factories at higher rates. I do not want to take much of your time. Pandit Nehru had a dream and called the factories of this country as temples and mosques. The Government is destroying these temples and mosques for the sake of some money. The labourers too are faced with the problems due to this reason.

I would request the Government to revive the Ashok Paper Mill at Darbhanga by sanctioning some money. This too is faced with the same conditions. That factory has been closed for want of funds. We ask time and again whether Bihar is in the map of the Government of India? Step-motherly attitude is being adopted towards Bihar, small factories of Bihar are closed for want of a very small amount of Rs. 5-6 crores. Each and every factory is being sent to the BIFR. Now we have heard that the coal factories of BCCL and ECL are being sent to the BIFR by declaring them sick. The process of their revival is being delayed at the BIFR thereby forcing children of labourers and poor people face starvation. This is the duty of the BIFR.

I urge upon the Government that small factories like the fertiliser factory and other factories should be revived by sanctioning small amounts so that labourers who are on the verge of starvation could be provided some relief. Then only we could be in a position to put to an end small problems of labourers. Thousands of factories are sick today and they are indeed closed. The Government should take steps to reopen them by sanctioning some funds. It is inviting foreigners to set up new factories, whereas we could reopen our own factories with a little bit of capital investment.

(Sh. Lal Babu Rai)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fully support the proposal introduced by my friend.

There are around three lakh small as well as big industrial units in the Public Sector all over the country which are either sick or closed, which is a very unfortunate situation.

I also want to quote the words of Late Prime Minister Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru to which the hon. Member who was speaking before me referred that the industries are the present day mandirs and masjids. I would like to ask as to who are responsible for this situation and how did this disease spread? The Congress party has been in power since 1947 i.e. since the very day of Independence, then who is responsible for this condition?

It is a matter of great concern. Many speakers have delivered their speech on this issue but the speech only will not suffice, we would have to ponder over this issue. The Government of the country is concerned only with worry, pyre and thinking. If the Government finds itself fallen into the pyre, the millions of rupees of poor, farmers and labourers are being misappropriated in the scams. You are worried therefore, You are ruining yourself but unless you are worried about the country, you think about the country, there can be no improvement in the condition of sick industries in the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House as well as your attention towards one more issue. The Parliament is the highest institution of the country. We all represent the people of the entire country. If we do not take up this issue, who else will do? We should try to find out the root cause of this problem. There are many sick industries in the country be it in Uttar Pradesh or in some other State. There was a question regarding modernisation. The Government should tell that how does it want to carry out the work of modernisation? The main issue is that of thinking. The intention of the Government should be bonafide. Our Government formulates good policies though its intentions are not good. The situation has become very horrible. The Prime Minister's Employment Scheme is in operation in the rural areas of the country. Around 450 small big industrial units are in operation in my constituency Firozabad in Uttar Pradesh. The glass is manufactured there and is supplied not only to the whole country but exported to other countries as well. Recently the court has also ordered to close down these industries for the safety of Tajmahal in Agra. It was announced that this work should be done as soon as possible. It is true that Tajmahal is our historical heritage and it

is our duty to protect it from the pollution but these industries of Firozabad should also be protected. All the industries are lying closed. I had requested the Government to safeguard these industries. LPG line is being laid from Auraiya. It should be connected with Shikohabad, Agra and Firozabad so that the kerosene based and pollution oriented industries of my area could be provided gas and the pollution there would also be checked. This will also save Tajmahal from the hazards of pollution. Likewise, we used to get furnace oil from Indian Oils Mathura Refinery but the supply of the same has been stopped now. I would like to know the Government's policy in this regard. If the Government does not pay proper attention, the small and big industries will continue to close down. If the small scale industries and cottage industries are neglected in the villages, the migration of unemployed youths from the villages to cities will increase. The condition of big cities is also worsening. If the villagers get employment in the village itself, the migration of unemployed youths will stop and the labourer will also be happy and if the labourer of the country becomes happy, the country will become happy. Therefore, you should pay attention that the labourers should not be neglected. These labourers are producing from a small light to train and bus but they do not get sufficient wages in turn. A large number of labourers are becoming jobless. The Government should state as to what is it doing for 3 lakh small and big industrial units which are closed.

The fertilizer mill in Gorakhpur is lying closed. If the Government makes some arrangement, perhaps we may not have to import fertilisers. We have witnessed that which ever industry is closed in our State, it is referred to BIFFR where many such cases are pending for years together. If attention is paid to them, these closed mills can be revived and our country may progress.

Due to the paucity of time, I would like to request the Government that keeping in view the sentiments of the labourers it should make arrangements for more many to restart these closed industries so that the millions of labourers may be saved from unemployment and they may become able to earn their livelihood. The Government should think over these points and restart the closed units. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much Mr. Katheria, Mr. A.C. Das is not present. Shri Mohan Rawale to speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay South Central): Sir, I do not intend to take much time since, I have to move a resolution.

I would like to state only that Mazhgaon dock in my area as well as two companies Richardson and Crudes are the public sector companies. ONGC also is in the public sector. If ONGC offers contract of platform to Mazhgaon dock, the people of Mazhgaon dock will not become unemployed. Our Richardson and Crudes which manufactures beams for Railways was not awarded contract by the Railways. Had it been given that contract the Richardson and Crudes which has been referred to BIFR, could have started functioning.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the Members who have given their names need not speak until and unless they are very particular about it. Mr. Santosh Gangwar, are you going to speak?

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I would like to thank my brother, Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhury for moving this resolution. There are many things to speak but the next resolution is also very important and BJP is also fully associated with that resolution. I would like to support the resolution moved by Shri Sudarshan RayChaudhury. In fact, it is an irony that the sickness is increasing in almost all the Public Undertakings. As our hon. Member has just stated that more than two and half lakh units are sick and about Rs. 10 thousand crore are outstanding against them. The families of those employees who have been rendered jobless, are on the verge of starvation and there seems no end to this system. My colleague, hailing from Uttar Pradesh has stated that the Government is not trying to find any solution to the problem? Sick units of Public Sector Undertakings be it sugar mills or Gorakhpur mill. I would like hon. Minister to chalk out any plan, keeping in view this situation because this idea is cropping up in the minds of the people that once an industrial unit is taken over by the Government, its plight will be pitiable. People say that if any unit is handed over to private sector, it functions well. This, people are talking against the whole system. I would like the Government to think in this direction and take a suitable decision. Thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): You have spoken on this issue many a time.

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): I shall have no difficulty if the Government accepts it even after stating thousand times. I will say that the more the Government claims to have solved the problem, the more it aggravates. There was only loss and no gain for anyone. Someone enjoyed on the cost of job of

some one. The problem is that the Government does not pay attention and the difficulties of people constantly increases.

We have a good foundry of IISCO in our area, manufacturing pipe. This factory receives good procurement orders but the Government does not pay its attention towards this side resulting in total failure of the factory. The Government does not want to assist it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jatiya, please resume your seat, I will call you again. There is a technical problem. The time allotted for this Resolution was up to 5.30 p.m. There is one more speaker and then the hon. Minister will reply. So, let us extend the time for the Resolution by at least, another half-an-hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: yes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The Mover has the right to reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know, Sir.

DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Sir, the Private Members' Business today started late by 12 minutes. So, we can extend the time by another 12 minutes.

[Translation]

Today, Private Members' Business started 12 minutes late. Therefore, you can run the House till 12 minutes past 6. A decision has already been taken to run the House till 7 p.m. I was stating as to how we used to talk to increase the number of industries and employment opportunities, how we used to talk keeping in mind the industrial development but the number of sick PSUs is constantly increasing. The root cause of this increase in sickness is that infect, we did not make so much effort to mobilise the sources of energy, power and water in our infrastructure as desired. We were weak on the front of mills and management and our PSUs started falling sick altogether. It is affecting not only the Public Sector Undertakings, but the Private Sector units as well. As a result of improper functioning of the Public Sector Undertakings it has become a fashion to seek foreign collaboration in each and every field. All activities have come to a standstill from industrial point of view. We conceded that we are not competent to run our industries smoothly. We have not been able to generate power, electricity or tap water resources for development. The bitter reality is that the Government does not possess sufficient funds for the development of the industries. We have sick factories here. Orders for supplying pipes are still lying unexecuted with the "Issco" Pipe Manufacturing Factory which has been closed

(Dr. Satynarayan Jatiya)

down. As a result of this day by day more and more people are being rendered jobless. Modern Food Industries is no exception to it. The industries have been closed down and workers rendered unemployed. Similarly, the Heera mill under the National Textile Corporation has stopped production rendering their workers idle.

Similarly, in the financial sector, lakhs of employees working in the Peerless company have been affected by the wrong policies pursued by the Government and they are on hunger strike at Jantar-Mantar. Some of them have been admitted to the hospital. The Government should pay attention to this problem.

B.I.F.R. has recommended the grant of a Rs. 10 crore renewal fund to the New Central Jute Mill, Calcutta and the N.R.F. has yet to give its approval to it. This mill is being run on co-operative basis. Therefore, it should be revived by Government funding. The Government had nationalised industries on the basis of socialism but 'socialism' became a controversial concept and the whole industrial progress came to a standstill. This led to the closure of all the industries and unemployment of the workers.

The Government should give financial assistance for smoothly running the Mahidapur Sugar mill so that it may resume production and the farmers and workers get relief.

Sir, there should be a clear-cut policy on the future course of India. The Government should pay attention to it, otherwise the discontented workers will rise to a call similar to the one being cited here.

"Utho Ki ab nayi andhiyan chalao, armanoon ke machalte toofan uthao, kranti ki chingari ab shole banenge, Jo rokenge raasta mazdooroon ka, voh nahin rahenge, nahin bachenge".

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN: MR Chairman, Sir, Congress party has been in power for most of the time since independence and the whole responsibility of the industries becoming sick rests with it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the sick mills are a great impediment in the way of country's progress. The sickness of Public Sector mills has led lakhs of families to the brink of starvation. The employees and workers of these sick mills are faced with various problems, such as crisis of sustenance, difficulty in

continuing education of their children and arranging medicines etc. and this definitely is the result of the policies of the present Government. As revealed by an hon. Member, there was a factory in Katihar which manufactured spare parts for all the factories located in Northern India. The sickness of that factory has rendered lakhs of people jobless. The hon. Minister of Industries is present here. I would urge him to formulate a policy for reviving and running sick mills so that the problem faced by crores of youth, the families of the workers; the problem faced by them in educating their children is solved and the country progresses and developmental works are undertaken uninterruptedly. With this, I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. The last speaker is Shri Charles, But before I call upon Shri Charles to speak, I want to make a clarification.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Sir, I have a point to make. After this Resolution is over, another Resolution is to come.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am coming fo.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: That is why we request you that Resolution should not lapse because of extension of time to this Resolution. That is a very important issue. And we want that Resolution be allowed to be taken up. If it is not taken up after the Minister's reply, it is requested that it should not be allowed to be lapsed.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, It is a very important issue and we all are interested in it. Hence, we request you to grant permission to Shri Indrajit Gupta for moving his resolution.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Mr. Chairman, once the list of speakers who are to speak, is over and before the Minister replies, you can ask the hon. Member to move his Resolution and then the hon. Minister can reply.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Whatever be the procedure, it should not be allowed to lapse.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Suggestions made are welcome. But there is a problem. The hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs has made a suggestion which according to the Rules of Procedure cannot be accepted. There is a very important Resolution which Shri Indrajit Gupta has to move today. I want to quote from the Directions of the Speaker. Direction 9A says:

"If time allotted for discussion of a part-discussed resolution entered in the list of business for a day is increased by the House or the Speaker and as a result thereof the next resolution entered in the list of business on the basis of the first priority obtained at the ballot is not moved on that day, the said resolution shall be set down as the first item for the next day allotted during the same session for private members' resolutions after the part-discussed resolution, if any."

This is the Direction of the Speaker. So the question of Shri Indrajit Gupta's Resolution getting lapsed does not arise. It is getting the protection, On the next Private Members' Resolution day, that is, on the 22nd, the first will be Shri Indrajit Gupta's Resolution.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Thank you, Sir,

MR. CHAIRMAN: A lot of points are being made and the hon. Minister would like to reply to this and then Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri also wants to speak. So I request Shri Charles to be brief.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Mr. Chairman, I am extremely grateful to you for your indulgence in giving me a few minutes at this late hour. I am compelled to speak for a few minutes because I feel this is a subject which now calls for immediate and urgent attention of the Government of India.

Industrial sickness is one of the gravest problems that has been posed to this country, which affects the economy, the production, the employment and, in fact, the whole base of our economic life. But I am sad to see that this Resolution is confined to a discussion on the sickness of industry in the public sector undertakings. Had the scope of the discussion been enlarged to the small scale industrial and tiny units also, I would have been more happy. As you know, the SSI and tiny units are the major sectors of our industry, Almost 40 per cent of the industrial production and the maximum number of employment is also in this sector. Almost 40 per cent of the total export of industrial goods is also produced by the small industries sector. So, the SSI and tiny units can never be overlooked. I request the hon. Minister to look into this aspect while considering the remedies that are going to be suggested and implemented for the revival of all public sector undertakings.

When I say this, I remember with gratitude and a little sense of emotion the name of our late lamented Prime Minister Rajivji. It was during his time in 1985, immediately after he took over as the Prime Minister of the country, he was aware of the importance of the sickness of industry and the immediate need to remove the sickness in this industry.

It was he who piloted the Bill during his time, *i.e.*, the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Protections) Act, 1985. I remember, as a new Member I had participated in that Bill and at that time I had suggested -- this is limited to the revival or reconstruction or rehabilitation of the PSUs -- that there should be a similar machinery for the small industrial sectors and on that an assurance was given in the House that the Government could come forward with a legislation to protect the interests of the SSI sectors and the similar board be constituted. But I am sorry that even after a decade, nothing fruitful has been done on that direction. So, I request that this aspect may kindly be looked into without any further delay.

Sir, the BIFR has also been constituted. It was under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Protections) Act, 1985. Due to time constraints I am not going to give all the details. Out of 240 public sector undertakings almost 120 are profit-making undertakings. We are glad that at least so much profit is there. But what are the causes of remaining 120 public sector undertakings which are making losses? While the profit making units have made a little more profit during 1992-93, the loss making units are making more losses. So, the cause of loss of the loss-making units, we have to identify and we have to look into this aspect also.

Sir, I do not want to mix politics in this. But I am really surprised when I heard the last speaker who was criticising the Congress Government for the losses in textile units. He was pointing out the textile units. If I had the time, I would have gone at length into the matter. I may tell you, what is the main reason for the sickness of the NTC mills. The majority of the mills are sick mills taken over to protect the interests of the workers. So after taking over the sick units and if we are to accuse the Government policy, that is not right. It is the policy of the Government that not even a single worker losses employment because of any problem of the industry. You take the Exit Policy. Lot of criticism is made about it. But the Government have given a categorical assurance that not even a single worker would be relieved without any employment in view of that Policy several crores of rupees have been provided under the National Renewal Fund for the training and re-deployment of the workers. So, that is the main concern of the Government.

Sir, in this case, I still remember - I cannot give you the figures - that while I was in the Estimates Committee, I had the

(Sh. A. Charles)

occasion to go to West Bengal and study exclusively the sickness of the textile mills. At that time in the Seventh Plan almost Rs. 750 crore were spent on modernisation of the textile mills. What was the result of modernisation? The modernisation resulted in more loss of employment and nothing came out of that. In a particular mill of West Bengal, as a Committee we had an inspection. Please excuse me when I mention name of a particular State. I do not mean to mix politics but I am pointing this out because one Member here has said that 'it is because of the bad policy of the Congress Party and the Central Government that the sickness of the text mills has come.' But I had the privilege of being in Cannanore for one year. There I have seen the power looms. There I saw, one worker was supervising four power looms in that mill. But in a mill which we examined in West Bengal I saw only two looms were being managed by one worker.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Where?

SHRI A. CHARLES: I do not remember the name because I never thought that it would come up here.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Was that power loom or loom in the mill?

SHRI A. CHARLES: Loom in the mill. It was the general norm at that time. I do not know what is the present position. But there, one worker was supervising two looms, and when enquired, they said that it was the arrangement between the workers and the Government. So in a mill where there should be 500 workers there are 1000 workers. In that case, how can that mill be revived or the sickness removed? All these aspects, we have to look into.

Sir, there are many factors that contribute to sickness. It is true that labour unrest can be attributed as one of the reasons, but in my humble opinion, that is the last reason because it is a total contribution of all other factors that make a unit sick. If the workers are properly paid, if they are looked after well, if their welfare is looked after well and if they are given proper facilities to work, I am sure that nobody in this country will be anti-national or anti-industrial to see that some mill or some factory is closed down because it is their livelihood. But when there is no raw material available at the proper time, when there is lack of energy, when there is no proper facility for credit, when there is no proper facility for marketing, when the goods that are produced are not marketed and finally when they lose their employment, it is natural and it is a human nature to react and they come forward with their demands. To that extent all the other factors will have to be looked into.

Our former Chief Minister is our Industries Minister now; I am a little bit afraid to talk about this subject because he is well-informed about it. Kerala is under acute scarcity of energy. The latest project is the Kayankulam Thermal Plant. I was in this August House in 1988 when the then Power Minister Mr. Vasant Sathe promised that Kayankulam Thermal Plant will come into being immediately with the latest technology because the Thermal Plant was being built with the assistance of Soviet Union. It was said that the total period for that Project to come into being was only four years and that at the end of the fourth year, we would get energy. This is on record. It was in 1988. But nobody anticipated the disintegration of Soviet Union and nobody anticipated that with the assistance of the Soviet Union, we may not be able to build that Plant. Finally, we failed and even after so many years, not even the preliminary work has been properly started at Kayankulam. Where are we to get energy from? This is another area. So also the credit facility. I am really pained to say that Kerala is totally discriminated against in this aspect. The credit deposit ratio under the guidelines of the RBI is 60:40. When Tamil Nadu's and Karnataka's credit facility - the two adjacent States - has risen to 100 per cent or 120 per cent or 130 per cent, Kerala's ratio has come up only to 40 per cent. When asked, they say that there are no viable projects. So, the hard earned money from the Gulf and from the NRI, is being collected by the banks and are just invested in the other states I am not speaking with a parochial mind or speaking with a regional feeling. I know that we have to keep our country together.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister's reply is pending and then Shri Raychaudhuri has to speak, So, please try to conclude in two minutes' time

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak. I should not stand in the way of the hon. Minister. In that case, I want at least two or three minutes' time. But I think the hon. Minister can postpone the reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We started this business late by 12 minutes and so, our time will expire at 6.12 p.m. We are waiting for hon. Minister's reply. I am afraid whether the hon. Minister will get enough time to reply. Can the hon. Minister start today and complete it next time? Or is it not necessary?

SHRI A. CHARLES: Sir, I have not even touched Kerala's problem.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN): The main issue is about the revival of the sick units and the payment of salaries. Though it has a limited purpose, of course, we can discuss all the other aspects also. But these are the two main issues which we have to focus.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Charles, please limit your speech to these two issues. The hon. Minister's point is a very relevant one. Credit facilities to the States and other factors are all peripheral issues. So, please come back to the main topic and conclude your speech.

18.00 hrs

SHRI A. CHARLES : Yes, Sir.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): He should not go outside the parameters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It should not be so. Of course, it is related to that subject.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Do not go outside the scope of the discussion.

SHRI A. CHARLES: Thank you for your comments.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): You can speak about specific points.

SHRI A. CHARLES: I will speak about a specific point and then conclude.

There are five NTC textile mills in Kerala. Majority of those mills are also being made sick. There was an alarming news-item in *The Malayala Manorama* just a fortnight back. It is the largest-circulated daily in the country. The fact given in that news-item is that the Regional Office of the NTC is taking away the funds of these textile mills as an advance for giving them cotton. After taking huge amount as advance, the cotton that is purchased is not given.

The Vijaya Mohini Mills is one of the mills right in the capital, that is, my constituency. Rs. 5.4 crore have been taken as advance from that company alone. But the cotton has not yet been supplied to them. The workers are not being paid wages. The industry is going to be sick. In your constituency, Trichur, there is a mill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not go into the administrative problems.

SHRI A. CHARLES : I am now on a specific point. I would request the hon. Minister to conduct an inquiry into the whole matter and find out why the amounts have been collected as advance. Even the interest is not being paid. The mills have to pay interest to the banks on the amounts that are taken away by the Regional Office. I request the hon. Minister to conduct an

inquiry and protect the health of these five textile mills in Kerala. With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you Mr. Charles. Now intervention of the hon. Minister.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Not invasion !

SHRI P.C. CHACKO: You listen and then decide.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I have heard and noted the views expressed by the hon. Members of this House. At the very outset, I would like to emphatically state that it is totally against the truth to say that the Government is not concerned about the sickness of Central public sector units and the interests of workers. Some of the hon. Members of this House may be aware that I started my public service as a very humble worker and have always taken active interest in the welfare of the workers as a trade union leader. Therefore, today you have the best friend of the workers in the Industry Ministry. You can be rest assured that I have always regarded the interest of the workers to be of utmost importance and I shall always maintain this. You have my full-fledged assurance on this.

The Government is very much concerned and alive to the problem of sickness of Central public sector enterprises and is equally dedicated to finding ways and means to protect the worker's interest, employment and economic requirements.

Before I proceed further, please allow me to give you a brief background of the sickness in PSUs. Hon. Members may be aware that several of the PSUs, which are sick, have not become sick in Government hands. They were sick and dying when the Government intervened and took them over to save the workers from unemployment and the winding up of the units. In total, we have taken over 46 units which were extracted dry by private sector companies.

Some of the hon. Members have alleged that the Government does not have any clear policy in regard to revival of sick units. This is not correct. Perhaps, it may not be incorrect to state that there has never been such a determined effort on the part of Government to strengthen the PSUs. The Government's policy towards sick public sector enterprises has been clarified time and again on the floor of both the Houses of Parliament.

The Government is fully aware and is taking every step to revive the sick industries. Let me outline here the steps which are taken by the Government to revive/restructure the sick public sector units. First, the Government actively encourages

(Sh. K. Karunakaran)

sick public sector undertakings to evolve and to prepare schemes in consultation with the workers and trade union leaders on how best to strengthen and revive the units. If the company requires Government assistance in the form of guarantees for loans that would be required to revive the company, the Government looks at these proposals positively where the plans appear to be viable. To quote an example, Government gave a guarantee of Rs. 177 crores to Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi. I have already mentioned it.

Secondly, when a public sector unit has been referred to the BIFR, an operating agency is appointed to look at the prospects of revival. The BIFR after hearing all the parties may approve certain revival/restructuring plans. Even in these cases, the Government has been selectively providing counter guarantees for raising of loans. We have already approved capital restructuring of nine more units, namely, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Limited, etc.

Thirdly, the Government is providing financial support by way of Plan and non-Plan assistance to public sector units. Since 1991, we have provided over Rs. 19,085 crore to public sector units through budgetary support, both Plan and non-Plan.

Fourthly, where we find that a public sector unit can be helped by way of support from other Government organisations, the Ministry of Industry has been intervening aggressively to assist them to obtain orders from such organisations. For instance, only recently, at the intervention of the Ministry of Industry, the Railway Ministry has given orders worth Rs. 400 crore for 10,000 wagons to BBUNL. This has now given a new hope to the company. I am sure the hon. Member who raised the complaint about wagon building factory will be satisfied now.

We are also giving autonomy to the public sector units to tie up with the private sector to enhance its competitiveness and revive itself.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: What about IDPL?

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: Kindly hear me. Let me complete.

From the above measures, it will be abundantly clear that the Government is endeavouring and exploring all possibilities to revive the sick public sector units. Despite our limited resources, this receives the highest priority on our agenda. In addition, I may add that the Government has also

appointed a Special Tripartite Committee in the Ministry of Labour to study the impact of new industrial policy on labour, in terms of obtaining the views of the management, workers and the Government and then forging a consensus decision for the revival of the sick public sector units.

On the direction of the hon. Prime Minister, a Group of Ministers' has also been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Finance Minister to review the performance of the public sector, especially loss making PSUs.

In addition, we have now decided to offer workers a chance to run a unit, if it can be revived in this way. In this regard, I am also glad to inform the House that I had personally held discussions with the leaders of all the trade unions in the month of August this year to seek their cooperation and active participation in revival schemes. The Government also favours the workers to take part in the management by forming workers' cooperatives. It means that we will not spare any effort for the revival of sick units wherever possible - be it by forming workers' cooperatives; be it by participation of workers in the management; whatever it be, the Government is for it.

Many of the hon. Members have expressed their deep concern over the so-called delayed payment of wages to workers of some PSUs. At the very outset let me clarify that the Government has actively intervened on the side of the workers. In July this year, we approved the Pay Revision Scheme. This was pending since 1992. Through this, we gave flexibility to PSUs in regard to pay fixation of executive below Board level and non-unionised supervisory levels. Earlier in 1993, we issued wage revision guidelines for workers giving complete autonomy to PSUs to negotiate wage settlements within their own internal resources.

The delay in payment of wages is not due to any lack of intention on the part of the Government but due to non-availability of funds with the sick PSUs. This Government have also taken steps to reward the workers where PSUs have evolved their Plan of revival and restructuring without seeking additional budgetary support. For instance, in the case of HMT Limited, though it is making losses, it has been allowed to revise its wages.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Karunakaranji, kindly resume your seat for a minute. The time is expiring.

Now, if we all agree then we can listen to the Minister's speech and after the completion of his speech.....

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): We will listen to the speech of the Minister next day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next day you will have to reply. Shri Gupta's speech is also there. Now if we can wait till the completion of the Minister's reply, then you can reply the next day and then we can dispose of this matter.

Okay, Shri Karunakaranji, Please continue.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: However, as and when instances of non-payment of wages are brought to the notice of the Government, urgent remedial measures are suggested to the PSUs by the administrative Ministry concerned. The Government has reiterated time and again its responsibility and commitment towards payment of wages to the workers. It needs to be appreciated that in the absence of adequate budgetary allocations, fresh supplementary grants have got to be approved from this House before allocation of funds to meet the commitment. This process does involve time. It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to ensure that despite the sickness, the wages of the workers are paid well in time.

The interest of public sector workers is of utmost concern to the Government. National Renewal Fund deals with the immediate requirements of labour in sick units arising from the revival or closure of such units. Assistance is provided for:

- i) scheme for workers' counselling, retraining and redeployment;
- ii) worker compensation payments including VRS and statutory dues in cases of closure or revival; and
- ii) soft loans for labour rationalisation in weak units.

To undertake programmes for worker retraining and redeployment, Employee Assistance Centres have been envisaged in locations with substantial worker outflows. At the city level, Employee Assistance and Area Regeneration Councils would take up the task of urban economic rejuvenation and supervision of worker retraining/redeployment programmes. At the unit level, Employee Resource Centres have been proposed for providing employee support services made by the hon. Member.

It has been said that the private sector units are receiving financial inputs from banks and financial institutions but the PSUs are being denied of the same. The revival plans approved by BIFR in regard to some of the PSUs are not being implemented because banks and the financial institutions are not willing to provide financial assistance. As I have already mentioned, wherever possible we are providing counter guarantees.

Hon. Member Prof. S. Chakraborty has desired to know the

policy of the Government in regard to National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Limited (NJMC). The Government is keen on reviving this unit. The workers have declined to participate in the management by forming workers cooperative. The West Bengal Government was given the offer to take over the unit with the clean slate without any past liability but the West Bengal Government did not agree to this proposal.

Hon. Member, Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri, while moving the Resolution, has said that the Government is not performing its role as promoter for revival of sick PSEs. This assertion is not correct and is emphatically denied for the reasons already outlined. Some Members have also voiced their concern regarding privatisation of PSUs. If an undertaking is making losses continuously and it cannot be made viable even after restructuring and revival, the Government can not carry on with such a burden on the economy of the nation as a whole. I am sure, the Members irrespective of their party affiliations will support this.

In such circumstances, closure of the units may have to be considered. Again I may repeat, we will try our best not to close that. In the final stages, if nothing is coming out and if there is no alternative, we may have to go for it. However, before that the Government may like to offer such units to the workers to run it and some financial input from the Government could also be considered in such cases if viability can be achieved.

While I was discussing with the trade union leaders, I told them that not only some finances is necessary but also whatever the Government can assist you, we will do it.

Hon. Member, Shri Raychaudhuri also mentioned the names of some of the PSUs on which Government are not taking action for revival. Government have already agreed for the revival of nine PSUs, namely, Braithwaite & Company Ltd., Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd. and Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. and others with infusion of fresh capital besides write-off of past losses, etc. In respect of Tyre Corporation of India the hon. Members are already aware that the restructuring and revival of Kakinadra Unit has already been taken up and completed. In other cases, such as BPMEL, Cycle Corporation of India, BIFR has come to the conclusion that they are unviable. Further proceedings have been stayed by the High Courts. So, still it is continuing. By that time, if there is any improvement, we will continue.

Hon. Member, Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri has also referred to the writing of Mr. Ralph Miliband, Mr. Jeffery Henderson and Mr. Richard Applebaum, to emphasise the influence of State policy and ownership in the economic miracle achieved by Asia Pacific countries. It needs to be appreciated

(Sh. K. Karunakaran)

that the Government through its policies, modified from time to time to keep in step with the global economic changes, have steered and attained the industrial and economic growth without compromising the social and welfare ends.

The public sector units, besides providing infrastructural sound base, have returned increased overall profits over the years.

In regard to the reference made to National Textile Corporation (NTC) Mills, I am sure the Members of this august House are aware that the Government has already approved the revival plan of NTC and the modalities of implementation are being worked out.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: The procedure is very long and complicated. They have to face many hardships.

SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN: After overcoming all the complications, finally, we have decided to do it.

Hon. Member, Shri Gopinath Gajapathi had referred to the service conditions of employees in PSEs and suggested revision of the emoluments. As I had mentioned earlier, this Government had issued the Wage Revision directive and guidelines in regard to Board level and below Board level officers on 19.7.95.

Hon. Member, Shri Hannan Mollah, stated that "You run the Government. Why do you go in for business? Government's job is not to run business. You maintain army, beat the workers and people and you do whatever you like. But business is different. It is meant only for business man'. He is indirectly against the functioning of the public sector undertakings. But we took the clue. The hon. Member himself has given the clue to the actions that the Government have already taken. The Government have already reduced the number of areas hitherto reserved for the Public Sector Enterprises from 17 to 6. The restructuring of public sector enterprises has already been started. As regards making the Management of Public Sector Enterprises efficient, the Government has already taken certain actions such as professionalised management but the results cannot be seen overnight. It is a continuous process. All of you must appreciate that in a few years time from now, you may be in a position to see the results in quantifiable terms.

In the end I would like to impress that the revival of sick PSUs and the welfare and interests of the workers cannot be implemented by the Central Government alone but the State Governments have also to participate constructively in revival proposals. Problems are there, therefore, on all fronts. The best way is to join hands and evolve viable means to tackle sickness in PSUs, which are like our family jewels. It is very easy to criticise somebody and it is not easy to take the responsibility and implement the programme.

As far as the Government is concerned, they are very much interested in the interest of workers and the country's economy by developing public sector undertakings. But, whether it is the public sector undertakings or the private sector undertakings, if they come forward, we will welcome and encourage them.

Now, there are certain suggestions made by other hon. Members. Due to paucity of time, I am not able to cover all the points now but, by and large, I have covered, generally, most of the points which were raised here. If at all any point is left out by me, I will take them up separately and personally I shall look into it.

Again I assure the House that I am never for closing down of the factories. Sir, I belong to the working class category. That means, I lived with them and fought for them throughout my life. So, throughout my life, I was with the working class.

Again, whichever position I may occupy, my sympathies and considerations are for the workers.

However, I would now request my hon. friend not to press his Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is a fair suggestion and the mover of the Resolution will respond to it next time.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1100 hours on Monday, December 11, 1995.

18.26 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 11, 1995/Agrahayana 20, 1917 (Saka)

© 1995 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

PUBLISHED UNDER RULES 379 AND 382 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN LOK SABHA (EIGHTH EDITION) AND PRINTED BY S. NARAYAN & SONS, B-88, OKHLA INDUSTRIAL AREA, PHASE-II, NEW DELHI- 110 020.
